

APPENDIX H. SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

APPENDIX H. Special Designations	H-1
H.1 Summary List of Existing and Nominated ACECs – Monticello Field Office	H-2
H.2 Relevance and Importance Criteria Evaluations For Existing and Nominated ACECs	H-3
H.1 Wild and Scenic Rivers Study Process	H-67
H.1.1 Introduction.....	H-67
H.1.2 Overview of the Review Process	H-67
H.1.3 History of Wild and Scenic River Process – Monticello Field Office.....	H-68
H.1.4 Authorities and Guidelines.....	H-69
H.1.5 Eligibility Determination by BLM Interdisciplinary Team	H-70
H.1.5.1 Identification of Potentially Eligible Rivers	H-71
H.1.5.2 Consideration of Free-flowing Character	H-71
H.1.5.3 Identification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs).....	H-71
H.1.5.4 Tentative Classification.....	H-74
H.1.5.5 Input from Governments, Agencies, Native American Tribes, Organizations and the Public.....	H-76
H.1.5.6 Eligibility of Segments Evaluated.....	H-79
H.1.6 Suitability Study.....	H-82
H.1.7 Summary	H-83
WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY PROCESS ATTACHMENTS.....	H-85
Attachment 1: River(s)/Segments Inventoried and Evaluated by Mont FO, Drainages by River System, Monticello Field Office.....	H-87
Attachment 2: ORVs and Tentative Classification of Individual Eligible Wild and Scenic River(s)/Segments, Monticello FO	H-91
Attachment 3. Wild, Scenic and Recreational Classification Worksheets for Eligible River(s)/Segments (Condensed)	H-99
Attachment 4. Summary of Eligible River/Segments and Their Tentative Classification, Monticello Field Office	H-105
Attachment 5. Suitability Considerations by Eligible River Segment.....	H-109

H.1 SUMMARY LIST OF EXISTING AND NOMINATED ACECs – MONTICELLO FIELD OFFICE

Existing (E) or Nominated	Nominator(s)	Acres of BLM land in proposed boundary	Potential ACEC (Yes/No)	Comments
Alkali Ridge (E)	BLM Monticello	39,202	Yes	
Bridger Jack Mesa (E)	BLM Monticello	6,260	Yes	
Butler Wash North (E)	BLM Monticello	17,463	Yes	
Canyonlands	SUWA	175,365 as nominated	No	See Indian Creek, Bridger Jack Mesa, Lavender, Shay Canyon – all (E)
Cedar Mesa (E)	BLM Monticello, SUWA	320,609 includes Valley of the Gods 34,771	Yes	Compilation of boundary proposal
Dark Canyon (E)	BLM Monticello, SUWA	61,659	Yes	Compilation of boundary proposal
Hovenweep (E)	BLM Monticello	2,438	Yes	Modified from existing
Indian Creek (E) / Lockhart Basin	BLM Monticello, BLM Moab, and SUWA	Indian Creek: 8,509 existing; Lockhart Basin including Indian Creek 56,293	Yes	Compilation of boundary proposals
Lavender Mesa (E)	BLM Monticello	649	Yes	
Monument Canyon	SUWA	46,830 as nominated	No	
Redrock Plateau	SUWA	323,473 as nominated	No	
San Juan River	SUWA	22,179 as nominated; 7,626 as evaluated	Yes	
Scenic Highway Corridor (E)	BLM Monticello	79,017	No	
Shay Canyon (E)	BLM Monticello	119	Yes	Modified from existing
Valley of the Gods	BLM Monticello	34,771 (See Cedar Mesa above)	Yes	Was a Special Emphasis Area within Cedar Mesa
White Canyon	SUWA	101,377 as nominated	No	
Total		512,318		

H.2 RELEVANCE AND IMPORTANCE CRITERIA EVALUATIONS FOR EXISTING AND NOMINATED ACECS

ALKALI RIDGE EXISTING ACEC			
General Location	General Description	Acreage	Values Considered
Alkali Ridge lies between Alkali Canyon and Montezuma Canyon in the eastern portion of the resource area.	This area is one of the best known and influential examples of scientific archeological investigation in the Southwestern United State. There is a National Historic Landmark (2,340 acres) within the ACEC.	39,202	Scenic Cultural Wildlife Natural Systems and Processes
Evaluation Criteria: To be considered as a potential ACEC and analyzed in resource management plan alternatives, an area must meet the criteria of relevance and importance, as established and defined in 43 CFR 1610.7-2.			
Relevance: An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:			
Relevant Values	Yes/No	Rationale for Determination	
A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans).	Yes No	<u>Cultural</u> - This area contains numerous large structural sites that have revealed evidence of the full range of prehistoric pueblo occupation from Basketmaker II to Pueblo III (500-1300 AD) and represent the defining morphological site type for the prehistoric Pueblo II cultural period (900-1150 AD). <u>Scenic</u> – The ID Team determined that scenic relevant resources were not found in the area.	
A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat and endangered, sensitive, or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity).	No	The ID Team determined that a Fish and Wildlife resource was not considered relevant for this area.	
A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered, sensitive, or threatened plant species; rare, endemic, or relict plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features).	No	The ID Team determined that a natural process or system of relevance was not found in this area.	
Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).	No	The ID Team found no natural hazards in this area.	
Importance: The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource, value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:			

ALKALI RIDGE EXISTING ACEC		
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination
Has more than locally significant qualities which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource. For Monticello Field Office consideration, criteria for cultural value includes evaluation of the nature of the cultural resource: types of sites, the density of sites, and the existing impacts to the resource.	Yes	<u>Cultural</u> - The cultural resources located in this area are regionally and nationally significant, and include Basketmaker and Pueblo village sites often reaching densities of 200 sites per square mile.
Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.	Yes	<u>Cultural</u> - The cultural resources found here are irreplaceable and extremely vulnerable to oil and gas exploration and development, intense pot hunting, increased site visitation, and road maintenance in the area. Vegetative manipulation associated with grazing and agricultural activities has also contributed to damaged cultural resources in the past.
Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.	Yes	<u>Cultural</u> – The area contains the Alkali Ridge National Historic Landmark (2,340 acres), managed for information potential and public values. Cultural resources are the subject of national protective laws, regulations, and policy.
Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety or public welfare.		None identified.
Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.		None identified.
<p>Summary of Important Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Alkali Ridge ACEC provides protective management for a large number of high density cultural sites of the Basketmaker and Pueblo cultures. 		
<p>Suggested Special Management Prescriptions:</p> <p>FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern" means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.</p>		
<p>Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes:</p> <p>Alkali Ridge ACEC (39,202 acres) - Cultural, contains a National Historic Landmark (2,340 acres) - would be maintained and would continue to be managed with the current management prescriptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where riparian areas overlap this ACEC, the special conditions for floodplain and riparian /aquatic areas would take precedence. Requirements of appropriate regulations would be met. Within the Alkali Ridge NHL, all cultural resources would be avoided by 100 feet. All cultural properties eligible for the National Register of Historic Places would be surrounded by an avoidance area sufficient to allow permanent protection. If cultural resources or their avoidance areas cannot be avoided, appropriate mitigation would be applied; such measures range from limited testing to extensive excavation. In any given situation, mitigation would be designed to fit the specific circumstances and reviewed 		

ALKALI RIDGE EXISTING ACEC
<p>by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open for mineral leasing – Surface use limited by special conditions. • Open for geophysical work. • Available for the disposal of mineral materials. • Open to locatable mineral entry with an approved plan of operations. • Retained in public ownership and not classified, segregated or withdrawn from entry. • Available for private and commercial use of woodland products. • Available to livestock use. • Available for land treatments or other range improvements. • Subject to conditional fire suppression. • OHV use limited to existing roads and trails. • Managed as VRM Class III. • Surface disturbance would be limited to what can be successfully established within 5 years after project completion. • Available for wildlife habitat improvement. <p>Add the following changes in management prescriptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface disturbance would be limited to what can be successfully established within 5 years after project completion - <u>The ID Team recommends deleting the "5 year" requirement from management prescriptions.</u> • OHV use Limited to Designated roads and trails. • Woodland Products – ID Team: <u>in conflict, may have to change wood gathering stipulations, area-wide problem.</u> • Livestock Use – could be restricted if cultural resources are being impacted. • Available for watershed improvements. • In vegetative treatments for grazing, avoid cultural sites and NHL. ID Team: <u>Possibly adjust to state no surface disturbing treatments.</u> • Appropriate Management Response to fire.
<p>Field Manager Concurrence:</p> <p>___ I concur with the above evaluation of the existing Alkali Ridge ACEC</p> <p>___ I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">_____ Date: _____</p> <p>Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager</p>
<p>[Notes: The ID Team recommends carrying the existing Alkali Ridge ACEC forward as Management Common to All for protection of cultural values including Alkali Ridge NHL, with some change in the management prescriptions.]</p>

BRIDGER JACK MESA EXISTING ACEC			
General Location	General Description	Acreage	Values Considered
Bridger Jack Mesa is located in the Indian Creek Corridor on the west side of Scenic Highway 211.	Bridger Jack Mesa ACEC covers a large mesa top consisting of pinyon-juniper woodland and sagebrush-grass parks. The mesa is public land except for approximately 420 acres of state land.	6,260	Scenic Cultural Wildlife Natural Systems and Processes
Evaluation Criteria: To be considered as a potential ACEC and analyzed in resource management plan alternatives, an area must meet the criteria of relevance and importance, as established and defined in 43 CFR 1610.7-2.			
Relevance: An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:			
Relevant Values	Yes/No	Rationale for Determination	
A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans).	No	An inventory for cultural resources has not been done in this area.	
A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat and endangered, sensitive, or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity).	No	The ID Team determined that a Fish and Wildlife relevant resource was not found in this area.	
A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered, sensitive, or threatened plant species; rare, endemic, or relict plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features).	Yes	<u>Near-relict plant community</u> - The near-relict plant community remains unaltered by human intervention. The cliffs surrounding the mesa top form a natural boundary providing a relatively isolated area that has not been grazed since 1957. Bridger Jack Mesa is, therefore, a natural enclosure for study of a vegetative community released from grazing by domestic livestock.	
Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).	No	The ID Team found no natural hazards in this area.	
Importance: The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource, value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:			
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination	
Has <u>more than locally significant qualities</u> which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource. For Monticello Field Office	Yes	<u>Near-relict plant community</u> - Bridger Jack Mesa provides a control area to study the recovery of pinyon-juniper woodland and sagebrush-grass communities from livestock grazing. The vegetative community is important for study and comparison purposes to design management for pinyon-juniper	

BRIDGER JACK MESA EXISTING ACEC		
consideration, criteria for cultural value include evaluation of the nature of the cultural resource: types of sites, the density of sites, and the existing impacts to the resource.		woodlands and sagebrush-grass communities in other parts of the Colorado Plateau, and is, therefore, more than locally significant.
Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.	Yes	<u>Near-relict plant community</u> - The area offers an unimpacted area naturally protected from other resource activities for comparative studies and research.
Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.		None identified
Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety or public welfare.		None identified
Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.		None identified
<p>Summary of Important Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Near-relict vegetation for comparative studies for rangeland health and management. 		
<p>Suggested Special Management Prescriptions:</p> <p>FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern", means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.</p>		
<p>Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes:</p> <p>Bridger Jack Mesa ACEC (6,260 acres) - Range Management Program / Near-relict Vegetation value - would be maintained and would continue to be managed with the following management prescriptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open for mineral leasing – No Surface Occupancy (NSO) on the mesa top; available for geophysical work. Closed to the disposal of mineral materials. Open to locatable mineral entry with approved plan of operations, subject to stipulations precluding surface use of the mesa top, insofar as possible. Retained in public ownership and not classified, segregated, or withdrawn from entry. Excluded from livestock grazing, including grazing by saddle stock and pack animals allowed for access. Excluded from land treatments or other improvements, except for test plots and facilities necessary for study of the near-relict plant communities. Closed to OHV use. Subject to conditional fire suppression. Managed to limit recreation use if vegetation resources are being damaged. Semiprimitive nonmotorized (SPNM) ROS class. Excluded from private or commercial use of woodland products, except for limited onsite collection of dead wood for campfires. Excluded from wildlife habitat improvements. Excluded from watershed control structures. Excluded from surface disturbance by mechanized or motorized equipment, except helicopter 		

BRIDGER JACK MESA EXISTING ACEC	
	<p>access for scientific study and heliportable equipment; insofar as legally possible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Excluded from improvements for wildlife habitat, watershed, or vegetative treatments. <p>Add the following changes to management prescriptions based on current BLM policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category 4 mineral leasing within WSA boundary. • Manage WSA as VRM I class. • Appropriate Management Response to fire. • Surface disturbance would be limited to what can be successfully established within 5 years after project completion-- <u>The ID Team recommends deleting the "5 year" requirement from management prescriptions.</u>
Field Manager Concurrence:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	I concur with the above evaluation of the existing Bridger Jack ACEC
<input type="checkbox"/>	I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes:
<p>_____ Date: _____</p>	
<p>Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager</p>	
<p>[Notes: The ID Team recommends carrying the existing Bridger Jack ACEC forward as Management Common to All for protection of near-relict plant communities with a few changes in the management prescriptions].</p>	

BUTLER WASH EXISTING ACEC			
General Location	General Description	Acreage	Values Considered
Butler Wash North ACEC is located south of and adjacent to Canyonlands National Park, and includes Butler Wash, and several forks of Salt Creek.	The Butler Wash North ACEC is noted for its rugged terrain composed of high buttes, domes, and sandstone spires. The southern part of the ACEC flat areas drop abruptly into the heads of the various forks of Salt Creek.	17,463	Scenic Cultural Wildlife Natural Systems and Processes
Evaluation Criteria: To be considered as a potential ACEC and analyzed in resource management plan alternatives, an area must meet the criteria of relevance and importance, as established and defined in 43 CFR 1610.7-2.			
Relevance: An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:			
Relevant Values	Yes/No	Rationale for Determination	
A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans).	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> - The scenic values of this area are a continuation of the remarkable rock formations – spires, domes and buttes -- seen in the adjacent Needles District of Canyonlands National Park. Gray, cream, coral and red sandstones band the walls of the canyons of Salt Creek.	
	No	<u>Cultural</u> – no cultural inventory has been done in this area.	
A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat and endangered, sensitive, or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity).	No	The ID Team determined that a fish and wildlife relevant resource was not found in this area.	
A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered, sensitive, or threatened plant species; rare, endemic, or relict plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features).	No	The ID Team determined that a natural process or system of relevance was not found in this area.	
Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).	No	The ID Team found no natural hazards in this area.	
Importance: The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource, value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:			
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination	
Has <u>more than locally significant qualities</u> which give it special worth, consequence, meaning,	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> - The scenic values are important to regional, national, and international visitors who travel to Canyonlands NP and backpack into the remote, natural	

BUTLER WASH EXISTING ACEC		
distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource. For Monticello Field Office consideration, criteria for cultural value include evaluation of the nature of the cultural resource: types of sites, the density of sites, and the existing impacts to the resource.		areas adjacent to the park. Salt Creek is one such area. The scenic values of the park and those of the Butler Wash North ACEC are not separated at the boundary but are interrelated with the national park.
Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> - Without protective management prescriptions, the unique scenic values could be damaged by other resource uses, such as potential oil and gas development, mineral disposal, and increasing recreational vehicle activities.
Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.		None identified.
Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety or public welfare.		None identified.
Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.		None identified.
<p>Summary of Important Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic quality. 		
<p>Suggested Special Management Prescriptions:</p> <p>FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern", means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.</p>		
<p>Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes:</p> <p>Butler Wash North ACEC (17,463 acres) - Scenic value - would continue to be managed with the following management prescriptions under a No Action alternative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Managed under the special conditions developed for ROS-P class areas. • Open for mineral leasing – No Surface Occupancy; however, the area manager would grant an exception to the NSO stipulation in the event it is determined through an EA, or EIS if necessary, with the adoption and use of appropriate mitigation measures, that the project would meet visual quality standards for the area. • Available for geophysical work. • Closed to disposal of mineral materials. • Open to mineral entry with an approved plan of operations. • Retained in public ownership and not classified, segregated, or withdrawn from entry. • Excluded from private and commercial use of woodland products, except for limited onsite collection of dead wood for campfires. • Available for livestock use. • Subject to conditional fire suppression, with motorized suppression methods used only if necessary to protect life or property. • Closed to OHV use. • Managed to limit recreation use if scenic values are being damaged. • Managed as VRM Class I. 		

BUTLER WASH EXISTING ACEC	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add the following change to the management prescriptions:• Surface disturbance would be limited to what can be successfully established within 1 year after project completion - <u>The ID Team recommends deleting the "1 year" requirement from management prescriptions.</u>	
Field Manager Concurrence: ____ I concur with the above evaluation of the existing Butler Wash North ACEC ____ I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes: ____ Date: _____	
Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager	
[Notes: The ID Team recommends that Butler Wash North ACEC be included in a range of alternatives to protect scenic values. An alternative to the current ACEC management is that the scenic values of Butler Wash North could be protected under the VRM class objectives].	

CEDAR MESA EXISTING ACEC			
General Location	General Description	Acreage	Values Considered
Cedar Mesa ACEC is located on the southern boundary of the field office bounded by Comb Wash on the east, Highway 163 and Glen Canyon NRA on the south and State Highway 276 on the west. The Valley of the Gods area is in the southeastern portion of the ACEC bounded on the west by Rte 261 and on the south by St 163.	This ACEC encompasses the Grand Gulch Archeological District, the Grand Gulch Primitive Area, and two special emphasis areas, Grand Gulch for its cultural emphasis, and Valley of the Gods for its scenic values.	295,335 (Includes 4,240 acres in Grand Gulch, and 34,771 in Valley of the Gods)	Scenic Cultural Wildlife Natural Systems and Processes
Evaluation Criteria: To be considered as a potential ACEC and analyzed in resource management plan alternatives, an area must meet the criteria of relevance and importance, as established and defined in 43 CFR 1610.7-2.			
Relevance: An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:			
Relevant Values	Yes/No	Rationale for Determination	
A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans).	Yes	<u>Cultural</u> - The Grand Gulch/Cedar Mesa area was extensively occupied by the Puebloan culture from before CE 500 to 1270. In surveyed areas, site densities of 20-200 sites per square mile have been recorded. The sites are of many types and include lithic scatters, petroglyph and pictograph panels, Basketmaker pit houses and pit structures, Puebloan kivas, multi-room surface swellings, granaries, and cliff dwellings. Many are nearly or totally in tact. The area probably contains the greatest concentration of Basketmaker II and III sites in the Southwest. Grand Gulch is also known particularly for its well preserved cliff dwellings and variety of rock art.	
	Yes	Five major sets of data [artifacts, environment, stratigraphy, architecture, and rock art] are available for scientific study and visitor viewing. Recent research has demonstrated that Grand Gulch/Cedar Mesa has been occupied for over 7,000 years. Most of the occupation has taken place in the large dry alcoves, but some sites are also located on the benches at the bottom of the gulch.	
	Yes	Cultural sites are present in the Arch Canyon area of the existing Cedar Mesa ACEC. Arch Canyon ruin has unique architectural elements that are one-of-a-kind in this area.	
A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat and	Yes	<u>Fish and Wildlife</u> - Arch Canyon: T & E species – designated critical habitat for Mexican spotted owl, and	

CEDAR MESA EXISTING ACEC		
endangered, sensitive, or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity).		potential habitat for the Southwestern willow flycatcher. Sensitive species: Bluehead sucker, Flannelmouth sucker. Riparian habitat essential for amphibians and neo-tropical migratory birds.
A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered, sensitive, or threatened plant species; rare, endemic, or relict plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features).	No	The ID Team determined that a natural process or system of relevance was not found in this area.
Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).	No	The ID Team found no natural hazards in this area.
Importance: The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource, value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:		
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination
Has <u>more than locally significant qualities</u> which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource. For Monticello Field Office consideration, criteria for cultural value include evaluation of the nature of the cultural resource: types of sites, the density of sites, and the existing impacts to the resource.	Yes	<u>Cultural</u> - Cultural resources in the Cedar Mesa/Grand Gulch area are of regional, national, and worldwide significance because of the wealth of intact Basketmaker and Pueblo cliff dwellings; preservation of the sites is excellent.
	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> - The Valley of the Gods area draws regional, national and international visitation to its unique and accessible scenic vistas.
	Yes	<u>Fish and Wildlife</u> - Arch Canyon: Designated critical habitat for Mexican spotted owl, and state sensitive species are present in Arch Canyon.
Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.	Yes	<u>Cultural</u> - Protection of the fragile cultural resources found here is important because they are irreplaceable and extremely vulnerable to activities that create adverse change in the sites. Intense recreational use threatens the cultural resources through surface collection, site trampling, pot hunting, and the consequent increase in erosion. This refers to both Grand Gulch and Arch Canyon sites.
	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> - The incursion of some uses and activities could cause adverse surface disturbance and damage to the scenic quality and value of the Valley of the Gods area.
Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national	Yes	<u>Cultural</u> - The Cedar Mesa/Grand Gulch area is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Even though

CEDAR MESA EXISTING ACEC		
priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.	Yes	<p>numerous artifacts have been removed from the area, both legally and illegally since the 1890s, an enormous amount of material remains for scientific study by archeologists. Grand Gulch/Cedar Mesa is the location where Richard Wetherill was finally able to demonstrate that a cultural groups he identified as the Basketmakers predated the prehistoric Pueblo people. This concept has become a basic underpinning of Southwestern Archeology, and is one of the significant discoveries in North American Archeology.</p> <p>Cultural resources are the subject of national protective laws, regulations, and policy.</p> <p><u>Fish and Wildlife</u> Arch Canyon – T & E species have designated critical habitat; and state sensitive species are present in Arch Canyon.</p>
Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety or public welfare.		None identified.
Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.		None identified.
<p>Summary of Important Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural site types with densities between 20-200 sites per square mile in surveyed areas; • The Valley of the Gods Special Emphasis Area has nationally recognized scenic values; and • The Arch Canyon area has nationally listed fish / wildlife habitat, and cultural values – Mexican spotted owl and Southwestern willow flycatcher, and presence of state sensitive species: Bluehead sucker, Flannelmouth sucker. 		
<p>Suggested Special Management Prescriptions:</p> <p>FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern", means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.</p>		
<p>Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes:</p> <p>Cedar Mesa ACEC (295,335 acres) - Cultural includes Grand Gulch Archeologic District, Recreation/Primitive Area/Natural Area values - would be maintained and would continue to be managed under the Cultural and Recreation/Scenic programs with the following management prescriptions:</p> <p><u>Cedar Mesa:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Scenic Highway Corridor overlaps; the special conditions for Scenic Highway Corridor ACEC take precedence. • Where riparian areas overlap Cedar Mesa ACEC, the special conditions for floodplains and riparian/aquatic areas take precedence. • The ROS special conditions include both P and SPNM classes apply, and would be managed for these classes. • Measures that limit surface disturbance serve cultural resource objectives by reducing direct and indirect impacts. • Cultural properties eligible for the National Register of Historic Places would be surrounded by an avoidance area sufficient to allow permanent protection. • If cultural resources or their avoidance areas cannot be avoided, appropriate mitigation would be applied; such measures range from limited testing to extensive excavation. 		

CEDAR MESA EXISTING ACEC

- In any given case, mitigation would be designed to fit the specific circumstances and reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. THE Cedar Mesa Management Plan developed for the ACEC would guide site protection, data recovery, and all other necessary cultural management activities.
- Surface disturbance would be limited to what can be successfully established within 5 years after project completion - The ID Team recommends deleting the "5 year" requirement from management prescriptions.
- Open for mineral leasing [categories 2, 3, and 4]– Surface use limited by special conditions.
- Available for geophysical work.
- Open to disposal of mineral materials.
- Open to mineral entry with an approved plan of operations.
- Retained in public ownership and not classified, segregated, or withdrawn from entry.
- Available for livestock use.
- Available for land treatments or other range improvements.
- Available for wildlife habitat improvements.
- Subject to conditional fire suppression with motorized suppression methods used only if necessary to protect life or property.
- Excluded from surface disturbance by mechanized or motorized equipment.
- OHV use Limited to designated roads/trails.
- Available for private and commercial use of woodland products in designated areas, except that onsite collection of dead fuelwood for campfires would be allowed throughout the area.

Add the following changes to management prescriptions for Cedar Mesa ACEC:

- Category 4 mineral leasing within WSA boundary, otherwise, mineral lease equivalent of category 2 with avoidance of cultural sites.
- Manage WSA as VRM I class.
- Woodcutting is restricted in WSAs.
- Appropriate Management Response to fire.
- Open for disposal of mineral materials with compliance for protection of cultural resources.
- Woodland Harvest – ID Team: see general woodland alternatives development – popular with NA. Consultation with Native Americans will take place.
- Available for watershed improvements.
- Surface disturbance would be limited to what can be successfully established within 5 years after project completion - The ID Team recommends deleting the "5 year" requirement from management prescriptions.

Grand Gulch (37,433 acres) - Special Emphasis Area for Cultural and Recreational [natural values associated with primitive recreation] / Scenic values

- Managed for ROS P class to provide primitive recreation opportunities in the ROS areas.
- ROS P class areas protected from surface disturbance to the maximum extent possible.
- Closed to mineral leasing in Grand Gulch Special Emphasis area.
- Open to leasing with NSO in ROS p class areas.
- Available for geophysical work except Grand Gulch Special Emphasis area.
- Closed to disposal of mineral materials.
- Retained in public ownership and classified as segregated from entry (a Secretarial withdrawal would be requested).
- Excluded from private and commercial use of woodland products, except for limited onsite collection of dead wood for campfires.
- Available for livestock use, except Grand Gulch itself, below Kane Gulch fence to the confluence with the San Juan River.
- Closed to OHV use.
- Managed to limit recreation use if cultural resources or scenic values are being damaged
- Managed as VRM I class in WSA.

CEDAR MESA EXISTING ACEC

- Subject to conditional fire suppression with motorized suppression methods used only if necessary to protect life or property.
- Excluded from surface disturbance by mechanized or motorized equipment.
- Mining Entry – has it been withdrawn? Still segregated? Maxine will check and fix it.
- Livestock used excluded from Grand Gulch itself.
- Surface disturbance – ID Team.
- Excluded from habitat and watershed improvements, with stipulations that exempt special circumstances from exclusion, such as fire management, ruin stabilization, or excluded unless no practical alternative exists and then it would be minimal, only as necessary to achieve.
- Excluded from range improvements except for non-motorized weed removal.

Valley of the Gods (34,771 acres) - Special Emphasis Area for Scenic Value

- Surface disturbance would be managed to be compatible with VRM I class criteria.
- Open for mineral leasing – No Surface Occupancy; however, the manager would grant an exception to the NSO stipulation in the event it is determined through an EA or EIS, if necessary, with the adoption and use of appropriate mitigation measures, that the project would meet visual quality standards for the area.
- Available for geophysical work.
- Available for disposal of mineral materials with an approved plan of operations.
- Open to mineral entry with an approved plan of operations.
- Retained in public ownership and not classified, segregated, or withdrawn from entry.
- Available for private and commercial use of woodland products in designated areas, except that onsite collection of dead fuelwood for campfires would be allowed throughout the area.
- Available for livestock use.
- Managed as VRM I class, with projects that meet these visual quality standards allowed.
- Subject to conditional fire suppression.
- OHV use on designated roads/trails.
- Subject to conditional fire suppression.
- Open for improvements of vegetation.

Add the following management prescriptions for the area of potential Arch Canyon Special Emphasis Area (2,910 acres):

- Surface disturbance would be limited to what can be successfully established within 1 year after project completion - The ID Team recommends deleting the "1 year" requirement from management prescriptions.
- Open for mineral leasing with No Surface Occupancy.
- Closed to disposal of mineral materials.
- Open to mineral entry with approved plan of operations.
- Retained in public ownership and not classified, segregated, or withdrawn from entry.
- Closed to livestock use.
- Either Closed to OHV use OR Designated to existing road and trails with seasonal closures – See OHV determination alternatives.
- Excluded from use of woodland products except for limited onsite collection of dead wood for campfires.
- Subject to conditional fire suppression with motorized suppression methods used only if necessary to protect life and property.
- Managed as VRM inventoried class.
- Open for improvements in habitat, and watershed.
- Open for vegetative treatments.

Notes: Documented public interest includes concern by professional archeologists, recreational users, individuals, and the Utah SHPO over preserving the cultural resources found here [Cedar Mesa] for public and scientific uses.

CEDAR MESA EXISTING ACEC	
Field Manager Concurrence:	
_____	I concur with the above evaluation of the existing Cedar Mesa ACEC with Special Emphasis Areas of Grand Gulch and Valley of the Gods, and potentially Arch Canyon as a Special Emphasis Area for fish / wildlife, and cultural values within the Cedar Mesa ACEC
_____	I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes:
_____ Date: _____	
Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager	
[The ID Team recommends that the existing Cedar Mesa ACEC be carried forward as Management Common to All, with the changes noted above to management prescriptions for protection of the unique, exemplary cultural values; or within the following potential alternatives: The ID Team recommends that the Valley of the Gods be included in a range of alternatives as either a stand-alone potential ACEC and therefore, released as a Special Emphasis Area from within the boundaries of the Cedar Mesa ACEC. If the Valley of the Gods is determined a stand-alone ACEC, the Scenic relevant value follows the Valley of the Gods and is deleted from the values determined for Cedar Mesa ACEC, leaving Cedar Mesa as a potential ACEC for cultural value. The ID Team recommends that Arch Canyon be considered a Special Emphasis Area for fish / wildlife, cultural values within the Cedar Mesa ACEC. See Maps]	

DARK CANYON EXISTING ACEC		
features).		
Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).	No	The ID Team found no natural hazards in this area.
Importance: The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource, value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:		
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination
Has <u>more than locally significant qualities</u> which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource. For Monticello Field Office consideration, criteria for cultural value include evaluation of the nature of the cultural resource: types of sites, the density of sites, and the existing impacts to the resource.	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> – The naturalness of the area, the elevations changes and vertical canyon walls, with the diversity of vegetation and rock formations contribute, and the national and international recognition of Dark Canyon as a destination contributes to its importance with more than locally significant quality. The proximity to Glen Canyon NRA, the Colorado River, Canyonlands NP, and the Manti-LaSal National Forest contribute to Dark Canyon as a visitation destination for primitive backcountry experience.
	Yes	<u>Wildlife</u> – Designated critical habitat for Mexican spotted owl, a T & E species.
	Yes	Important habitat for peregrine falcon and other raptors – it is mandated that management support the continued viability of the peregrine falcon.
	No	Presence of a large variety of wildlife including at the lower elevations ringtail cats, desert bighorn sheep, and bobcats; at the higher elevations, black bear, deer, elk, and mountain lions. <u>These species are found in other areas locally.</u>
Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> – This area includes a variety of terrain not usually found in a desert environment – mountainous (8,800 feet) to the desert (3,700 feet) with a wide range of visual diversity. There is potential for adverse impacts due to the increasing recreational use and activities in the Dark Canyon area.
	Yes	<u>Wildlife</u> - Designated critical habitat for Mexican spotted owl; owl pairs are known to inhabit Dark Canyon.
Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.	Yes	<u>Wildlife</u> - Designated critical habitat for Mexican spotted owl, a T & E species.
Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety or		None identified.

DARK CANYON EXISTING ACEC		
public welfare.		
Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.		None identified.
<p>Summary of Important Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic quality; • Mexican Spotted owl critical habitat and presence; and • Important habitat for peregrine falcon and other raptors. 		
<p>Suggested Special Management Prescriptions:</p> <p>FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern", means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.</p>		
<p>Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes:</p> <p>Dark Canyon ACEC - Recreation/Natural Area values, Visual/VRM, 61,659 acres - would be maintained and would continue to be managed with the following management prescriptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed to mineral leasing. • Closed to mineral entry. • Segregated from entry. • Closed to livestock use. • Subject to conditional fire suppression. • Closed to OHV use. • Managed as VRM I class. • Closed to gathering of woodland products. • <u>Surface disturbance if can be reclaimed after 1 year ID Team recommends that this prescription be taken out of the management prescriptions.</u> <p>Add the following change to management prescriptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conditionally allowed improvements for wildlife habitat, watershed, and vegetative treatments that meet VRM I class management. 		
<p>Field Manager Concurrence:</p> <p>___ I concur with the above evaluation of the existing Dark Canyon ACEC</p> <p>___ I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Date: _____</p> <p>Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager</p>		
<p>[Notes: The ID Team recommends that the existing Dark Canyon ACEC be carried forward as Management Common to All, with the change noted above to management prescriptions for protection of the scenic and wildlife values.]</p>		

HOVENWEEP EXISTING ACEC			
General Location	General Description	Acreage	Values Considered
Hovenweep ACEC is located on the eastern boundary of the field office and adjacent to Hovenweep National Monument (NPS).	Hovenweep ACEC is adjacent to the Square Tower Unit of Hovenweep National Monument (NPS), and was designated to protect cultural and wildlife values with two special emphasis areas, Cajon Pond (10 acres), and a visual protection zone (880 acres) for the unobstructed viewing of cultural sites.	1,798 plus about 620 acres [See Notes below] Total of 2,438	Scenic Cultural Wildlife Natural Systems and Processes
Evaluation Criteria: To be considered as a potential ACEC and analyzed in resource management plan alternatives, an area must meet the criteria of relevance and importance, as established and defined in 43 CFR 1610.7-2.			
Relevance: An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:			
Relevant Values	Yes/No	Rationale for Determination	
A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans).	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> – The visual protection zone [Special Emphasis Area 880 acres] provides for unobstructed viewing of cultural sites at Hovenweep NM.	
	Yes	<u>Cultural</u> – An adjacent area in Colorado was designated as Canyons of the Ancients National Monument (COANM) on June 9, 2000 by Presidential proclamation to protect cultural and natural resources on a landscape scale. Hovenweep ACEC contains cultural resources in the same vicinity and of the same types, and adds cohesiveness to the management of the cultural resources of the two National Monuments.	
A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat and endangered, sensitive, or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity).	Yes	<u>Wildlife – Habitat Management</u> –The Special Emphasis Area at Cajon Pond, a constructed reservoir covering approximately 10 acres, provides important habitat for migrating waterfowl and other wildlife in a desert, semi-arid climate that has very little surface water present.	
A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered, sensitive, or threatened plant species; rare, endemic, or relict plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features).	No	The ID Team determined that a natural process or system of relevance was not found in this area.	
Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).	No	The ID Team found no natural hazards in this area.	
Importance The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource,			

HOVENWEEP EXISTING ACEC		
value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:		
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination
Has more than locally significant qualities which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource. For Monticello Field Office consideration, criteria for cultural value include evaluation of the nature of the cultural resource: types of sites, the density of sites, and the existing impacts to the resource.	Yes	<u>Scenic, Cultural</u> – Hovenweep ACEC provides an additional area of protection to cultural values of the NPS Hovenweep National Monument located on the Utah / Colorado border, and consistency with COANM on the western Colorado border.
	Yes	<u>Wildlife – Habitat Management</u> - Included in the items listed under the cooperative management agreement (1987) with the National Park Service for Hovenweep NM were the protection and maintenance of wildlife habitat [resources] that enhance viewing associated with interpretive efforts, and the protection of riparian zones and springs associated with cultural resources.
Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.	Yes	<u>Cultural</u> – The Hovenweep ACEC provides an opportunity to provide interagency cooperation and coordination of protection of unique, irreplaceable cultural values managed by multiple agencies.
	Yes	<u>Wildlife – Habitat Management</u> - A riparian area with cattails and sedges, Cajon Pond provides cover and a food source for several species of wildlife and migrating waterfowl; some waterfowl inhabit the area year-round.
Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.	Yes	<u>Scenic, Cultural, Wildlife Habitat Management</u> – Hovenweep ACEC provides an additional area of protection to the NPS Hovenweep National Monument located on the Utah / Colorado border. In April 1987 a document titled, <i>Cooperative Management Strategies</i> was signed by the BLM Colorado State Director, the BLM Utah State Director, and the NPS Regional Director of the Rocky Mountain Region. The strategies were developed for a "Resource Protection Zone associated with the Square Tower, Holly, Hackberry, and Cutthroat Castle units of Hovenweep National Monument. ...These strategies are intended to provide for the protection, research, and interpretation of cultural resources within the resource protection zone while maintaining the concept of multiple-use on BLM lands." Hovenweep ACEC connects the adjacent boundary of COANM in Colorado for the same purpose, protection of cultural values. Cultural resources are the subject of national protective laws, regulations, and policy.
Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety or public welfare.		None identified.
Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.		None identified.
Summary of Important Values:		

HOVENWEEP EXISTING ACEC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural values and a visual protection zone for Hovenweep National Monument (NPS-Cultural); and • Wildlife habitat / riparian zone associated with interagency cultural resources by joint agency agreement.
<p>Suggested Special Management Prescriptions:</p> <p>FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern", means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.</p>
<p>Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes:</p> <p>Hovenweep ACEC (1,798 acres) - Cultural, Habitat Management values - would be maintained with the following management prescriptions -</p> <p><u>Cultural/Visual zone:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where riparian areas overlap Hovenweep ACEC, the special conditions for floodplains and riparian/aquatic areas take precedence. • Measures that limit surface disturbance serve cultural resource objectives by reducing direct and indirect impacts. • Within Hovenweep ACEC, cultural properties eligible for the National Register of Historic Places would be avoided by 100 feet. • Cultural properties eligible for the National Register of Historic Places would be surrounded by an avoidance area sufficient to allow permanent protection. • If cultural resources or their avoidance areas cannot be avoided, appropriate mitigation would be applied; such measures range from limited testing to extensive excavation. • In any given case, mitigation would be designed to fit the specific circumstances and reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. THE Cedar Mesa Management Plan developed for the ACEC would guide site protection, data recovery, and all other necessary cultural management activities. • <u>Revegetation efforts with surface disturbance must be successfully established within 5 years after project completion - The ID Team recommends deleting the "5 years" requirement from management prescriptions.</u> • Open for mineral leasing – surface use limited by special conditions. • Open for geophysical work. • Closed to disposal of mineral materials. • Open to mineral entry with an approved plan of operation. • Retained in public ownership and not classified, segregated, or withdrawn from entry. • Available for livestock use. • Subject to conditional fire suppression. • OHV use limited to designated roads/trails in entire area. • Excluded from private or commercial use of woodland products, except for limited onsite collection of dead wood for campfires. • Open for improvement in habitat, watershed and vegetation treatments. <p><u>Visual Protective Zone (880 acres):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open for mineral leasing with stipulations to prevent surface occupancy (Category 3). • Excluded from watershed and grazing (vegetative) treatment improvement. <p><u>Cajon Pond (Habitat):</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open for mineral leasing and other surface uses with stipulations to prevent surface occupancy or surface disturbance during the shorebird and waterfowl courtship and nesting season (March 1 through June 30, (category 2). • Excluded from livestock use within the fenced portion (about 1 acre). <p>Notes: The Hovenweep ACEC provides a visual buffer for Hovenweep National Monument (NPS), protection of like-cultural values, and a wildlife habitat/riparian zone associated with interagency cultural resources.</p>

INDIAN CREEK EXISTING ACEC			
General Location	General Description	Acreage	Values Considered
Indian Creek ACEC is located in the northern area of the FO, east of and adjacent to Canyonlands NP / Needles District.	The Indian Creek ACEC protects the scenic view from Needles Overlook across BLM land into Canyonlands NP. The area includes the lower end of Indian Creek and Rustler Canyon. The ACEC is corresponds roughly with the Indian Creek WSA, but is slightly larger.	8,509	Scenic Cultural Wildlife Natural Systems and Processes
Evaluation Criteria: To be considered as a potential ACEC and analyzed in resource management plan alternatives, an area must meet the criteria of relevance and importance, as established and defined in 43 CFR 1610.7-2.			
Relevance: An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:			
Relevant Values	Yes/No	Rationale for Determination	
A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans).	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> – The Indian Creek ACEC is noted for its incised, meandering canyons which wind through dark red mudstones, forming many rounded spires, and "hoo-doo's", boulders atop eroded rock that look like mushrooms. These various formations continue uninterrupted into the national park.	
	No	<u>Cultural</u> – No cultural inventory has been done in this area.	
A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat and endangered, sensitive, or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity).	No	The ID Team determined that a fish and wildlife relevant resource was not found in this area.	
A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered, sensitive, or threatened plant species; rare, endemic, or relict plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features).	No	The ID Team determined that a natural process or system of relevance was not found in this area.	
Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).	No	The ID Team found no natural hazards in this area.	
Importance; The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource, value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:			
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination	
Has <u>more than locally significant qualities</u> which give it special worth,	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> - The scenic values are based on the rock formations in the area similar to those found in	

INDIAN CREEK EXISTING ACEC		
consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource. For Monticello Field Office consideration, criteria for cultural value include evaluation of the nature of the cultural resource: types of sites, the density of sites, and the existing impacts to the resource.		Canyonlands NP, which contains some of the most unique land forms in the world [Shiozwa and Larson, 1980]. Visitors from around the world come to view this area from overlooks across BLM land and NPS Canyonlands NP.
Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.	No	<u>Scenic</u> – Although the area is scenic quality A when viewed from the overlook, from the basin it appears less natural due to resource activities that have taken place in the past within the basin, and which could further impact the scenic values.
Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.		None identified.
Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety or public welfare.		None identified.
Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.		None identified.
<p>Summary of Important Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scenic value - viewshed from overlooks into Canyonlands NP. 		
<p>Suggested Special Management Prescriptions:</p> <p>FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern", means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.</p>		
<p>Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes:</p> <p>Indian Creek ACEC – Scenic value – 8,509 acres, would be maintained and would continue to be managed with the following management prescriptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almost all of the ACEC would be in ROS-P class areas. Surface disturbance would be limited to that for which vegetation could be successfully within 1 year after project completion. All vegetation must be with native species naturally occurring in the vicinity. Open for mineral leasing with stipulations to prevent surface occupancy (category 3) NSO; however, the are manager would grant an exception to the NSO stipulation in the event it is determined through and EA or EIS, is necessary, with the adoption and use of appropriate mitigation measures, that the project would meet visual quality standards for the area. Available for geophysical work. Closed to disposal of mineral materials. Open to mineral entry with an approved plan of operations. Retained in public ownership and not classified as segregated, or withdrawn from entry. Excluded from private and commercial use of woodland products, except for limited onsite collection of dead wood for campfires. Available for livestock use. Closed to OHV use. 		

INDIAN CREEK EXISTING ACEC	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Managed to limit recreation use if scenic values are being damaged.• Managed as VRM I class.• Subject to conditional fire suppression, with motorized suppression methods used only if necessary to protect life and property.	
Field Manager Concurrence: ____ I concur with the above evaluation of the existing Indian Creek ACEC ____ I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes: _____ Date: _____	
Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager	
[Notes: The ID Team determined that protection of the scenic value of the existing Indian Creek ACEC could be managed based on VRM I under the ROS-P class, and suggested a range of alternatives which could include No Action; release of this ACEC with protection as noted for VRM class objectives; or inclusion of the nominated potential Lockhart Basin ACEC to include Indian Creek ACEC area.]	

LAVENDER MESA EXISTING ACEC			
General Location	General Description	Acreage	Values Considered
Lavender Mesa ACEC covers the top of Lavender Mesa, which is located in the Indian Creek corridor of the FO.	Lavender Mesa is isolated and inaccessible to man and herbivores by ground routes, even small mammals such as rabbits and mice appear to be absent. The mesa top provides a relict plant community environment. Most of the mesa is pinyon-juniper woodland with a small 20 acre sagebrush-grass park.	649	Scenic Cultural Wildlife Natural Systems and Processes
Evaluation Criteria: To be considered as a potential ACEC and analyzed in resource management plan alternatives, an area must meet the criteria of Relevance: and importance, as established and defined in 43 CFR 1610.7-2.			
Relevance: An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:			
Relevant Values	Yes/No	Rationale for Determination	
A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans).	No	<u>Scenic</u> : The ID Team determined that scenic relevant resources were not found in this area.	
	No	<u>Cultural/Historic</u> : No inventory has been done in this area.	
A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat and endangered, sensitive, or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity).	No	The ID Team determined that a fish and wildlife relevant resource was not found in this area.	
A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered, sensitive, or threatened plant species; rare, endemic, or relict plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features).	Yes	<u>Relict plant community</u> - The vegetative community present on the top of Lavender Mesa is unique because it has developed without the influence of grazing animals and most other mammals. The area is ecologically relevant because it presents an isolated, relict plant community that remains unaltered by human or animal intervention.	
Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).	No	The ID Team found no natural hazards in this area.	
Importance: The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource, value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:			
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination	
Has <u>more than locally significant qualities</u> which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource. For Monticello Field Office consideration,	Yes	<u>Relict plant community</u> - The vegetative community is important for study and comparison purposes to design management for pinyon-juniper woodland and sagebrush-grass communities in other parts of the Colorado Plateau.	

LAVENDER MESA EXISTING ACEC		
criteria for cultural value include evaluation of the nature of the cultural resource: types of sites, the density of sites, and the existing impacts to the resource.		
Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.	Yes	<u>Relict plant community</u> - The area offers an unimpacted area naturally protected from other resource activities for comparative studies and research.
Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.		None identified.
Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety or public welfare.		None identified.
Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.		None identified.
<p>Summary of Important Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relict vegetation for comparative studies for rangeland health and management. 		
<p>Suggested Special Management Prescriptions:</p> <p>FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern", means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.</p>		
<p>Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes:</p> <p>Lavender Mesa ACEC - Grazing Management Program – Near-relict Vegetation, 649 acres - would be maintained and would continue to be managed with the following management prescriptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managed to provide a baseline for rangeland studies through research and experiments and to allow for SPNM recreation. Managed as ROS-SPNM class. Open for mineral leasing with an approved plan of operations, subject to stipulations precluding surface use of the mesa top insofar as possible (NSO). Available for geophysical work. Closed to disposal of mineral materials. Open to mineral entry with an approved plan of operations, subject to stipulations precluding surface use of the mesa top insofar as possible. Retained in public ownership and not classified, segregated, or withdrawn from entry. Excluded from private or commercial use of woodland products, except for limited onsite collection of dead wood for campfires. Excluded from livestock grazing, including grazing by saddle stock and pack animals allowed for access. Excluded from land treatments or other improvements, except for test plots and facilities necessary for study of relict plant communities. Excluded from wildlife habitat improvements. Excluded from watershed control structures. Subject to conditional fire suppression. Closed to OHV use. 		

LAVENDER MESA EXISTING ACEC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface disturbance would be limited to that for which revegetation could be successfully established within 5 years after project completion. • Excluded from surface disturbance by mechanized or motorized equipment, except helicopter access for scientific study and heliportable equipment, insofar as possible. <p>Add the following changes to the management prescriptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface disturbance would be limited to that for which revegetation could be successfully established within 5 years after project completion. <u>The ID Team recommends deleting the "5 years" requirement from management prescriptions.</u> • Vegetative treatment would be allowed to control invasive species and for rehabilitation of disturbed surfaces.
<p>Field Manager Concurrence:</p> <p>___ I concur with the above evaluation of the existing Lavender Mesa ACEC</p> <p>___ I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Date: _____</p> <p>Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager</p>
<p>[Notes: The ID Team recommends carrying the existing Lavender Mesa ACEC forward as Management Common to All for protection of Relict plant communities with a few changes in the management prescriptions.]</p>

SCENIC HIGHWAY CORRIDOR EXISTING ACEC			
General Location	General Description	Acreage	Values Considered
The Scenic Highway Corridor ACEC covers a visual zone along Highways U-95, U-261, and U-276, and part of the White Canyon viewshed. With the exception of the White Canyon viewshed, the corridor is approximately 1 mile wide. The ACEC includes portions of the canyons north of White Canyon – Fortknocker, Short, Long, Cheesebox, Hideout, and K & L, and surrounds Natural Bridges National Monument (320 acres).	Scenic Highway Corridor ACEC is managed to maintain scenic quality as viewed from the highways (Utah- 95, 261, and 276) in the corridor. In the White Canyon viewshed (U-95 west from U-276), the south boundary of the corridor is the toe of the slope of Fry Point and Windgate Mesa. The north boundary is generally the toe of the slopes of the mesas north of White Canyon. The ACEC contains part of Butler Wash Archaeologic District (2,030 acres), and overlaps a portion of Cedar Mesa ACEC (21,380 acres).	79,017	Scenic Cultural Wildlife Natural Systems and Processes
Evaluation Criteria: To be considered as a potential ACEC and analyzed in resource management plan alternatives, an area must meet the criteria of relevance and importance, as established and defined in 43 CFR 1610.7-2.			
Relevance: An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:			
Relevant Values	Yes/No	Rationale for Determination	
A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans).	No	<u>Cultural</u> - The corridor runs through the existing Cedar Mesa ACEC, which is protected for cultural values. However, the corridor is ½ mile wide on each side of the highway and does not include cultural sites that could be considered relevant. Other cultural values are not generally present within the 1 mile width of the remaining corridor.	
	No	<u>Scenic</u> – The ID Team considered the scenic qualities of the area along the corridor and determined both in 1987 and in 2004 that scenic quality was not present as defined by ACEC criteria. The viewsheds and canyons are typical of those found throughout the Colorado Plateau. In the 1991 RMP the Field Office agreed to recognize the visual elements of the highway corridor and their importance to tourism to the state due to the cooperative study efforts in the late 1970's with the state, county and other federal agencies [“U-95”, <i>An Interagency Highway Corridor Study of Utah State Highways U-95, U-261, U-263, U-276, Notom Road.</i>] Route U-95 was subsequently designated [after 1987] a Scenic By-way by the State of Utah. [<i>Proposed RMP FEIS, Volume 1, Page 1-197, pp 1</i>].	

SCENIC HIGHWAY CORRIDOR EXISTING ACEC		
A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat and endangered, sensitive, or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity).	No	The ID Team determined that a fish and wildlife relevant resource was not found in this area.
A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered, sensitive, or threatened plant species; rare, endemic, or relict plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features).	No	The ID Team determined that a natural process or system of relevance was not found in this area.
Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).	No	The ID Team found no natural hazards in this area.
Importance: The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource, value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:		
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination
Has <u>more than locally significant qualities</u> which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource. For Monticello Field Office consideration, criteria for cultural value include evaluation of the nature of the cultural resource: types of sites, the density of sites, and the existing impacts to the resource.		No relevant value found.
Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.		No relevant value found.
Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.		None identified.
Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety or public welfare.		None identified.
Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.		None identified.

SCENIC HIGHWAY CORRIDOR EXISTING ACEC
<p>Summary of Important Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ID Team determined that the Scenic Highway Corridor does not meet ACEC criteria for relevance and importance.
<p>Suggested Special Management Prescriptions:</p> <p>FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern", means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.</p>
<p>Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes</p> <p>The current management prescriptions for the Scenic Highway Corridor (79,017 acres) are included below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface disturbance would be limited to that for which revegetation could be successfully established within 5 years after project completion. • All revegetation must be with native species naturally occurring in the area. • Open for mineral leasing with stipulations to prevent surface occupancy (Category 3); however, the area manager would grant an exception to the NSO stipulation in the event it is determined through and EA or EIS, if necessary, with the adoption and use of appropriate mitigation measures, that the project would meet visual quality standards for the area. • Available for geophysical work. • Open to mineral entry with an approved plan of operations. • Available for disposal of mineral materials subject to visual quality considerations. • Retained in public ownership and not classified, segregated or withdrawn from entry. • Available for private and commercial use of woodland products in designated areas except that onsite collection of dead fuelwood for campfires would be allowed throughout the area. • Available for livestock use. • OHV use is limited to existing roads and trails, except Grand Gulch SRMA OHV use is limited to designated roads and trails. • Managed to limit recreation use if scenic values are being damaged. • Managed as VRM I class, with projects that meet these visual quality standards allowed (those recreation development projects proposed in the 4333 section of this plan would not have to meet the VRM class standards. • Subject to conditional fire suppression.
<p>Field Manager Concurrence:</p> <p>____ I concur with the above evaluation of the existing Scenic Highway Corridor ACEC</p> <p>____ I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">_____ Date: _____</p> <p>Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager</p>
<p>[Notes: The ID Team considered the relevance and importance of the Scenic Highway Corridor and determined it did not meet ACEC criteria. The team recommends that management under other designations within the Cedar Mesa area (WSA, ACEC, SRMA and VRM) would provide protection for scenic values for the area that the corridor passes through. The remaining area could be managed under the inventoried VRM class.]</p>

SHAY CANYON EXISTING ACEC			
General Location	General Description	Acreage	Values Considered
Shay Canyon ACEC is located in the southern portion of the Indian Creek corridor and is adjacent to the northern boundary of the Manti-LsSal National Forest.	Shay Canyon ACEC includes sections of the upper Indian Creek drainage with a Special Emphasis Area for the protection of aquatic and riparian habitat, delineated as a 275-foot corridor along upper Indian Creek. There are dinosaur tracks in the bedrock of Shay Canyon and sweeping panels of rock art on the cliff walls.	Existing: 3,560 Recommended Modification: 119	Scenic Cultural Wildlife Natural Systems and Processes
Evaluation Criteria: To be considered as a potential ACEC and analyzed in resource management plan alternatives, an area must meet the criteria of relevance and importance, as established and defined in 43 CFR 1610.7-2.			
Relevance: An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:			
Relevant Values	Yes/No	Rationale for Determination	
A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans).	Yes	Cultural / Paleontological - Rock art sites are the significant cultural resources along Indian Creek. Native Americans who have visited these sites recognize images that relate to their migration history. Dinosaur tracks in the bottom of the Shay Canyon streambed are a unique visual reminder of the area's distant geologic and natural past.	
A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat and endangered, sensitive, or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity).	No	The ID Team evaluated Shay Canyon that was previously listed as a Special Emphasis Area and determined that there are no relevant fish or wildlife resources currently in the area.	
A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered, sensitive, or threatened plant species; rare, endemic, or relict plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features).	No	The ID Team determined that a natural process of system of relevance was not found in this area.	
Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).	No	The ID Team identified no natural hazards in the area.	
Importance: The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource, value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:			
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination	
Has <u>more than locally significant</u>	Yes	Cultural / Paleontological - Cultural resources in this	

SHAY CANYON EXISTING ACEC		
<p>qualities which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource. For Monticello Field Office consideration, criteria for cultural value include evaluation of the nature of the cultural resource: types of sites, the density of sites, and the existing impacts to the resource.</p>		<p>area represent the interface between two prehistoric cultural groups: Anasazi and Fremont. This interface is represented in the unique motifs in the rock art. The area provides an opportunity for cultural scientific research, and paleontology study.</p> <p>This is a heavily traveled area by visitors to the Needles District of Canyonlands National Park; Rte 211 is the only way into and out of the park. Needles District reported visitation of 44,333 vehicles in 2003, and 44,400 through the end of July 2004.</p>
<p>Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.</p>	Yes	<p><u>Cultural / Paleontological</u> – Rock art panels are extensive in the area of Shay Canyon and subject to adverse change and damage that can be irreparable without special management attention.</p>
<p>Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.</p>	Yes	<p><u>Cultural</u> – Cultural resources are the subject of national protective laws, regulations, and policy.</p>
<p>Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety or public welfare.</p>		<p>None identified.</p>
<p>Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.</p>		<p>None identified.</p>
<p>Summary of Important Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural / Paleontological values. 		
<p>Suggested Special Management Prescriptions:</p> <p>FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern", means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.</p>		
<p>Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes</p> <p>Shay Canyon ACEC (3,560 acres) - Cultural, and Special Emphasis Area for conservation value - would be maintained with the following management prescriptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where riparian areas overlap part of Shay Canyon ACEC, the special conditions for floodplains and riparian/aquatic areas take precedence. • Measures that limit surface disturbance serve cultural resource objectives by reducing direct and indirect impacts. • Within Shay Canyon ACEC, cultural properties eligible for the National Register of Historic Places would be surrounded by a buffer sufficient to allow permanent protection. If cultural resources or their buffers cannot be avoided, appropriate mitigation would be applied; such measures range from limited testing to extensive excavation. • In any given case, mitigation would be designed to fit the specific circumstances and reviewed by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. THE Cedar Mesa Management Plan developed for the ACEC would guide site protection, data recovery, and all other necessary cultural management activities. • Revegetation efforts for surface disturbance must be successfully established within 5 years after project completion. 		

SHAY CANYON EXISTING ACEC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open for mineral leasing – Surface use limited by special conditions. • Open for geophysical work. • Available for disposal of mineral materials. • Open to mineral entry with an approved plan of operations. • Retained in public ownership and not classified, segregated, or withdrawn from entry. • Excluded from private and commercial use of woodland products except for limited onsite collection of dead fuelwood for campfires. • Available for livestock use. • Managed as VRM Class I, with projects that meet these visual quality standards allowed. • Subject to conditional fire suppression. • OHV use limited to designated roads/trails. • Open for improvements in habitat and watershed.
<p>Field Manager Concurrence:</p> <p>____ I concur with the above evaluation of the existing and modified potential Shay Canyon ACEC</p> <p>____ I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Date: _____</p> <p>Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager</p>
<p>[Proposed Modification: The Shay Canyon ACEC boundary could be modified to include only the area surrounding the mouth of Shay Canyon which includes paleontological and cultural sites. Newspaper Rock, further up Indian Creek, is protected through designation as a National Historic Landmark. The Indian Creek stream corridor, likewise, is protected through management conditions for floodplains / riparian areas and does not currently have relevant fish resource values.</p> <p>The ID Team suggests the modified Shay Canyon ACEC (119 acres) with reduced boundaries in one alternative, and that the Special Emphasis Area for riparian and aquatic conservation be released from all alternatives.]</p>

LOCKHART BASIN ACEC NOMINATION	
Field Manager Concurrence:	
___	I concur with the above evaluation of the potential Lockhart Basin ACEC
___	I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes:
_____ Date: _____	
Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager	
[Notes: The ID Team recommended that Lockhart Basin ACEC nomination be included in a range of alternatives, in conjunction with the Indian Creek existing ACEC, for consideration in the planning process.]	

VALLEY OF THE GODS ACEC NOMINATION			
General Location	General Description	Acreage	Values Considered
Valley of the Gods lies north of US Highway 163 extending north to the south cliff line of Cedar Mesa. The Valley of the Gods is currently a Special Emphasis Area within the Cedar Mesa existing ACEC.	Valley of the Gods is nominated as a potential ACEC by the BLM Monticello Field Office ID Team based on scenic values of quality and diversity of landforms.	34,771	Scenic Cultural Wildlife Natural Systems and Processes
Evaluation Criteria: To be considered as a potential ACEC and analyzed in resource management plan alternatives, an area must meet the criteria of relevance and importance, as established and defined in 43 CFR 1610.7-2.			
Relevance: An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:			
Relevant Values	Yes/No	Rationale for Determination	
A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans).	No Yes	<u>Cultural</u> – The ID Team determined that cultural resources have not been inventoried in this area. <u>Scenic</u> – Panoramic views can be seen from the highways bordering the area and from the Valley of the Gods Loop (graded gravel and clay, 17 miles) Road. The eroded, wind-sculpted spires and buttes, and long rock fins resemble animals or "gods". Seven Sailors, Rooster Butte, Setting Hen Butte, Pyramid Peak, Castle Butte, and Bell Butte are found here. The West Fork of Lime Creek, Lime Creek, and the northwest portion of Lime Ridge are included in this area.	
A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat and endangered, sensitive, or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity).	No	The ID Team determined that a fish and wildlife relevant resource was not found in this area.	
A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered, sensitive, or threatened plant species; rare, endemic, or relict plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features).	No	The ID Team determined that a natural process or system of relevance was not found in this area.	
Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).	No	The ID Team found no natural hazards in this area.	
Importance: The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource, value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:			

VALLEY OF THE GODS ACEC NOMINATION		
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination
Has <u>more than locally significant qualities</u> which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource. For Monticello Field Office consideration, criteria for cultural value include evaluation of the nature of the cultural resource: types of sites, the density of sites, and the existing impacts to the resource.	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> – Valley of the Gods provides significant vistas to those who travel the roads surrounding the nominated ACEC area. The Valley of the Gods is important to regional, national and international visitors who view and photograph the scenery. The majority of those who travel the highway system do not take advantage of backcountry scenery in a natural setting, instead, the view from the roads are their scenic experience in the area. The BLM, the county and the state have promoted the loop road as part of the Trail of the Ancients.
Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> - Without protective management prescriptions, the unique scenic values could be damaged by other resource uses, such as potential oil and gas development or mineral-material disposal. Special management attention would limit surface disturbance to protect scenery from potential adverse impacts.
Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.		None identified.
Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety or public welfare.		None identified.
Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.		None identified.
Summary of Important Values:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic values. 		
Suggested Special Management Prescriptions:		
<p>FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern", means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.</p>		
Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes:		
<p>Valley of the Gods potential ACEC –34,771 acres, with the following proposed management prescriptions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface disturbance would be managed to be compatible with VRM I class criteria. • Surface disturbance would be limited to what can be successfully established within 1 year after project completion. Revegetation must be with native species naturally occurring in the area. • Open for mineral leasing – No Surface Occupancy; however, the manager would grant an exception to the NSO stipulation in the event it is determined through an EA or EIS, if necessary, with the adoption and use of appropriate mitigation measures, that the project would meet visual quality standards for the area. • Available for geophysical work. • Open to disposal of mineral materials. • Open to mineral entry with an approved plan of operations. • Retained in public ownership and not classified, segregated, or withdrawn from entry. • Available for livestock use. • Available for land treatments or other range improvements. 		

VALLEY OF THE GODS ACEC NOMINATION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Available for wildlife habitat improvements.• Subject to conditional fire suppression with motorized suppression methods used only if necessary to protect life or property.• Excluded from surface disturbance by mechanized or motorized equipment.• OHV use Limited to designated roads/trails.• Available for private and commercial use of woodland products in designated areas, except that onsite collection of dead fuelwood for campfires would be allowed throughout the area.	
Field Manager Concurrence: ____ I concur with the above evaluation of the potential Valley of the Gods ACEC ____ I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes: _____ Date: _____	
Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager	
[Notes: The ID Team suggested that Valley of the Gods could be considered for potential ACEC status within a range of alternatives that include leaving it as a Special Emphasis Area within the Cedar Mesa ACEC; releasing it from special designation with management under the VRM class objectives; or as a stand-alone ACEC for scenic values.]	

CANYONLANDS ACEC NOMINATION			
General Location	General Description	Acreage	Values Considered
<p>Area east of Canyonlands NP south to the National Forest Boundary. No specific boundaries were described; hand drawn boundaries were overlaid on an indistinct map. Map seemed to match that on-file by SUWA for the Redrock Wilderness Proposal boundaries.</p> <p>[This nomination has within its boundaries the following existing ACECs: Shay Canyon (Cultural), Lavender and Bridger Jack Mesas (Relict-plant communities), and Indian Creek (Visual).]</p>	<p>The proposed ACEC holds the landscape of infinitely twisted canyons, high domes, cliffs, mesas and anticlines that borders Canyonlands National Park. Creeks flow down from the nearby Abajo Mountains (NF), creating important riparian corridors and carving interesting formations. The road to the Needles Overlook and Highway 211 to Squaw Flat run through and along the edge of the area.</p> <p>Newspaper Rock, a unique and important archaeological site, adjoins the southern edge. Bridger Jack Mesa, Harts Point and Horsehead Rock provide long views of the canyon country. One of these views is of Lockhart Basin, which is below the popular Needles Overlook.</p>	175,365	<p>Scenic</p> <p>Cultural</p> <p>Wildlife</p> <p>Natural Systems and Processes</p>
<p>Evaluation Criteria:</p> <p>To be considered as a potential ACEC and analyzed in resource management plan alternatives, an area must meet the criteria of relevance and importance, as established and defined in 43 CFR 1610.7-2.</p>			
<p>Relevance:</p> <p>An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:</p>			
Relevant Values	Yes/No	Rationale for Determination	
<p>A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans).</p>	No	<p><u>Scenic</u> – Mentioned in the nomination specifically was Hart’s Point; this is not unique in itself and is inventoried as VRM IV. Hart’s Point overlook with views into Canyonlands NP is considered scenic. The existing Indian Creek ACEC (Scenic) is located within this nomination yet covers less than 5% of this total nominated area.</p>	
	Yes	<p><u>Cultural</u> – report says that "12,000 acreshave been identified by BLM... for cultural resources". [Number not based on any known real data BLM is aware of].</p>	
	Yes	<p>The current existing Shay Mesa (Cultural) ACEC encompasses only 3,560 acres or 2% of the nominated area.</p>	
	No	<p>"Countless archeological sites are scattered throughout the remaining lands within the proposed ACEC." – This is possible but BLM surveys have not been completed to substantiate this statement.</p>	
<p>A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat and endangered, sensitive, or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity).</p>	No	<p><u>Wildlife</u> –</p> <p>- Southwestern willow flycatcher – <u>no currently occupied habitat.</u></p>	
	No	<p>-Critical habitat for sensitive species ["critical" is Fish Wildlife Service (FWS) term]; <u>not occurring in this area for these species / may provide habitat but not critical.</u></p> <p>Pronghorn, western red bat ringtail cat, dwarf shrew,</p>	

CANYONLANDS ACEC NOMINATION		
	No	Virgin River montane vole, Great Plains rat snake, Swainson's hawk , Spotted ground squirrel, Utah milk snake, many lined-skink , desert bighorn sheep -- <u>none of these species are considered sensitive by the State of Utah for San Juan County.</u>
	No	Bats: big free-tailed bat, fringed myotis, spotted bat, Townsend's big-eared bat - found in a wide range of habitats available throughout Utah; <u>there is no information to show that these bats have a strong affinity to the nominated ACEC area.</u>
	No	Sage grouse – is sensitive, but <u>does not occur nor have habitat in this nominated area.</u>
	Yes	Bald eagle - a T&E species; winters throughout the field office area, but not specifically reliant on this area for winter habitat, nor does it nest in resource area
	No	Ferruginous hawk – potentially present, but <u>don't know where located</u> , typically nests in higher elevations than nominated area.
	No	Peregrine falcon – <u>not state sensitive species</u> , found throughout field office area, not just in this area.
	No	Burrowing owl – <u>no known in this area.</u>
	No	Lewis' woodpecker – is state sensitive species, but <u>typically found at higher elevations than this nominated area.</u>
	No	
	No	
A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered, sensitive, or threatened plant species; rare, endemic, or relict plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features).	No	-Spineless hedgehog cactus, <u>delisted in 1993.</u>
	No	-Jane's globemallow, Tuhy aromatic scurf-pea, and Chatterley's onion - could occur in this area but have not been identified.
	No	-Moab woodyaster, Eastwood monkeyflower - <u>not in area of nomination.</u>
	Yes	-Relic [relict] plant communities on Lavender Mesa are present and protected under the existing Lavender Mesa ACEC.
	Yes	-Rock formations are examples of unique erosion processes.
Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).	No	Area not nominated for this value.
Importance:		
The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource, value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:		
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination
Has <u>more than locally significant qualities</u> which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness,	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> – The nominated area includes the existing Indian Creek ACEC, which is less than 5% of the total acreage of this nomination. The importance of the area

CANYONLANDS ACEC NOMINATION	
Summary of Important Values:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic value, which is present in an area looking west from Hart's Point Overlook into Canyonlands NP and is protected under the existing Indian Creek ACEC; • Cultural value, which is currently protected under the existing Shay Canyon ACEC, or could be protected under the potential modified Shay Canyon ACEC; and • Relict plant communities on Lavender and Bridger Jack Mesas, which are currently protected under the existing ACECs by the same names. 	
Suggested Special Management Prescriptions:	
<p>FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern", means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.</p>	
Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes	
<p>See management prescriptions under existing Lavender and Bridger Jack Mesas existing ACECs, Shay Canyon existing ACEC, and Indian Creek existing ACEC.</p>	
Field Manager Concurrence:	
<input type="checkbox"/>	I concur with the above evaluation of the Canyonlands ACEC nomination
<input type="checkbox"/>	I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes:
<p>_____ Date: _____</p>	
<p>Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager</p>	
<p>[Notes: The ID Team determined that the entire nomination acreage (175,365 acres) does not meet the relevance and importance criteria for the values listed. However, the existing ACECs, Lavender Canyon, Bridge Jack Mesa, Shay Canyon, and Indian Creek, provide protection for values found to have relevance and importance: relict plant communities, cultural, and scenic, respectively.]</p>	

CEDAR MESA ACEC NOMINATION			
General Location	General Description	Acreage	Values Considered
Located in the area south of UT 95, west of Comb Ridge, north of a portion of Glen Canyon NRA, and bounded on the east by Highway 276.	This is an area of diverse terrain from high elevations to desert washes. Large numbers of cultural sites are located within the area, as well as backcountry access for primitive recreation and cultural visitation.	379,336	Scenic Cultural Wildlife Natural Systems and Processes
Evaluation Criteria: To be considered as a potential ACEC and analyzed in resource management plan alternatives, an area must meet the criteria of relevance and importance, as established and defined in 43 CFR 1610.7-2.			
Relevance: An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:			
Relevant Values	Yes/No	Rationale for Determination	
A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans).	Yes	<u>Scenic: Valley of the Gods:</u> Panoramic views can be seen from the highways bordering the area and from the Valley of the Gods Loop 17-mile [dirt] Road. [See Valley of the Gods ACEC nominated evaluation].	
	Yes	<u>Scenic: Comb Ridge:</u> "the arching spine of Comb Ridge is a remarkable sight" from the highway.	
	Yes	<u>Cultural:</u> The Grand Gulch/Cedar Mesa area was extensively occupied by the Puebloan culture from before CE 500 to 1270. In surveyed areas, site densities of 20-200 sites per square mile have been recorded. The sites are of many types and include lithic scatters, petroglyph and pictograph panels, Basketmaker pit houses and pit structures, Puebloan kivas, multi-room surface swellings, granaries, and cliff dwellings. Many are nearly or totally in tact.	
	Yes	<u>Cultural – Arch Canyon ruin</u> has unique architectural elements that are one-of-a-kind in this area.	
A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat and endangered, sensitive, or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity).	No	<u>Cultural – The area west of Grand Gulch</u> was recommended in the nomination to be included within the boundaries of the ACEC. The ID Team determined that the area west of Grand Gulch does not possess site density in numbers comparable to those in either Grand Gulch or Cedar Mesa, nor are there conflicts or potential impacts on the west to the extent that they occur in Grand Gulch or on the mesa top (Cedar Mesa) that would warrant special management attention.	
	Yes	<u>Wildlife:</u> <u>Fish and Wildlife – Arch Canyon:</u> T & E species – designated critical habitat for Mexican spotted owl, and potential habitat for the Southwestern willow flycatcher. Sensitive species - Bluehead sucker, Flannelmouth sucker.	
	Yes	- Black-footed ferret -Federally endangered: <u>extirpated from field office area (no longer present).</u> - Ferruginous hawk - sensitive [state] species— winters in	

CEDAR MESA ACEC NOMINATION		
	<p>No</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p>	<p>pinyon-juniper (P-J) woodland.</p> <p>- Mule deer [crucial winter range is designated], desert shrew, western red bat, ringtail cat, dwarf shrew, Virgin River montaine vole, the Utah night lizard, Swainson's hawk, osprey, spotted ground squirrel, Pacific chorus frog, many-lined skink [found in moist areas near water, not in area], and the desert bighorn sheep: <u>none are listed as sensitive.</u></p> <p>- <u>Peregrine falcon</u> - . This species is delisted but <u>support continues to be mandated to ensure the continued viability of the species.</u></p> <p>- Bald eagle – winter range, present but no breeding in area; ubiquitous range over the state of Utah.</p> <p>- Burrowing owl – <u>not in area.</u></p> <p>- Big free-tailed bat, Townsend's big-eared bat, fringed myotis bats – <u>no information to show that these bats have a strong affinity to this area.</u></p> <p>- Bobolink – found between the pinyon-juniper and shrub, usually in NF, <u>not in this area</u>; burrowing owl [present in open grass lands, not treed area] – <u>not present in area</u>; sage grouse – not found in this area; Lewis' woodpecker – is state sensitive but breeding area is typically in ponderosa pine forests, <u>not in this area.</u></p>
<p>A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered, sensitive, or threatened plant species; rare, endemic, or relict plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features).</p>	<p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>No</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p><u>Natural Systems and processes:</u></p> <p>- <u>Navajo sedge:</u> Federally listed plant species, <u>not found in this area</u> (found in ledges of the Navajo sandstone formation on the San Juan River); whiteflower penstemon – <u>not present in this area.</u></p> <p>- Monument milkvetch - potentially located in the northern part of San Juan County in Canyonlands NP; alcove bog-orchid, Hole in the Rock prairie clover, Kachina daisy – all could possibly be in the area but have not been identified.</p> <p>- Comb Wash buckwheat –<u>removed from special species status list</u>; Franklin's ceanothus, <u>not sensitive species</u>; Bluff buckwheat, <u>not sensitive species.</u></p> <p>- <u>Cronquist milkvetch</u> – located in the bottom of Comb Wash, which is outside of the existing ACEC area though within the nominated area boundaries.</p>
<p>Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Area not nominated for this value.</p>
<p>Importance:</p> <p>The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource, value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:</p>		

CEDAR MESA ACEC NOMINATION		
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination
Has <u>more than locally significant qualities</u> which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource. For Monticello Field Office consideration, criteria for cultural value include evaluation of the nature of the cultural resource: types of sites, the density of sites, and the existing impacts to the resource.	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> - Valley of the Gods - The Valley of the Gods is important to regional, national and international visitors who view and photograph the scenery. [See Valley of the Gods nominated ACEC evaluation.]
	No	<u>Scenic</u> - Comb Ridge – not located within boundary of existing Cedar Mesa ACEC. ID Team determined that Comb Ridge within a different management category type than the existing Cedar Mesa ACEC boundaries.
	Yes	<u>Cultural</u> - The area probably contains the greatest concentration of Basketmaker II and III sites in the Southwest. Grand Gulch is also known particularly for its well preserved cliff dwellings and variety of rock art. [See existing Cedar Mesa ACEC evaluation].
	Yes	<u>Cultural</u> - Arch Canyon – there are site types in the proposed historic district for this area.
	No	<u>Wildlife</u> - - Ferruginous hawk – winters in pinyon-juniper (P-J) woodlands, there are hundreds of thousands of acres of P-J in the resource area, not limited to Cedar Mesa.
	No	- Peregrine falcon – <u>may be present but most birds are found in the San Juan River ecosystem, their natural habitat.</u>
	No	- Bald eagle – no breeding areas in Cedar Mesa; eagle is found throughout the State of Utah.
	Yes	<u>Fish and Wildlife</u> – Arch Canyon: Designated critical habitat for T & E species – Mexican spotted owl; state sensitive species, Bluehead sucker, Flannelmouth sucker, are present in Arch Canyon.
	No	<u>Natural Systems and Processes</u> - Kachina daisy - <u>not known if it is present in this area.</u>
	No	- Cronquist milkvetch – not located within the area of the existing ACEC; the ID Team determined that extending the boundaries to include Comb Wash and Ridge was not a practical management action due to change in use and activities and their differing management needs.
Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> - Valley of the Gods - Some resource uses and activities could cause adverse surface disturbance and impacts to the scenic quality / value of the area.
	Yes	<u>Fish and Wildlife</u> – Arch Canyon: Designated critical habitat for T & E species – Mexican spotted owl; state sensitive species are present in Arch Canyon.
Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or	Yes	<u>Cultural</u> - The Cedar Mesa/Grand Gulch area is listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

CEDAR MESA ACEC NOMINATION		
to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.	Yes	Fish and Wildlife Arch Canyon – Designated critical habitat for T & E species; and state sensitive species are present.
Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety or public welfare.		None identified.
Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.		None identified.
<p>Summary of Important Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic quality in the Valley of the Gods area; • Cultural values in the Cedar Mesa/Grand Gulch and Arch Canyon areas; and • Fish / wildlife values in the Arch Canyon area, designated critical habitat for T & E species – Mexican spotted owl; habitat for Southwestern willow flycatcher, and state sensitive species- Bluehead sucker, Flannelmouth sucker. 		
<p>Suggested Special Management Prescriptions:</p> <p>FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern", means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.</p>		
<p>Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes</p> <p>See management prescriptions listed under Cedar Mesa Existing ACEC evaluation, Grand Gulch Special Emphasis Area, and for Arch Canyon potential Special Emphasis Area under existing Cedar Mesa ACEC.</p>		
<p>Field Manager Concurrence:</p> <p>____ I concur with the above evaluation of the Cedar Mesa ACEC nomination</p> <p>____ I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Date: _____</p> <p>Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager</p>		
<p>[Notes: The ID Team determined that the nominated area, including west of Grand Gulch and east of the existing Cedar Mesa ACEC boundary, do not have relevant and important values as compared with those within the existing ACEC boundaries. These two areas are within a different management category type and have different management needs.</p> <p>The ID Team recognizes that the relevant resources as in this nomination compare to the ones in the existing Cedar Mesa ACEC, the Special Emphasis Area of Valley of the Gods, and additionally, a potential Special Emphasis Area for fish / wildlife and cultural values in Arch Canyon, which is a part of the existing Cedar Mesa ACEC. [See evaluation for Existing Cedar Mesa ACEC].</p> <p>The ID Team recommends that the existing Cedar Mesa be carried forward in the following range of alternatives; No Action; maintain the existing Cedar Mesa ACEC with release of the Special Emphasis Area Valley of the Gods; maintain the existing Cedar Mesa ACEC and designate a potential Special Emphasis Area for Arch Canyon to protect fish/wildlife values, or some combination of the above.]</p>		

DARK CANYON ACEC NOMINATION			
General Location	General Description	Acreage	Values Considered
The Dark Canyon nominated area is located on the western field office boundary adjacent to Glen Canyon NRA, and from the southern boundary of Canyonlands NP south to the Manti-LaSal NF and includes the areas of Bulter Wash, Beef Basin, and Dark Canyon.	The Dark Canyon/Butler Wash/Beef Basin area is one of the least accessible areas in southern Utah, and encompasses a wide range of elevation changes, a diversity of scenic viewing opportunities, and a variety of plant, and animal habitats and species.	163,678	Scenic Cultural Wildlife Natural Systems and Processes
Evaluation Criteria: To be considered as a potential ACEC and analyzed in resource management plan alternatives, an area must meet the criteria of relevance and importance, as established and defined in 43 CFR 1610.7-2.			
Relevance: An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:			
Relevant Values	Yes/No	Rationale for Determination	
A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans).	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> – The proposed ACEC holds every type of beautiful view imaginable, from snow-capped mountaintops cloaked in dark forests, across expansive mesas, down redrock cliffs, to green creekside grasses sprouting from red sand. Twisted junipers cling to cliffs that rise 2,000 feet above the canyon floors.	
	No	<u>Cultural</u> – "Cultural resources, including petroglyphs and cliff dwellings, are thick through the entire region." - The ID Team determined that because the density of cultural sites in this area is likely not as prevalent as in Alkali Ridge or Cedar Mesa, and sites are less impacted because they are off the beaten path, that the cultural value was not relevant.	
A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat and endangered, sensitive, or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity).	Yes	<u>Wildlife</u> – - Mexican spotted owl – Dark Canyon is within designated critical habitat for the owl.	
	Yes	- Sensitive [state] species - ferruginous hawk – winters in pinyon-juniper (P-J) woodland.	
	No	- Mule deer [crucial winter range is designated], desert shrew, western red bat, Great Plains rat snake, ringtail cat, dwarf shrew, Virgin River montaine vole, the Utah night lizard, Swainson’s hawk, osprey, spotted ground squirrel, Pacific chorus frog, many-lined skink [found in moist areas near water, not in area], and the desert bighorn sheep: <u>none of these species are listed as sensitive.</u>	
	Yes	-Important habitat for peregrine falcon may be present in this area.	
	Yes	- Bald eagle no breeding areas here, ubiquitous range over the state of Utah.	
	No	- Burrowing owl – <u>not in area.</u>	

DARK CANYON ACEC NOMINATION		
	No	- Big free-tailed bat, Townsend's big-eared bat, fringed myotis bats – <u>no information to show that these bats have a strong affinity to this area.</u>
	No	- Bobolink – found between the pinyon-juniper and shrub, usually in NF - <u>not in this area</u> ; burrowing owl [present in open grass lands, not treed area] – <u>not present in area</u> ; sage grouse – <u>not found in this area</u> ; Lewis' woodpecker – is state sensitive but breeding area is typically in ponderosa pine forests [at higher elevations as in NF]- <u>not in this area.</u>
A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered, sensitive, or threatened plant species; rare, endemic, or relict plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features).	No	<u>Natural process of system</u> – - Whiteflower penstemon – <u>not present here.</u>
	No	- Monument milkvetch - <u>potentially located in the northern part of San Juan County in Canyonlands NP, north of this nominated area.</u>
	Yes	- Kachina daisy – possibly could be present, habitat is seasonally wet seeps, not identified in area.
	No	- Comb Wash buckwheat - <u>removed from sensitive species list.</u>
	No	- Franklin's ceanothus – <u>not sensitive species</u> ; Bluff buckwheat - <u>not sensitive species.</u>
	No	- Alcove bog-orchid, Hole in the Rock prairie clover - could possibly be in the area but not identified.
	No	- Cronquist milkvetch – sensitive species but <u>not present in this area.</u>
Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).	No	This value was not submitted.
Importance: The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource, value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:		
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination
Has <u>more than locally significant qualities</u> which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource. For Monticello Field Office consideration, criteria for cultural value include evaluation of the nature of the cultural resource: types of sites, the density of sites, and the existing impacts to the resource.	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> – Dark Canyon is a destination for visitors regionally, nationally and internationally because of its remoteness, scenery, and opportunity for primitive backcountry travel in a large canyon system.
	Yes	<u>Wildlife</u> – - Mexican spotted owl – designated critical habitat and pairs known to inhabit.
	No	- Ferruginous hawk – winters in P-J woodlands, there are hundreds of thousands of acres of P-Jin the resource area not limited to Dark Canyon.
	No	- Bald eagle - eagle found throughout the State of Utah.
	Yes	- Peregrine falcon - provides important habitat for peregrine falcon and other raptors.

DARK CANYON ACEC NOMINATION		
	No	<u>Natural Systems and Processes</u> Kachina daisy – <u>not identified in this area.</u>
Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.	Yes	- Peregrine falcon – provides important habitat for peregrine falcon and other raptors.
Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.		None identified.
Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety or public welfare.		None identified.
Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.		None identified.
Summary of Important Values: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic quality; • Wildlife values, Dark Canyon is within designated critical habitat for the Mexican spotted owl; and • Important habitat for peregrine falcon. 		
Suggested Special Management Prescriptions: FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern", means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.		
Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes: See the management prescriptions listed for the Existing Dark Canyon ACEC evaluation.		
Field Manager Concurrence: ___ I concur with the above evaluation of the Dark Canyon nomination ___ I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes: <div style="text-align: right;">Date: _____</div>		
Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager		
[Notes: The ID Team determined that the entire nomination acreage (163,678 acres) does not meet the relevance and importance criteria for the values listed. However, the existing Dark Canyon ACEC provides protection for the values found to have relevance and importance: scenic and wildlife.]		

MONUMENT CANYON ACEC NOMINATION			
General Location	General Description	Acreage	Values Considered
Monument Canyon nominated ACEC area is located on the eastern edge of the field office at the Colorado border, and north of Navajo Nation lands.	The nominated Monument Canyon ACEC area includes Tin Cup Mesa, Cross Canyon, Monument Canyon and the upper part of Montezuma Creek. Portions of the area are currently designated WSAs.	46,830	Scenic Cultural Wildlife Natural Systems and Processes
Evaluation Criteria: To be considered as a potential ACEC and analyzed in resource management plan alternatives, an area must meet the criteria of relevance and importance, as established and defined in 43 CFR 1610.7-2.			
Relevance: An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:			
Relevant Values	Yes/No	Rationale for Determination	
A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans).	No	<u>Scenic</u> – The ID Team determined that this area does not have scenic qualities, nor is it unique within the larger resource area.	
	No	<u>Cultural</u> – Ruins occur throughout the canyons and mesas. Tin Cup Mesa has some cultural sites; however, the ID Team determined that the density of cultural sites in this area is likely not as prevalent as in Alkali Ridge or Cedar Mesa, and sites are less impacted because they are off the beaten path. Based on criteria, the ID Team determined that the cultural value was not relevant.	
A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat and endangered, sensitive, or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity).	No	<u>Wildlife:</u> - Federally endangered black-footed ferret: <u>extirpated from field office area (no longer present).</u>	
	No	- Ferruginous hawk - winters in pinyon-juniper woodland <u>typically not found in this area.</u>	
	No	- Mule deer [crucial winter range is designated], desert shrew, western red bat, ringtail cat, Utah milk snake, dwarf shrew, Virgin River montaine vole, the Utah night lizard, Swainson's hawk, osprey, spotted ground squirrel, Pacific chorus frog, many-lined skink [found in moist areas near water, not in area], and the desert bighorn sheep: <u>none of these species are listed as sensitive.</u>	
	No	- Burrowing owl – <u>not in area.</u>	
	No	- Big free-tailed bat, Townsend's big-eared bat, fringed myotis bats – <u>no information to show that these bats have a strong affinity to this area.</u>	
	No	- Sage grouse – sensitive but <u>not found in this area.</u>	
A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered,	No	- Lewis' woodpecker – is state sensitive but breeding area is typically in ponderosa pine forests <u>not in this area.</u>	
		<u>Natural Systems and processes:</u>	

MONUMENT CANYON ACEC NOMINATION		
sensitive, or threatened plant species; rare, endemic, or relict plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features).	No	-Natural Riparian Ecosystems – ID Team did not identify any riparian systems in this area.
Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).	No	None identified in proposal.
<p>Importance: The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource, value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:</p>		
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination
Has <u>more than locally significant qualities</u> which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource. For Monticello Field Office consideration, criteria for cultural value include evaluation of the nature of the cultural resource: types of sites, the density of sites, and the existing impacts to the resource.		No relevant value found.
Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.		No relevant value found.
Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.		No relevant value found.
Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety or public welfare.		None identified.
Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.		None identified.
<p>Summary of Important Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The ID Team determined there are no relevant values were present in this area. 		

MONUMENT CANYON ACEC NOMINATION	
Suggested Special Management Prescriptions:	FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern", means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.
Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes	The ID Team determined there are no relevant values were present in this area.
Field Manager Concurrence:	<input type="checkbox"/> I concur with the above evaluation of the Monument Canyon Nominated ACEC <input type="checkbox"/> I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes: _____ Date: _____ Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager

REDROCK PLATEAU ACEC NOMINATION			
General Location	General Description	Acreage	Values Considered
The Redrock Plateau ACEC nomination is located in the southwestern corner of the field office (FO) area. It is bounded by routes U-95 on the north and U-276 on the partially on the east, and Glen Canyon NRA on the south and western FO boundaries.	Sheer-sided canyons cut the area, high mesas, and eroded badlands make up this varied landscape. A part of this proposed ACEC is the existing Mancos Mesa WSA.	323.473	Scenic Cultural Wildlife Natural Systems and Processes
Evaluation Criteria: To be considered as a potential ACEC and analyzed in resource management plan alternatives, an area must meet the criteria of relevance and importance, as established and defined in 43 CFR 1610.7-2.			
Relevance: An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:			
Relevant Values	Yes/No	Rationale for Determination	
A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans).	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> – The area encompasses a large diverse geographic region which displays a landscape of canyons, cliffs, desert and badlands, high mesas sandy washes.	
	No	<u>Cultural</u> – "The proposed ACEC is rich in significant cultural resources." The ID Team determined that the density of cultural sites in the area is likely not high, nor are the resources unique to the area or that would require special management for protection.	
A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat and endangered, sensitive, or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity).	No	<u>Wildlife</u> – - Ringtail cat, dwarf shrew, and Virgin River vole – <u>these species are not sensitive.</u>	
	Yes	- Ferruginous hawk - sensitive species— winters in pinyon-juniper woodland.	
	Yes	- Peregrine falcon - <u>could be found in the area but usual habitat is along the San Juan River.</u>	
	Yes	- Bald eagle – present but no breeding areas, ubiquitous range over the state of Utah].	
	No	- Burrowing owl – <u>not in area.</u>	
	No	- Big free-tailed bat, Townsend's big-eared bat, fringed myotis bats – <u>no information to show that these bats have a strong affinity to this area; spotted ground squirrel, not a sensitive species and can be found throughout the field office area.</u>	
A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered, sensitive, or threatened plant species; rare, endemic, or relict plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features).	No	<u>Natural Systems and Processes</u> – - Sage, blackbrush, and rabbitbrush communities – <u>not unique, these plant communities are found within the entire Colorado Plateau.</u>	
	No	- Hole in the Rock prairie clover – could possibly be present but not identified.	
	No	- Whiting indigo bush – <u>not a sensitive species, present in the Mancos area.</u>	
	No	- Copper Canyon milkvetch – could possibly be present	

REDROCK PLATEAU ACEC NOMINATION		
	Yes	in area but not identified. - Relict plant communities – some are located on Mancos Mesa.
Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).		No hazards were identified in this area.
Importance: The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource, value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:		
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination
Has <u>more than locally significant qualities</u> which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource. For Monticello Field Office consideration, criteria for cultural value include evaluation of the nature of the cultural resource: types of sites, the density of sites, and the existing impacts to the resource.	No	<u>Scenic</u> – The area is large and replicates most desert scenery present within the Colorado Plateau.
	No	<u>Wildlife</u> - Ferruginous hawk - winters in p-j woodlands, there are hundreds of thousands of acres of p-j in the resource area, <u>not limited to this section of the resource area.</u>
	No	- Peregrine falcon – not usually found in this type of area, <u>usual habitat is along the San Juan River.</u>
	No	- Bald eagle – present but no breeding areas here, ubiquitous range over the state of Utah.
	No	- desert bighorn sheep – <u>not a sensitive species</u> , herds occur in other areas of the field office.
	No	<u>Natural Systems and Processes</u> - Relict plant communities – not unique, <u>inaccessible on mesa top and within WSA, does not need special management attention for protection.</u>
Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.		None identified.
Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.		None identified.
Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety or public welfare.		None identified.
Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.		None identified.

REDROCK PLATEAU ACEC NOMINATION	
Summary of Important Values:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The ID Team determined there are no relevant values were present in this area.
Suggested Special Management Prescriptions:	FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern", means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.
Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes:	Notes: The ID Team determined that the nomination acreage (323,473 acres) does not meet the relevance and importance criteria for the values listed.
Field Manager Concurrence:	<p>____ I concur with the above evaluation of the Redrock Plateau ACEC nomination</p> <p>____ I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes:</p> <p>_____ Date: _____</p>
Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager	

SAN JUAN RIVER ACEC NOMINATION			
General Location	General Description	Acreage	Values Considered
The San Juan River ACEC nomination is located along the river from west of Bluff, UT to the boundary of Glen Canyon NRS, with the Navajo Nation on the southern portion of the river center line.	The San Juan River ACEC nomination includes the many varied rock formations and cultural sites along the river banks, the diversity of rock, water and vegetation views, and the riparian nature of the river corridor. A portion of the nominated area lies within the San Juan River SRMA.	22,179 as nominated 7,626 as recommended	Scenic Cultural Wildlife Natural Systems and Processes
Evaluation Criteria: To be considered as a potential ACEC and analyzed in resource management plan alternatives, an area must meet the criteria of relevance and importance, as established and defined in 43 CFR 1610.7-2.			
Relevance: An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:			
Relevant Values	Yes/No	Rationale for Determination	
A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans).	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> – The scenery along the San Juan River includes tilted formations as the river crosses Comb Ridge, steep vertical cliffs hundreds of feet high with walls of interbedded sandstone and limestone, and the 1,200 foot high walls of the Goosenecks, one of the best examples of entrenched meanders in the United States. Riparian areas with various hues of green set off the water course and rock presenting a diverse and varied scenic viewing area.	
	Yes	<u>Cultural</u> – The rock art along the San Juan River is unsurpassed, recognized as "Type Sites" for their specific rock art motifs. Cultural sites are present along the river banks and within the tributaries of the San Juan River	
A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat and endangered, sensitive, or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity).	Yes	<u>Fish and Wildlife</u> – The San Juan River has a unique endemic fish population, and designated habitat for the endangered Colorado pikeminnow and the Razorback sucker, as well as the state sensitive Flannelmouth sucker. Bighorn sheep inhabit the rocky precipices of the lower river. Used by migrating Southwestern willow flycatcher (T&E), and Yellowbilled cuckoo (candidate specie). Important riparian habitat for several species of wildlife including the bighorn sheep, amphibians, neo-tropical birds, and waterfowl.	
A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered, sensitive, or threatened plant species;	Yes	<u>Natural Systems and Processes</u> – -Riparian systems – found in all areas of the San Juan River corridor.	

SAN JUAN RIVER ACEC NOMINATION		
rare, endemic, or relict plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features).	Yes	-Hanging gardens / Navajo sedge – occurs in the ledges of the Navajo sandstone formation. Hanging gardens are unique herbaceous communities that develop under certain geologic and climatic features in arid to semi-arid climates. They are fed by groundwater aquifers in either fine-grained sandstones or in limestones, and exist on cliff faces or in undercut alcoves. Hanging garden vegetation is structurally and floristically distinct from other spring-supported vegetation in the American southwest.
	Yes	-Sensitive species: Western hophornbeam, Alcove Rock daisy, Howel scorpion weed, Bluff phacelia, and Cooper Canyon milkvetch.
	Yes	<u>Geologic features: Goosenecks</u> - entrenched meanders of the San Juan River.
Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).	No	Area not nominated for natural hazards.
Importance: The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource, value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:		
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination
Has <u>more than locally significant qualities</u> which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource. For Monticello Field Office consideration, criteria for cultural value include evaluation of the nature of the cultural resource: types of sites, the density of sites, and the existing impacts to the resource.	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> – Visitors come to the San Juan River as a destination for river trips at least in part because of the unique desert river scenery. Thousands of visitors a year also view the river from the overlook at Goosenecks State Park to get a close look at the entrenched meanders hundreds of feet below.
	Yes	<u>Cultural</u> – The density and types of cultural sites along the San Juan River corridor are significant, and subject to impacts from use and potential resource development.
	Yes	<u>Wildlife</u> – T & E and state sensitive species present: Colorado pikeminnow and the Razorback sucker, as well as the State sensitive Flannelmouth sucker.
	Yes	<u>Natural Systems and Processes</u> – - <u>Hanging Gardens / Navajo sedge</u> – are present within the Navajo sandstone formation along the river. Hanging garden vegetation is structurally and floristically distinct from other spring-supported vegetation in the American southwest. - T&E and state sensitive species: Western hophornbeam, Alcove Rock daisy, Howel
Yes		

SAN JUAN RIVER ACEC NOMINATION		
	Yes	scorpionweed, Bluff phacelia, and Cooper Canyon milkvetch. <u>Geologic features:</u> - Geologic Features / <u>Goosenecks</u> – Visitors from the world over stop to view the entrenched meanders of the San Juan River and viewed from more than 1,000 feet above at the Goosenecks State Park overlook.
Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> – It is unlikely that the scenic qualities of the massive rock formations will be adversely affected. However, surface disturbances from increased use and other resource activities could impact the scenic values.
	Yes	<u>Cultural</u> – Cultural sites are particularly subject to adverse impacts along the river due to the heavy visitation in the area, as well as subject to damage by other resource activities.
	Yes	<u>Wildlife</u> – The T & E Colorado pikeminnow and the Razorback sucker, as well as the State sensitive Flannelmouth sucker are rare, unique, and vulnerable to adverse change.
	Yes	<u>Natural Systems and Processes</u> – <u>-Riparian systems</u> – extensive riparian areas are rare in the desert climate and provide habitat for T&E and sensitive species, wildlife and for neo-tropical migratory birds. The riparian areas are subject to adverse impact from increased use of the waterway and other resource uses and activities including potential development. <u>T&E species:</u> -Navajo sedge, Western hophornbeam, Alcove Rock daisy, Howel scorpionweed, Bluff phacelia, and Cooper Canyon milkvetch.
Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.	Yes	<u>Cultural</u> - Cultural resources are the subject of national protective laws, regulations, and policy. Many are eligible for the National Historic Register.
Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety or public welfare.		None identified.
Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.		None identified.
Summary of Important Values: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic quality; • Cultural values; and • Wildlife, and riparian ecosystems: T & E fish species - the Colorado pikeminnow, the Razorback sucker; the state sensitive Flannelmouth sucker; the following T & E plant species: Navajo sedge, Western hophornbeam, Alcove Rock daisy, Howel scorpion weed, Bluff phacelia, and Cooper Canyon milkvetch. 		
Suggested Special Management Prescriptions:		

SAN JUAN RIVER ACEC NOMINATION	
<p>FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern", means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.</p>	
<p>Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes:</p> <p>Management prescriptions for the San Juan River potential ACEC (7,626 acres) include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ROS-P class conditions for the San Juan River. • Excluded from private and commercial use of woodland products, except for onsite collection of dead wood for campfires. • Available for livestock use. • Excluded from new land treatments. • Managed to allow cultural resources to remain subject to natural forces. • Managed as VRM I class, with only those projects that meet class I objectives allowed. • Excluded from surface disturbance by mechanized or motorized equipment. <p>Within the SRMA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ROS-SPM class would allow motorized boat use on the San Juan. • Managed to maintain an environment of isolation insofar as allowed by river permit and patrol system. • Management aimed at maintaining safety and the riverine ecosystem. • Withdrawn from mineral entry. • Surface disturbance from mining activities on existing claims would be limited to the extent possible without curtailing valid existing rights. • The area above the rim in the vicinity of the Bluff airport lease would be available for mineral materials disposal. • No vehicle access would be allowed from Comb Wash downstream to Lime Creek and below Mexican Hat Bridge (except for motorized boat use on the river). • On an area closed to OHV use, a plan of operations is required for any mining – related activity other than casual use. • OHV use is Limited with seasonal restrictions to protect bighorn sheep lambing and rutting areas. • Watershed control structures are subject to surface restrictions and seasonal restrictions to protect bighorn sheep lambing and rutting areas. • Vehicle access in other areas within the SRMA would be limited to designated roads and trails. • Subject to fire suppression to protect riparian habitat. 	
<p>Notes: The ID Team found relevant and important values present within the San Juan River corridor within the area from the centerline of the river to the rim on the northern side of the river / or the boundary of the riparian area.</p>	
<p>Field Manager Concurrence:</p> <p>___ I concur with the above evaluation of the existing San Juan River ACEC nomination</p> <p>___ I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes:</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Date: _____</p> <p>Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager</p>	
<p>[The ID Team determined that the relevant and important values are not present outside of the San Juan River corridor area. In a range of alternatives the potential San Juan River ACEC could include the length of the BLM river area from west of Montezuma Creek to the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA) boundary; or from Comb Ridge at the river to the Glen Canyon NRA boundary. See Map</p>	

WHITE CANYON ACEC NOMINATION			
General Location	General Description	Acreage	Values Considered
White Canyon ACEC nomination is located north of State Highway 95, east of the Manti-LaSal NF, the canyons north of White Canyon, and includes the area surrounding Natural Bridges NM.	The area includes the canyon drainages of White Canyon - Short, Long, Gravel, Fortknocker, Hideout, K & L, Armstrong and Tuwa canyons and an area known as Cheesebox Canyon, which is a WSA.	101,377	Scenic Cultural Wildlife Natural Systems and Processes
Evaluation Criteria: To be considered as a potential ACEC and analyzed in resource management plan alternatives, an area must meet the criteria of relevance and importance, as established and defined in 43 CFR 1610.7-2.			
Relevance: An area meets the "relevance" criterion if it contains one or more of the following:			
Relevant Values	Yes/No	Rationale for Determination	
A significant historic, cultural, or scenic value (including but not limited to rare or sensitive archeological resources and religious or cultural resources important to Native Americans).	Yes	<u>Scenic</u> – Although similar to other areas locally, White Canyon drainages provide a deeply incised slickrock canyon system that is known for treacherous slot canyons that flood with storm run-off.	
	Yes	<u>Cultural</u> – The canyons contain cultural sites, and sites related to Utah’s early Anglo history.	
A fish and wildlife resource (including but not limited to habitat and endangered, sensitive, or threatened species, or habitat essential for maintaining species diversity).	No	<u>Fish and Wildlife</u> – "critical habitat for Mexican spotted owl and the Southwestern willow flycatcher" – <u>No critical habitat in this area.</u>	
	No	- Mule deer, Western red bat, ringtail cat, dwarf shrew, osprey, Swainson’s hawk, Lewis’ woodpecker, big free-tailed bat, fringed myotis, Townsend’s bat, spotted ground squirrel, Albert’s squirrel, and many-linked skink – no information to show that these bats have a strong affinity to this area and <u>none of these are sensitive species.</u>	
	No	- Three-toed woodpecker – <u>not habitat for this species,</u> they typically live in conifer forests at 8,000 feet.	
	Yes	- Peregrine falcon - not a sensitive species, but could be found in this area.	
	Yes	- Bald eagle - a T&E species, winters throughout the field office area, but not specifically reliant on this area for winter habitat, nor does it nest in resource area.	
A natural process or system (including but not limited to endangered, sensitive, or threatened plant species; rare, endemic, or relict plants or plant communities which are terrestrial, aquatic, or riparian; or rare geological features).	No	<u>Natural Systems and Processes</u> – - Rock violet, sheathed deathcamus, indigo bush, white flower penstemon, monument milkvetch – <u>could possibly be found in the aea but not identified.</u>	
	No	- Kachina daisy – could possibly be found in this area, not identified; usually found in hanging gardens.	
	No	- Perennial steams in area – ID Team determined <u>there are no perennial streams in this area.</u>	
	No	- Springs in area: there are springs throughout the FO area, this is not unique.	

WHITE CANYON ACEC NOMINATION		
Natural hazards (including but not limited to areas of avalanche, dangerous flooding, landslides, unstable soils, seismic activity, or dangerous cliffs, determined through the resource management planning process that it has become part of a natural process).	No	Area not nominated for natural hazards.
<p>Importance: The resource, value, process, system, or hazard described above as relevant must have substantial significance and values in order to satisfy the "importance" criteria. This generally means that the resource, value, process, system, or hazard is characterized by one or more of the following:</p>		
Important Values	Yes/No	Values and Rationale for Determination
Has <u>more than locally significant qualities</u> which give it special worth, consequence, meaning, distinctiveness, or cause for concern, especially compared to any similar resource. For Monticello Field Office consideration, criteria for cultural value include evaluation of the nature of the cultural resource: types of sites, the density of sites, and the existing impacts to the resource.	No	<u>Scenic</u> – The canyon systems are not easily visible from the highway because they are visually blocked by a lower bench along the mesa. Views in the northern area of the nominated area include the plateaus south of Dark Canyon. These areas are similar to the high, rolling plateaus common in San Juan County. The view of the area looks towards the mountains but doesn't capture the deep canyons; instead you see the sage brush areas in the foreground. The area on the eastern end of the nominated area provides similar terrain to the viewer.
	No	<u>Cultural</u> – The steep, narrow canyons tend to make the cultural sites inaccessible and difficult to identify. The density and site types are not comparable to the Alkali Ridge and Cedar Mesa cultural sites within the field office resource area.
	No	<u>Wildlife</u> – - Peregrine falcon - not state sensitive species, <u>found throughout field office area not just in this area.</u>
	No	- Bald eagle – no nesting areas in this FO; <u>ubiquitous throughout state of Utah.</u>
Has qualities or circumstances that make it fragile, sensitive, rare, irreplaceable, exemplary, unique, endangered, threatened, or vulnerable to adverse change.	No	<u>Cultural</u> – The special conditions developed for sites eligible for listing on the National Register would be sufficient to protect cultural values present; the intensive level of management associated with ACEC designations was not found to be needed to protect cultural resources for this area.
Has been recognized as warranting protection in order to satisfy national priority concerns or to carry out the mandates of FLPMA.		None identified.
Has qualities which warrant highlighting in order to satisfy public or management concerns about safety or public welfare.		None identified.
Poses a significant threat to human life and safety or to property.		None identified.

WHITE CANYON ACEC NOMINATION	
Summary of Important Values: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The ID Team determined there are no relevant values were present in this area.	
Suggested Special Management Prescriptions: <p>FLPMA Section 103(a): The term "areas of critical environmental concern", means areas within the public lands where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to the important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.</p>	
Suggested Special Management Conditions, and Notes: <p>Notes: The ID Team determined that the nomination acreage (101,377 acres) does not meet the relevance and importance criteria for the values listed. The area could be managed through VRM class objectives.</p>	
Field Manager Concurrence: ____ I concur with the above evaluation of the White Canyon ACEC nomination ____ I concur with the above evaluation with the following changes: <p style="text-align: right;">Date: _____</p> <p>Sandra A. Meyers Field Office Manager</p>	

H.1 WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS STUDY PROCESS

H.1.1 INTRODUCTION

Through the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (WSRA) of 1968, Congress established legislation to protect and preserve designated rivers throughout the United States in their free-flowing condition. Section 5(d)(1) of the WSRA directs federal agencies to consider the potential for national wild, scenic, and recreational river areas in all planning for the use and development of water and related land resources. A Wild and Scenic River review is being conducted as part of the Resource Management Plan (RMP) revision for the Monticello (Utah) Field Office that was initiated June 4, 2003.

H.1.2 OVERVIEW OF THE REVIEW PROCESS

An evaluation of the current status of watercourses within federal jurisdictions is completed by federal agencies to determine their eligibility for inclusion by Congress in the National Wild and Scenic River System (NWSRS). BLM's policy is to evaluate all potentially eligible rivers to determine if they are free-flowing and have any Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs) that are river-related and regionally and/or nationally significant. If these factors are met, the river/segments are determined eligible and tentative classifications of wild, scenic or recreational are made based on the current level of human development and use associated with the eligible rivers/segments.

Public input is solicited during the eligibility process and incorporated into the study. For eligible rivers/sections, the evaluation passes to the Suitability phase for continued study and public involvement. The Suitability phase is embedded within the Resource Management Plan (RMP) process, as impacts of management of the eligible river corridors are addressed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The suitability determination for each of the eligible river(s)/segments is made at the end of the planning process, and is provided in the Record of Decision (ROD).

The river corridors of those eligible river(s)/segments found suitable are managed as described in the ROD for the RMP, to maintain their free-flowing nature, to preserve or enhance the identified (ORVs), and to ensure that any development is consistent with the tentative classifications identified in the ROD. Those segments determined non suitable are released from further evaluation as potential Wild and Scenic Rivers and are managed for other uses in accordance with the ROD for the RMP.

Finally, recommendations for any suitable river segments are forwarded to Congress for their consideration as to whether such river(s)/segments should be included within the NWSRS. There is no specific time requirement for the completion of this reporting phase. However, it is assumed that reporting will be done some time following completion of the RMP.

H.1.3 HISTORY OF WILD AND SCENIC RIVER PROCESS – MONTICELLO FIELD OFFICE

On January, 25, 1991, an Addendum to the San Juan [Resource Area] Management Situation Analysis, 4333 Recreation Management clarifying the status of the Monticello Field Office's Wild and Scenic River planning process was written by the Mont FO:

At the time the San Juan Management Situation Analysis (MSA) was written (1984-1985), BLM guidance for wild and scenic river eligibility was to consider only those rivers identified in the 1982 Nationwide Rivers Inventory. These included the Colorado River, San Juan River, and White Canyon. These three river segments were the only rivers considered for eligibility and (were) included in the RMP process. The analysis of these rivers was printed in Appendix DD of the September 1987 Proposed Resource Management Plan". [These original findings are available at the MFO, WSR Administrative Record.]

The 1970 USDA/USDI list of rivers did not list any rivers in Utah. Neither the public nor the State of Utah identified any river as potentially eligible for Wild and Scenic designation during the planning process up until the protest period. During the protest period on the RMP, American Rivers suggested several other rivers as candidates for study as potential wild and scenic rivers. These included Indian Creek, Dark Canyon, Red Canyon, Cedar Canyon, Moki Canyon, Grand Gulch, Comb Wash, and Montezuma Canyon.

After the San Juan FEIS was completed, new BLM guidance stated all rivers in San Juan Resource Area would be evaluated for wild and scenic river status in the RMP. Since the RMP was already in the final stages of completion, it was decided to finalize the RMP without consideration of additional rivers. It was recognized that additional planning would be needed to evaluate the other rivers under the wild and scenic rivers program. Suitability of the original three eligible river segments, as well as any additional rivers determined eligible, will be considered in a future plan amendment.

The Resource Management Plan, ROD, dated March 1991, included interim management guidelines for "portions of the San Juan and Colorado Rivers, and the White Canyon drainage" under the Wild and Scenic Rivers System (RMP, March 1991, pp. 98-100).

On May 24, 1991, a Notice of Intent (NOI) to plan was published in the Federal Register (Vol. 56, No. 101):

[UT-062-4333-12] San Juan and San Rafael Resource Areas, Utah; Intent to Conduct Further Planning. AGENCY: BLM, Interior. ACTION: Notice of Intent to do further planning within the San Juan and San Rafael Resource Areas, Utah, for consideration of potential additions to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and call for public nomination of eligible river segments.

In April 1992 the Monticello Field Office (then identified as the San Juan Resource Area) completed its preliminary inventory and assessment of the rivers within its jurisdiction. The wild and scenic river (WSR) inventory, preliminary eligibility determination, and tentative classification process included public input suggestions, Utah rivers listed in Nationwide Rivers Inventory (NRI), American Rivers List, USDA/USDI lists, and professional input from subject

matter specialists in the field office. Preliminary findings were that of the 164 watercourses reviewed in 1992, 16 were eligible for suitability study and consideration (MFO Administrative Record).

The NOI for the current RMP was published June 4, 2003 in the Federal Register Vol. 68, No. 107 [UT 060-1610-DO-016J, UT 090-1610-DO-017J]. A news release, specifically stating intent to include wild and scenic river review in the planning process, was published in the local newspaper, the San Juan Record, June 25, 2003.

The current (2003) WSR eligibility determination process begins where the 1991-1992 process stopped. The April 1992 WS Table (see Attachment A) provided the starting point for current evaluation of river(s)/segments based on current guidelines described herein. Authorities and Guidelines

H.1.4 AUTHORITIES AND GUIDELINES

The following documents were utilized in guiding the WSR planning process through the Eligibility/Tentative Classification phase:

- BLM IM 2004-196, Clarification of Policy in the BLM Manual Section 8351, Wild and Scenic Rivers, with respect to Eligibility Criteria and Protective Management, June 21, 2004.
- BLM, Instruction Memorandum No. UT 2004-011, Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Process Review.
- BLM, Instruction Memorandum No. 98-129, dated June 25, 1998, Protective Management Policy and Guidance for Identified BLM Eligible River Segments Evaluated Pursuant to the WSRA w/attachment – Solicitor Memo dated 11/12/97.
- BLM Memorandum, MS 8351, Clarification of Policy in the BLM Manual 8351 Related to Eligibility of River Segments Evaluated Pursuant to Section 5(d)(1) for the WSRA and Their Protection Afforded under the NEPA and Section 202 and 302 of the FLPMA, WO, April 8, 2004.
- Interagency Wild and Scenic Rivers Coordination Council, 1982. Contains various technical papers relating to evaluation of Wild and Scenic Rivers (see website at: www.nps.gov/rivers/publications.html).
- Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Governor (State of Utah), Regional Forester (Intermountain Region B, U.S. Forest Service), State Director (BLM), Regional Director (Rocky Mountain Region B, National Park Service), 1997. Defines coordination between Federal and State agency and local government for planning efforts, public education and outreach, and conducting studies.
- USDI-USDA Guidelines for Eligibility, Classification, and Management of River Areas. September 7, 1982. Until 1988 this was the only guidance available to the BLM.
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, P.L. 90-542, as amended. Congressional legislative direction for Wild and Scenic River planning.
- Wild and Scenic Rivers – Policy and Program Direction for Identification, Evaluation and Management, Bureau of Land Management Manual - 8351, 1992 and changes as of 1993. (Sections 1601.03, I; 1623.41A 2d). Establishes BLM policy, program direction, and procedural standards for fulfilling requirements of the Wild and Scenic Act (WSRA).

- Wild and Scenic River Review in the State of Utah, Process and Criteria for Interagency Use, July, 1996 ["Blue Book"]. This document outlines the process and criteria for achieving consistency within the BLM, NPS, and Forest Service planning efforts for WSR eligibility reviews, including public involvement and local government coordination. The following key points regarding the nature of Outstandingly Remarkable Values as outlined in the WSRA of 1968 are addressed specifically:
 - All values assessed should be directly river-related;
 - Resources should be at least regionally significant to be deemed outstandingly remarkable;
 - Features that are regionally exemplary, as well as those that are rare or unique [or exemplary] should be considered.

H.1.5 ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION BY BLM INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM

An interdisciplinary (ID) team was established comprising specialists in the disciplines of archeology, wildlife biology, range management, minerals, recreation, lands-realty, visual resource management, GIS, NEPA and planning, as well as field personnel from the San Juan River Unit and Kane Gulch (Grand Gulch) Ranger Station (Table 1).

Table 1. Monticello Field Office Interdisciplinary Team Members

Scott Berkenfield	Supv. Recreation Planner, Acting Field Manager	Co-Lead WSR, Scenic, Recreation, Management Considerations
Todd Berkenfield	Asst to Planner, WSR	Co-Lead WSR
Andy Boone	GIS Specialist	Recreation, Maps
Rick Boretti	San Juan River Ranger	Recreation, Wildlife/Birds
Paul Curtis	Rangeland Specialist	Grazing, Ecology, Riparian
Dale Davidson	Archeologist	Historic, Cultural
Ted McDougall	Solid Minerals	Minerals, Geology
Maxine Deeter	Lands & Realty, VRM	Scenic, Lands
Scott Edwards	Kane Gulch Ranger	Scenic, Recreation
Laura Edwards	Kane Gulch Ranger	Scenic, Recreation
Linda Richmond	San Juan River Ranger	Scenic, Recreation
Nick Sandberg	Assistant Field Manager	Grazing, Historic WSR Process
Summer Schulz	Rangeland Specialist	Vegetation, Weeds, Grazing
Nancy Shearin	Archeologist	Historic, Cultural
Gary Torres	NEPA Coordinator, Planner	NEPA, Planning
Tammy Wallace	Wildlife Biologist	Fish, Wildlife, Air & Water

Team members used the Wild and Scenic River Review in the State of Utah, Process and Criteria for Interagency Use, July 1996, ("Blue Book"), which provides interagency guidelines for Utah wild and scenic river studies as agreed to by Utah offices of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), National Park Service (NPS), and United States Forest Service (USFS), as the main reference for the current eligibility process.

The following sections outline the considerations made in the ID team’s evaluation process.

H.1.5.1 IDENTIFICATION OF POTENTIALLY ELIGIBLE RIVERS

The following sources were used to help identify all potentially eligible rivers:

- a. Nationwide Rivers Inventory (NRI) list, NPS 1995, (Utah modified Oct 5, 2001)
- b. American Rivers (ARI) Outstanding List, May 1991
- c. 1970 USDA/USDI list, and 1972 list
- d. A Citizen's Proposal to Protect the Wild Rivers of Utah, 1997 (Utah River Council, URC)
- e. Identified in public scoping
- f. Identified by Federal Agencies, State of Utah, Native American Tribes, local governments, and professional specialists within the BLM MFO.

To assure that no potentially eligible rivers were left out, the Monticello ID team reviewed 1:100,000 scale maps of HUC watercourse data. The MFO drainages are mapped at a 1:100,000 scale with the 16 river(s)/segments found eligible in 1992 delineated on five overlapping area resource maps. These were used as the basis for the current eligibility evaluation process.

The starting point for the 2003 Monticello Field Office WSR evaluation process was the 1992 list of 164 field office area watercourses. The ID team reviewed each river/segment for eligibility, using up-to-date guidelines.

H.1.5.2 CONSIDERATION OF FREE-FLOWING CHARACTER

For a river to be eligible for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System, it must be free-flowing. All rivers in Monticello Field Office area are considered free-flowing because they:

- exist in their natural condition
- flow in natural condition
- have few impoundments
- have few diversions
- have no straightening
- have no rip-rapping
- have no modifications such as channelization

The San Juan River as it flows on BLM land is regulated upstream by the Navajo Dam, which is operated by the Bureau of Reclamation. Guidelines indicate that there are "many segments in the NWSRS which are downstream from major dams or even between dams", and that "structures within the study reach will not by themselves render a river ineligible." The guidelines also note "For purposes of eligibility determination, the volume of flow is sufficient if it is enough to maintain the outstandingly remarkable values identified within the segment" (BLM 8351.3.1B1).

H.1.5.3 IDENTIFICATION OF OUTSTANDINGLY REMARKABLE VALUES (ORVs)

For a river to be eligible for inclusion in the NWSRS, it must possess one or more outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs) within the river corridor (generally ¼ miles of the high water mark on each side of the river). Each value must be river-related, of at least regional significance, and should be rare, unique and/or exemplary.

Considerations for ORVs are listed in the "Blue Book" as follows:

- **Scenery (S):** Diversity of view, Special Features, Seasonal Variations, Cultural Modifications
- **Fish (F):** Habitat Quality, Diversity of Species, Value of Species, Abundance of fish, Natural Reproduction, Size and Vigor of Fish, Cultural/Historic Importance, Recreational Importance, Access
- **Recreation, Water Oriented and General (R):** Length of Season, Flow, Diversity of Use, Experience Quality, Scenery/Naturalness, Access, Level of Use, Associated Opportunities, Attraction, Sites and Facilities
- **Wildlife (W):** Habitat Quality, Diversity of Species, Abundance of Species, Natural Reproduction, Size and Vigor of Species, Cultural/Historic Importance, Recreational Importance, Access
- **Geologic (G):** Feature Abundance, Diversity of Features, Educational/Scientific
- **Historic (H):** Significance, Site Integrity, Educational/Interpretation, Listing/Eligibility
- **Cultural (C):** Significance, Current Uses, Number of Cultures, Site Integrity, Education/Interpretation, Listing/Eligibility
- **Ecological (E):** Species Diversity, Ecological Function, Rare Communities, Education/Scientific

The planning process for wild and scenic rivers prescribes that in order to be outstandingly remarkable, resources under review are found significant either regionally and/or nationally. The Wild and Scenic River Review in the State of Utah, p.5, states that "the determination of the appropriate region of comparison is left to the individuals involved in the ongoing planning effort", and, "that an appropriate region(s) [be] explicitly defined and that the methodology herein described [be] applied within that region(s)."

The Monticello Field Office is located in Southeastern Utah in the middle of the Colorado Plateau Physiographic Province, a large geographic region encompassing portions of four states, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico and Arizona. The ID team determined that the comparison would be based on eco-regions (subregions of the Colorado Plateau area) as described in the Ecological Subregions of the United States, produced by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) in 1993.

The USFS document lists Subregions and Sections based on Ecological Units. The framework provides a systematic method for classifying and mapping areas of the Earth based on associations of ecological factors that change at different spatial scales (WO ECOMAP TEAM, 1993). Ecological types and Ecological Units are developed at various scales by integrating multiple components including climate, physiography, geology, soils, water, and potential natural vegetation (FSM2060, FSH 2090.11). The primary purpose for delineating Ecological Units is to identify land and water areas at different hierarchical levels that have similar capabilities and potentials for management.

A discussion among WSR planners in BLM Utah and USFS in May 2002 resulted in a summary of that discussion being e-mailed to federal agency wild and scenic river planners in Utah. It was recommended that the use of Ecological Units at the Section level of hierarchy was the best choice for regions of comparison.

Subregions within the Ecological Units are characterized by combinations of climate, geomorphic process, topography, and stratigraphy. Within Subregions, Sections are broad areas

of similar regional climate, geomorphic process, stratigraphy, geologic origin, and drainage networks (WO ECOMAP TEAM 1993).

The recommendation stated, "ecological sections are the best choice for regions of comparison. [They] define distinct breaks in major ecological systems defined by geology, geomorphology, climate, etc. They are the breaks that are most visible on the landscape, and provide an excellent context for relative consistency in scenic and other resource values for a region of comparison."

The following is a list of the Subregions/Sections initially considered as region(s) of comparison by the Mont FO ID team in their 2003 evaluation of the area's watercourses for potential eligibility as wild and scenic rivers:

- Subregion: Colorado Semi-Desert / Chapter 36
 - Sections: Grand Canyon (313A)
 - Navajo Canyonlands (313B)
 - Painted Desert (313D)
- Subregion: Arizona-New Mexico Mountains Semi-Desert – Open Woodland – Coniferous Forest – Alpine Meadow / Chapter 38
 - Section: White Mountain-San Francisco Peaks-Mogollon Rim (M313A)
- Subregion: Southern Rocky Mountain Steppe – Open Woodland – Coniferous Forest – Alpine Meadow / Chapter 43
 - Sections: Overthrust Mountains (M331D)
 - Uinta Mountains (M332E)
 - South Central Highlands ((M331G)
 - Northern-Central Highland and Rocky Mountains (M331H)
- Subregion: Intermountain Semi-Desert and Desert / Chapter 47
 - Sections: Bonneville Basin (341A)
 - Northern Canyon Lands (341B)
- Subregion: Nevada-Utah Mountains Semi-Desert – Coniferous Forest – Alpine Meadow / Chapter 49
 - Sections: Tavaputs Plateau (M341B)
 - Utah High Plateaus Mountains (M341C)

The above mentioned Subregions and Sections for Region of Comparison were further defined by the ID team during the evaluation process. This list was narrowed (see below) to the specific Sections utilized for final comparison by the ID Team for each ORV.

- Scenic and Recreation:
 - Grand Canyon Lands Section (313A)
 - Navajo Canyon Lands Section (313B)
 - Northern Canyonlands Section (341B)
- Fish/Wildlife/Ecology:
 - Grand Canyon Lands Section(313A)
 - Navajo Canyon Lands Section(313B)
 - Bonneville Basin Section (341A)

- Northern Canyonlands Section (341B)
- Tavaputs Plateau Section (M341B)
- Geology:
 - Grand Canyon Lands Section (313A)
 - Navajo Canyon Lands Section (313B)
- Historic/Cultural:
 - Grand Canyon Lands Section (313A)
 - Navajo Canyon Lands Section (313B)
 - White Mountain-San Francisco Peaks-Mogollon Rim Section (M313A)

Each resource was considered within the specific set of regions for comparison (noted above). The ID team determined if each resource considered was regionally and/or nationally significant, showing exemplary and/or rare and unique qualities. Guidelines from the Utah "Blue Book" indicating that "Resources should be at least regionally significant to be deemed outstandingly remarkable" were followed. Significance was evaluated by the ID team using all available information including personal knowledge, written data sources, and field trips.

The ID team subject matter specialists evaluated whether or not ORVs exist for each of the 167 river(s)/segments. From this list, 21 river(s)/ segments were initially identified as potentially eligible. In the following round of discussion and evaluation, of the 21 river(s)/segments inventoried, 16 were determined eligible and 3 not eligible (Lake Canyon, South Cottonwood Canyon, and Montezuma Creek) due to the lack of regionally significant ORVs. Three evaluated river/segments were combined into a single river area: Fish Creek Canyon, Owl Creek Canyon, and McLeod Canyon. These three canyons lie within the same drainage system, and exhibit the same outstandingly remarkable values and levels of significance.

H.1.5.4 TENTATIVE CLASSIFICATION

A tentative classification of "wild", "scenic", or "recreational" was determined for each eligible river/segment. The four key elements in evaluating tentative classification are:

Water Resources Development
Shoreline Development
Accessibility
Water Quality

Tentative classifications are based on the type and degree of human development associated with the river and adjacent lands as they exist at the time of the evaluation:

- A "wild" river is free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds essentially primitive and unpolluted waters.
- A "scenic" river may have some development, and may be accessible in places by roads.
- A "recreational" river is accessible by road or railroad, may have more extensive development along its shoreline, and may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

Criteria for the classification of river areas as wild, scenic and recreational are summarized in Table 2 below.

Table 2. Classification Criteria for Wild, Scenic, and Recreational River Areas

Attribute	Wild	Scenic	Recreational
Water Resources Development	Free of impoundment.	Free of impoundment.	Some existing impoundment or diversion. The existence of low dams, diversions, or other modifications of the waterway is acceptable, provided the waterway remains generally natural and riverine in appearance.
Shoreline Development	Essentially primitive. Little or no evidence of human activity. The presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value, is acceptable. A limited amount of domestic livestock grazing or hay production is acceptable. Little or no evidence of past timber harvest. No ongoing timber harvest.	Largely primitive and undeveloped. No substantial evidence of human activity. The presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures is acceptable. The presence of grazing, hay production, or row crops is acceptable. Evidence of past or ongoing timber harvest is acceptable, provided the forest appears natural from the riverbank.	Some development. Substantial evidence of human activity. The presence of extensive residential development and a few commercial structures is acceptable. Lands may have been developed for the full range of agricultural and forestry uses. May show evidence of past and ongoing timber harvest.
Accessibility	Generally inaccessible except by trail. No roads, railroads or other provision for vehicular travel within the river area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the river area is acceptable.	Accessible in places by road. Roads may occasionally reach or bridge the river. The existence of short stretches of conspicuous or longer stretches of inconspicuous roads or railroads is acceptable.	Readily accessible by road or railroad. The existence of parallel roads or railroads on one or both banks as well as bridge crossings and other river access points is acceptable.
Water Quality	Meets or exceeds federal criteria for federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming), except where exceeded by natural conditions.	Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.	

Attachment 2 of this document identifies the 6 rivers (12 segments¹) within the Mont FO determined to be eligible, i.e., free-flowing with at least one river-related ORV. Water flows [hydrological descriptions] are listed next to the river name:

Perennial – a stream that flows continuously. Perennial streams are generally associated with a water table in the localities through which they flow.

Intermittent or seasonal - a stream that flows only at certain times of the year when it receives water from springs or from some surface source such as melting snow in mountainous areas.

Tentative classification worksheets [condensed] for each river/segment found eligible in Attachment 2 are included as Attachment 3.

H.1.5.5 INPUT FROM GOVERNMENTS, AGENCIES, NATIVE AMERICAN TRIBES, ORGANIZATIONS AND THE PUBLIC

The Notice of Intent (NOI) for the current RMP was published June 4, 2003 in the Federal Register Vol. 68, No. 107 [UT 060-1610-DO-016J; UT 090-1610-DO-017J]. A news release, specifically stating intent to include wild and scenic rivers in the planning process, was published in the local newspaper, the San Juan Record, June 25, 2003. Comments and input to the eligibility determination process were invited from all governments, agencies, Native American Tribes and the public.

Coordination through the State of Utah Governor's Office representative initiates contact on the wild and scenic river process with local county governments. A wild and scenic river presentation was made by the governor's representative to the San Juan County Commissioners in 2002 in conjunction with the Manti-LaSal WSR eligibility process. Preliminary discussions were held concerning the Monticello Field Office wild and scenic river eligibility determination process with the San Juan County Public Lands Council May 20, 2003 and June 17, 2003. A meeting was held on August 20, 2003 to present the preliminary eligibility findings to the Public Lands Council, and to further discuss the WSR process.

The preliminary findings of eligible wild and scenic rivers for the Monticello Field Office area were provided for outside review and comment, with input invited from State and local governments, Native American Tribes, organizations, cooperating federal agencies, and the public. Preliminary eligibility findings were presented in a planning bulletin entitled *Preliminary Determination of Wild and Scenic Rivers*, BLM MFO, dated August 2003. Participation in this comment period included review, presentation of concurring and/or differing opinions regarding the preliminary ID team findings, and suggestions for additional potentially eligible rivers to be considered. Comments were analyzed and are available in the MFO WSR Administrative Record. A summary follows:

BLM Monticello Field Office received comment information on wild and scenic rivers from 42 individuals/organizations, 27 letters and 15 scoping comments, with a total of 204 specific comments. Eighty-nine of these were general comments and 115 were specific to individual river(s)/segments as listed in the

¹ Mont FO preliminary identified 13 river segments as being potentially eligible. The team later received policy clarification resulting in the elimination of one segment. See Section H.3.5.6 of this document for additional explanation.

Preliminary Eligibility Determination of Wild and Scenic Rivers, BLM MFO, August, 2003. The comment period ended January 31, 2004.

Scoping for this phase of the WSR process requested comments on eligibility. Many of the comments received were outside the scope of the eligibility review, including comments that fall within the suitability phase of the WSR process that will be addressed in the DEIS, as well as comments concerning river management. The comments concerning suitability and management will be included in the data for the suitability phase of wild and scenic river evaluation in the DEIS.

The ID team has held eight meetings to evaluate and discuss potentially eligible rivers within the management area of the Monticello Field Office. San Juan County has participated in several of these meetings, and presentations were made to the San Juan County Public Lands Council.

The BLM MFO coordinated with the Price and Moab Field Offices, the BLM Canyon of the Ancients National Monument (COANM), the Manti-LaSal National Forest, and with the National Park Service units in Utah, including Canyonlands National Park (CNP), Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (GCNRA), and the Southeastern Utah Group which works with Natural Bridges National Monument (NBNM) and Hovenweep National Monument (HNM).

USFS - Manti-LaSal National Forest

The Manti-LaSal's *Final Eligibility Determination of Wild and Scenic Rivers* (March 2003) includes two eligible segments that flow onto BLM Monticello Field Office managed lands. The Forest Service's eligible segments of Lower Dark Canyon and Arch Canyon are contiguous with BLM Monticello Field Office evaluated river(s)/segments of the same names.

BLM Moab Field Office

Three eligible segments of the Colorado River flow through the BLM lands administered by the Monticello (MFO) and Moab Field Offices. The Moab FO administers the north or west side, and the MFO administers the south or east side of the segments. The boundary between field offices along the Colorado River is the centerline of the river. (See Section 6.2 for comparison of final eligibility findings.)

National Park Service

Continuing contact with the National Park Service (NPS) units with contiguous river boundaries to the Monticello Field Office has been part of the ongoing planning process. Glen Canyon National Recreation (GCNRA) has not begun their wild and scenic river evaluation; the GCNRA General Management Plan is not scheduled for revision for a number of years.

The National Park Service has previously found eligible and suitable the White Canyon Creek and its tributary Armstrong Canyon Creek as they flow through Natural Bridges National Monument. NPS has also found eligible the length of the Colorado River as it flows through Canyonlands National Park with a "wild" classification. (See Section 6.3 for comparison of findings.)

Canyon of the Ancients National Monument

The Canyon of the Ancients National Monument (COANM) located in southwestern Colorado is currently writing their management plan and conducting wild and scenic inventories. Monticello FO has found no eligible river(s)/segments along the mutual boundary of MFO and COANM at the Utah / Colorado border.

The Navajo Nation

The Navajo Nation has jurisdiction over and administers the south side of the San Juan River between the town of Montezuma Creek on the east to the Monticello Field Office (MFO) boundary at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area on the west. The MFO administers the north side of the San Juan River through this area except in the proximity of St. Christopher's Mission, where, due to a change in the river's course and deposition, the river, once bordering public lands is now bounded on the north side by Navajo land, and, south of the town of Bluff, where the river is now bounded by private lands. Contacts with the Navajo Nation, and their administrative departments (EPA, Water Resources, Fish and Wildlife), are ongoing and will continue throughout the suitability / DEIS study of the RMP revision.

Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

Information on the MFO's wild and scenic river eligibility process preliminary findings has been provided to the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe for comment and invited participation.

Bureau of Reclamation

The Bureau of Reclamation operates Navajo Dam on the San Juan River upstream from where the San Juan River flows through BLM land. In an email dated March 15, 2004, the Bureau commented that

"During the late summer months, the flow in the San Juan from the dam to Lake Powell is almost exclusively made up of releases from Navajo [Dam]. [The Bureau of] Reclamation is attempting to operate the dam to better mimic the natural, pre-dam condition, but there are operational limitations that prevent us from exactly mimicking the pre-dam conditions."

The Bureau of Reclamation is currently finalizing an EIS concerning operation of the dam to meet flow recommendations [which will better mimic pre-dam conditions] developed for the endangered fish.

San Juan County

San Juan County has participated in the wild and scenic river evaluation process as cooperators, established through a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) April 21, 2003 for the RMP revision process. Representatives of the San Juan County government as well as the San Juan County Public Lands Council have participated in the MFO wild and scenic evaluation process.

"San Juan County will be actively involved in the Wild and Scenic Rivers review and designation process." [From the San Juan County Master Plan, page 19].

Comments by San Juan County on the MFO Wild and Scenic Rivers preliminary eligibility findings indicate that there are conflict(s) with the 1996 San Juan County Master Plan. These specific management concerns are appropriately addressed in the Suitability phase of the WSR

process. For instance, "The county feels that private water rights should be protected from Federal and State encroachment and/or coerced acquisition." [page 9, San Juan County Master Plan]. "San Juan County opposes the movement to nationalize or federally control water resources and water rights". [Page 30, San Juan County Master Plan].

San Juan County is actively involved in both the current eligibility process as stated above, and the upcoming suitability study, which is incorporated within the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) RMP revision process.

The State of Utah - Department of Natural Resources

The State of Utah is a cooperating agency in the Monticello Field Office RMP revision process. By direction of the Governor, the State's Public Lands Policy department is involved in discussions, meetings, and reviews concerning wild and scenic river eligibility and suitability determination, as well as the entire RMP process. At the request of the Public Lands Policy department, water flow descriptions have been included in this final wild and scenic river document. (See Section 5.0, Individual River/Segment write ups).

School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA)

SITLA is constitutionally charged to manage the school trust lands for the maximum monetary return to the trust. There are 3 sections of SITLA lands that interface with the Monticello Field Office area's WSR eligible river/segments. SITLA noted in a letter dated December 22, 2003 that "The presence of trust lands along the wild and scenic river corridor could encumber the manageability of the wild and scenic river system by over segmentation or by development that is inconsistent with the purpose of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act". Although land ownership and jurisdiction is addressed in the suitability phase of the WSR process, note is made here of SITLA's concerns.

H.1.5.6 ELIGIBILITY OF SEGMENTS EVALUATED

As discussed in the previous section, Mont FO made its preliminary eligibility findings available for public review and comment in August 2003. At that time, the ID team had identified 13 rivers (13 segments) as potentially having the values that would make them eligible. Several comments were received and taken into consideration. The comment period ended December 30, 2003, and was extended to January 31, 2004 due to the volume of comments received for the RMP during the last weeks.

On April 12, 2004, the MFO received a memorandum dated April 8, 2004 from the BLM Washington Office providing clarification of "policy contained in the BLM Manual Section 8351 with respect to the eligibility criteria for potential wild and scenic rivers (WSRs) and protective management of identified river segments." The memorandum indicates that although intermittent streams may be eligible, as a general rule, ephemeral streams are not.

BLM MFO received IM 2004-196, *Clarification of Policy in the BLM Manual Section 8351, Wild and Scenic Rivers, with respect to Eligibility Criteria and Protective Management*, June 21, 2004, incorporating the guidance described:

Policy Clarification / Action: This guidance clarifies policy contained in the BLM Manual 8351 and until incorporated into the Manual is applicable to all river segments determined eligible and/or suitable.

As to the first issue, judgment is required in determining eligibility of watercourses that are free-flowing and have associated ORVs. As a general rule, the segment should contain regular and predictable flows (even though intermittent, seasonal, or interrupted). This flow should derive from naturally occurring circumstances, e.g., aquifer recharge, seasonal melting from snow or ice, normal precipitation, instream flow from spill ways or upstream facilities. Caution is advised in applying the ... criterion to watercourses which only flow during flash floods or unpredictable events. The segment should not be ephemeral (flow lasting only a few days of a year). Evaluation of flows should focus on normal water years, with consideration of drought or wet years during the inventory.

Based on updated guidance and IM 2004-196 from the BLM Washington Office and an on-the-ground evaluation conducted in April/May 2004 with no moving water found in the following river/segments, the ID team in consultation with the field managers of the Moab and Monticello Field Offices chose to drop from WSR eligibility consideration the streams identified as ephemeral. This included the following rivers/segments: White Canyon, upper reach of Dark Canyon, Grand Gulch, Slickhorn, Lime Creek, Comb Wash, Mule Canyon, and Fish/Owl/McLeod Canyons.

As a result, the 6 rivers (12 segments) that flow on a perennial or intermittent basis are eligible and will be further studied as to their suitability in the DEIS.

Other changes to the preliminary eligibility findings were made as well. The changes to the preliminary eligibility findings include the following:

Colorado River – An additional segment was made from the northern-most boundary of the MFO at approximately river mile 50.5 to private land south of the Potash facility near river mile 48.5. This length of river was given a tentative classification of "wild" in the original 1992 evaluation, which only considered the river corridor on the Monticello side of the river. This approximately 2-mile segment is largely managed by the Moab Field Office on one side of the river and the Mont FO on the other side. It is free-flowing and has the following ORVs: fish, recreation, wildlife, cultural and ecological. It was given a tentative classification of "recreational" due to development and roads on the Moab side of the river.

Colorado River – The southern-most 12.2-mile reach of the river before it enters Canyonlands National Park, has been divided into two segments. The northern-most (now segment #2) runs from State lands near river mile 44 to approximately river mile 38.5 at another state section. This segment's tentative classification went from "wild" to "scenic" due to the presence of roads on the shore, which are visible from the river itself. The lower segment (now segment #3) runs from near river mile 37.5 on the west side of a state section to the boundary of Canyonlands National Park near river mile 31. The tentative classification is "wild", as determined in the preliminary findings. There are no roads accessing this segment of the Colorado River though there are roads in the vicinity that run above the rim outside of the ¼ mile river-related corridor and hundreds of feet above the water level.

A scenic ORV has been assigned to the entire length of the Colorado River corridor from the northern-most MFO boundary to that of Canyonlands NP, reflecting the breathtaking vistas seen from the river itself. The findings of the MFO ID Team are consistent with the findings of the

Moab Field Office ID Team. The Colorado River is the boundary for these two field offices, each having jurisdiction on one side of the river corridor.

Fable Valley – The tentative classification was "wild" in the preliminary findings. On re-evaluation of the immediate area, the MFO ID team determined that a jeep route along some of the valley necessitated reclassifying this stream as "scenic" to meet the classification criteria. Upon reevaluation by the ID team of wildlife, vegetation and riparian specialists, an ecological ORV has been assigned to Fable Valley.

Dark Canyon – The upper approximately 6-mile reach of Dark Canyon that runs from the Manti-LaSal National Forest boundary to just above Youngs Canyon is an ephemeral stream. This section of the canyon was dropped from eligibility consideration due to the lack of either perennial or intermittent flow per the new guidance from the BLM Washington Office [April 8, 2004 and IM 2004-196, June 21, 2004]. The lower portion of Dark Canyon remains eligible as determined in the preliminary findings.

San Juan River – In the preliminary findings, the San Juan River was divided into four segments.

After information was brought forward on land ownership changes, the ID team chose to divide the river into five segments indicating the river character changes between segments #1 and #2 and different ORVs. The "avulsed" land area on the north side of the river that belongs to the Navajo Nation², and the "accreted" land on the north side of the river south of the Town of Bluff, Utah with its riparian areas accreted [accumulated] to private land ownership, occur between segments 1 and 2.

The new segmentation reflects the ORVs found in the preliminary eligibility findings except for the following. Recreation and ecological values are not ORVs found in new segment #1, although they were identified in the preliminary findings for the lower portion of what was the original first segment. Recreation and ecological values remain ORVs for new Segment #2. The ID team determined that recreation is minimal within new Segment #1, although new Segment #2 has high visitation and permitted recreational use.

After the preliminary eligibility findings went out for public review and comment, the ID Team specialists representing wildlife, vegetation, and riparian values, and the river rangers reviewed additional information and continued their ongoing discussion about whether or not adding an ecological ORV was appropriate for the San Juan River. As a result of this study and discussion, an ecological value was added as an ORV to the four segments (#2 through #5) of the river from river mile minus one, east of Sand Island, to the boundary of Glen Canyon NRA. Ecological habitat integrity is not as present in Segment # 1 due to the uses and development along that portion of the river corridor.

Arch Canyon – The tentative classification was "recreational" in the preliminary findings. The re-evaluation of fish, recreation, wildlife cultural and ecological resource, the ID team did not change that classification.

² Avulsion is defined as "a sudden and perceptible loss or addition to land by the action of water, or a sudden change in the bed or course of a stream" (Blacks Law Dictionary). The land on the north side of the San Juan River around St Christopher's Mission is an avulsion that is legally in Navajo land ownership. The course and reach of the San Juan River when the Navajo Nation Treaty was signed was at the northern edge of what is now the avulsed land. Before the up-river Navajo Dam was built, the San Juan was a typically braided river in this open lowland area. The river flow could change yearly and create different channels depending on its flow dynamics. At the time of the treaty, the river flowed at what is now the northern boundary of the avulsed area. This old boundary was legally assigned to the Navajo Nation because of their appeal that the land was theirs by treaty, even though the modern course of the river is now in a distinct channel well south of that original boundary.

The revised list of the 12 eligible segments is included as Attachment 4.

H.1.6 SUITABILITY STUDY

The 12 eligible segments will be further reviewed as to their suitability for congressional designation into the National System. This will be done within the framework of the ongoing planning process for the Moab Resource Management Plan (RMP), including the development of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The purpose of the suitability step of the study process is to determine whether eligible rivers would be appropriate additions to the national system by considering tradeoffs between corridor development and river protection. Suitability considerations include the environmental and economic consequences of designation and the manageability of a river if it were designated by Congress.

The Wild and Scenic River Suitability evaluation is designed to answer the following questions:

- Should the river's free-flowing character, water quality, and outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs) be protected? OR, are one or more other uses important enough to warrant doing otherwise?
- Will the river's free-flowing character, water quality, and ORVs be protected through designation? And, is wild and scenic river designation the best method for protecting the river corridor and its values?

In answering these questions, the benefits and impacts of WSR designation must be evaluated, and alternative protection methods considered.

The EIS for the RMP evaluates impacts that would result if the eligible rivers were determined suitable and managed to protect their free-flowing nature, tentative classification, and outstandingly remarkable values. It also addresses impacts that would result if the eligible rivers are not determined suitable and their values are not provided protective management. The range of alternatives include the No Action alternative, which does not address suitability and leaves rivers eligible, and Alternative B, which finds all eligible rivers suitable. Alternative C may find some eligible rivers as suitable, and Alternative D finds no rivers suitable.

Alternative tentative classifications are also evaluated. "Whenever an eligible river segment has been tentatively classified, e.g., as wild, other appropriate alternatives may provide for designation at another classification level (scenic or recreational). There is not another classification alternative for rivers tentatively classified as recreational. As long as a river segment is under study, it must be afforded protection at the tentative classification level it was given when determined eligible, even if another classification is considered as an alternative in the RMP" (BLM Manual Section 8351.33C). For river segments determined nonsuitable in the RMP, the river shall be managed in accordance with the management objectives as outlined in the RMP (BLM Manual Section 8351.53B).

In addition to the impact analysis addressed by alternative, the following suitability considerations are applied to each eligible river in Attachment 5.

- Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the national system
- Status of land ownership and use in the area

- Uses, including reasonably foreseeable potential uses, of the area and related waters, which would be enhanced, foreclosed, or curtailed if the area were included in the national system of rivers; and the values which could be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the national system.
- Interest by federal, tribal, state, local, and other public entities in designation or non-designation of a river, including the extent to which the administration of the river, including the costs thereof, can be shared by the above mentioned entities.
- Ability of the agency to manage and protect the values of a river if it were designated, and other mechanisms to protect identified values other than Wild and Scenic Rivers designation.
- The estimated cost, if necessary, of acquiring lands, interests in lands, and administering the area if it were included in the national system.
- The extent to which administration costs will be shared by local and state governments.

The following table lists the interdisciplinary meetings held during the suitability step of this study process.

Table 3. Suitability Study Interdisciplinary Meetings

Date	Attending	
February 12, 2004	Evan Lowry, San Juan County Walter Bird, San Juan County Maxine Deeter, Lands/Realty, VRM Ted McDougall, Minerals Mark Meloy, Recreation	Scott Berkenfield, Recreation Tammy Wallace, Wildlife Summer Schulz, Range, Weeds Andy Boone, GIS Todd Berkenfield, WSR, Planning
March 11, 2004	Evan Lowry, San Juan County Ed Scherick, San Juan County Gary Torres, NEPA, Planner Todd Berkenfield, WSR, Planning Summer Schulz, Range, Weeds Roaldn Thompson, Planning	Maxine Deeter, Lands, VRM, OHV Nancy Shearin, Cultural, Paleo Nick Sandberg, Range, Asst FOM Tammy Wallace, Wildlife Scott Berkenfield, Recreation Paul Curtis, Range

Public comment received on the Draft EIS/RMP will be used to improve the documentation of the suitability considerations presented in Attachment 5 of this document, as well as the documentation of impacts that would result from the various alternatives. The actual determination of whether or not each eligible river segment is suitable is a decision that will be made in the Record of Decision for the Monticello RMP.

H.1.7 SUMMARY

Approximately 1,300 miles of watercourses within the Monticello Field Office resource area were inventoried and determined to be free-flowing. Each river/segment was evaluated on the basis of having at least one river-related outstandingly remarkable value (ORV) considered rare, unique and/or exemplary, with each ORV being at least regionally significant, and having perennial or intermittent flows. Within the Monticello FO area, 6 rivers with 12 segments of approximately 93 miles were found to meet these criteria.

Scoping for the eligibility phase of the WSR process requested input and comments based on the Mont FO Preliminary Eligibility Determination for WSR, August 2003. Comments were

received from 43 individuals/organizations, 28 letters and 15 scoping comments, with a total of 204 specific comments. Eighty-nine of these were general comments and 115 were specific to individual river(s)/segments. The comment period for the RMP ended January 31, 2004. The Comment Analysis is available through the Mont FO WSR Administrative Record.

The suitability phase of review will occur within the framework of the RMP through the EIS process.

WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY PROCESS ATTACHMENTS

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Attachment 1: River(s)/Segments Inventoried and Evaluated by Mont FO, Drainages by River System, Monticello Field Office

COLORADO RIVER - State lands near river mile 44 to Canyonlands NP, near river mile 31

WHITE CANYON – Forest boundary to GCNRA
BURCH CANYON – Forest boundary to Natural Bridges
DEER CANYON – Source to Natural Bridges
K AND L CANYON – Source to White Canyon
HIDEOUT CANYON – Source to White Canyon
CHEESEBOX CANYON – Source to White Canyon
GRAVEL CANYON – Source to White Canyon
LONG CANYON – Source to White Canyon
SHORT CANYON – Source to White Canyon
FORTKNOCKER CANYON – Source to White Canyon
FRY CANYON – Source to White Canyon
WHITE CANYON Unnamed Tributaries – Sources to mouths
RED CANYON – Source to GCRNA
 BLUE CANYON – Source to Red Canyon
 PIUTE CANYON – Source to Red Canyon
 RAINBO CANYON – Source to Red Canyon
 MAHON CANYON – Source to GCNRA
 WILSON CANYON – Source to GCNRA
 HIDDEN VALLEY – Source to GCNRA
 BLUE NOTCH CANYON – Source to GCNRA
 RED CANYON Unnamed Tributaries – Sources to mouths
MANCOS CANYON – Source to GCNRA boundary
CEDAR CANYON – Source to GCNRA boundary
KNOWLES CANYON – Source to GCNRA boundary
FORGOTTEN CANYON – Source to GCNRA boundary
NORTH GULCH – Source to GCNRA
MOKI CANYON – Source to "Crack" Road
 -"Crack" Road to GCNRA boundary
LAKE CANYON – Sources E & W forks to GCNRA boundary
INDIAN CREEK – Forest boundary to Donnelly Canyon
TITUS CANYON – BLM lands to mouth
SHAY CANYON – BLM lands to mouth
HOG CANYON – Source to mouth
DONNELLY CANYON – Source to mouth
INDIAN CREEK – Donnelly Canyon to Falls 2 miles below mouth of Hart Canyon
HART DRAW – Source to Donnelly Canyon
 INDIAN CREEK – Falls 2 miles below Hart Canyon to NPS boundary
 LAVENDER CANYON – NPS boundary to mouth
 DAVIS CANYON – NPS boundary to mouth
HATCH WASH
 TANK WASH – Source to mouth
 MAIL STATION WASH – Source to mouth
 WIND WHISTLE DRAW – Source to mouth
HATCH WASH / EAST CANYON
 BIG INDIAN WASH – Source to Resource Area boundary
 DRY WASH – Source to mouth
 EAST CANYON – Source to Resource Area boundary

SOUTH CANYON – BLM lands to mouth
IRON SPRING CANYON – BLM lands to mouth
BRIDGE CANYON – BLM land to mouth
PETERS CANYON – BLM lands to mouth
HART'S DRAW – Source to mouth
TURNERWATER CANYON – Source to mouth
LONE CEDAR CANYON – Source to mouth
HART SPRING CANYON – Source to mouth
BOBBYS HOLD CANYON – Source to mouth
HART CANYON Tributaries from Hart Point – Sources to mouths
NORTH COTTONWOOD – BLM lands to mouth
STEVENS CANYON – BLM lands to mouth
RUSTLER CANYON – Source to mouth
HORSETHIEF CANYON – Source to NPS boundary
LOCKHART CANYON – Source to NPS boundary
DRIPPING CANYON – Source to NPS boundary
SALT CREEK – BLM land to NPS boundary
BUTLER WASH – Source to NPS boundary
CROSS CANYON – Source to NPS boundary
BEEF BASIN WASH – Forest boundary to mouth
RUIN CANYON – BLM lands to mouth
GYPSUM CANYON – Source to GCNRA boundary
SWEET ALICE CANYON – Source to mouth
SOUTH CANYON – Source to mouth
FABLE VALLEY – Source to mouth
BOWDIE CANYON – Source to GCNRA
DARK CANYON – Forest Boundary to GCNRA
LEANTO CANYON – Source to GCNRA
YOUNGS CANYON – Source to mouth
BLACK STEER CANYON – Source to mouth
LOST CANYON – Source to mouth

SAN JUAN RIVER - W. Montezuma Creek to mile 9

- River mile 9 to river mile 23
- River mile 23-28 (above boat ramp to town of Mexican Hat)
- River mile 28 to GCNRA boundary
LOWER SAN JUAN Tributaries – Sources to mouths
JOHNIES HOLE CANYON – Entire length
CASTLE CREEK – Source to Rock Spring
- Rock Spring to GCNRA boundary
MIKE'S CANYON – East & West main forks, Sources to GCNRA
CLAY HILLS DRAW – Source to GCNRA boundary
WHIRLWIND DRAW – Source to GCNRA boundary
STEER GULCH – Source to GCNRA boundary
EAST STEER GULCH – Source to GCNRA boundary
POINT LOOKOUT Drainages – Source to GCNRA boundary
JOHNS CANYON – Source to GCNRA boundary
MEXICAN HAT NORTH Drainages – Sources to San Juan River
GRAND GULCH
- Gulch and Tributaries inside Instant Study Area
- Gulch and Tributaries outside Instant Study Area
DRIPPING CANYON – Source to Grand Gulch Instant Study Area
COW TANK CANYON – Source to Dripping Canyon

STEP CANYON – Source to Pine Canyon
PINE CANYON – Source to Grand Gulch Instant Study Area
SLICKHORN CANYON – Source to GCNRA boundary
SLICKHORN PASTURE CANYON – Source to GCNRA boundary
LIME CREEK, East and West Forks - Sources East and West Forks to confluence with main stream to mouth
COMB WASH – Source to mouth
MULE CANYON – Forest boundary to No & So forks convergence east of County Rd 263& St 95
- Texas Flat Road to mouth
ARCH CANYON – Forest boundary to mouth
DRY WASH – Source to mouth
FISH CREEK – Source to mouth
OWL Creek – Source to mouth
McLEOD CANYON – Upper end
- Lower 5 miles to mouth
 ROAD CANYON (all forks) – Sources to mouth
 BARTON RANGE CANYON – Source to mouth
BUTLER WASH – Source to mouth
 STEVENS CANYON – Source to Butler Wash
SOUTH COTTONWOOD – Forest boundary to mouth
 HAMMOND CANYON – Forest Boundary to South Cottonwood
 WHISKERS DRAW – Source to mouth
 BRUSHY BASIN WASH – Source to mouth
 ZEKE'S HOLE Drainage – Source to mouth
 WESTWATER CANYON – Source to mouth
 RIGHTHAND FORK – Ute lands to mouth
 BLACK ROCK CANYON – Source to mouth
RECAPTURE CANYON – Forest boundary to mouth
 JOHNSON CREEK – Forest boundary to mouth
 BULLDOG CANYON – BLM lands to mouth
 BULLPUP CANYON – BLM lands to mouth
 BROWN CANYON – BLM lands to mouth
 CORRAL CREEK – BLM lands to mouth
 UTE CANYON – Source to mouth
 ROAD CANYON – Source to mouth
 HORSE CANYON – Source to Navajo Reservation
 JENNYS CANYON – Source to mouth
ALKALI CANYON – Source to Navajo Reservation
 BULLPEN SWALE – Source to mouth
McCRACKEN WASH – BLM lands to mouth
BUCKET CANYON – BLM lands to mouth
MONTEZUMA CREEK – BLM lands to Navajo Reservation
 VERDURE CREEK – Lower 2 miles
 BOULDER CREEK – Lower 2 miles
 PEARSON CANYON – Source to mouth
 HORSEHEAD CANYON – Source to mouth
 BIGWATER CANYON – Source to mouth
 COALBED CANYON – Stateline (CO) to mouth
 TANK CANYON – Source to mouth
 MONUMENT CANYON – Stateline (CO) to mouth
 LAKE CANYON – Source to mouth
 BULL CANYON – Source to mouth
 BUG CANYON – Source to private land

BLACK STEER CANYON – BLM lands
DODGE CANYON – BLM lands to mouth
LONG CANYON – BLM lands to mouth
DEVIL CANYON – BLM lands to mouth
BRADFORD CANYON – Source to mouth
DEADMAN CANYON – Source to mouth
CAVE CANYON – Source to mouth

McELMO Drainage

CAJON LAKE – T.39S., R26 E., S.10, NWNW
LITTLE RUIN CANYON – Hovenweep NM. To Navajo Reservation
KEELEY CANYON – BLM lands to mouth

DELORES RIVER

SUMMIT CANYON – BLM lands to Stateline (CO)
RUSTLER CANYON – BLM land to mouth
WILDHORSE CANYON – BLM lands to mouth
CROSS CANYON – Stateline (CO) to mouth
LITTLE NANCY CANYON – Source to mouth
NANCY PATTERSON CANYON – Source to mouth
SQUAW CANYON – Stateline (CO) to mouth
PAPOOSE CANYON – Stateline (CO) to mouth
CROSS CANYON POND – T.38S, R.25E, S.35, SENW

Attachment 2: ORVs and Tentative Classification of Individual Eligible Wild and Scenic River(s)/Segments, Monticello FO

COLORADO RIVER – Perennial river			
The north/west side of this section of the Colorado River is managed by the BLM Moab Field Office, the south/east side of the same section of river is managed by the BLM Monticello Office. The boundary of the two resource areas is the centerline of the Colorado River.			
Segment Description with approximate river miles	Length In BLM River Miles	Outstandingly Remarkable Values ORVs	Tentative Classification
Segment # 1: Northern-most FO boundary near River Mile 50.5 on the east side of the river [1 mile north of Potash land] south to private land near River Mile 48.5	2.2 miles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic • Fish • Recreation • Wildlife • Cultural • Ecological 	Recreational
Segment #2: State lands near River Mile 44 to approx. River Mile 38.5	5.5 miles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic • Fish • Recreation • Wildlife • Cultural • Ecological 	Scenic
Segment #3: River Mile 37.5 west of State school section to boundary of Canyonlands NP near River Mile 31	6.5 miles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic • Fish • Recreation • Wildlife • Cultural • Ecological 	Wild
Description of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs):			
<p>Scenic: Layered rock formations exhibit contrasting colors ranging from pale limestone to red sandstone formations and variations in between. Embedded layers of dark patterned rock and uplifted formations tilting towards each other surround and show off the wide river corridor. The broad flowing water, sometimes brown with sediment and at other times clear and reflecting the sky's blue, contrasts with the thick green of river bank vegetation. There is a never ending exhibit of eroded formations, towers, spires, rimrocks, outcrops, and vertical walls hundreds of feet high on both sides of the river. This is a desert waterway with ever changing vistas of grand proportions.</p> <p>Fish: The Colorado River has a unique resident fish population with more than two-thirds of the native fish being endemic, that is, restricted to a locality or region. The Colorado River has designated critical habitat for the endangered Bonytail, Humpback chub, Colorado pikeminnow, and the Razorback sucker. These endangered species are also listed as Sensitive Species in Utah (any wildlife species or subspecies that has experienced a substantial decrease in population, distribution and/or habitat availability) and protected under state laws. The first two species are found nowhere else in the world besides the Colorado River system. The Colorado River is also home to the Bluehead sucker and Flannelmouth sucker, which are also listed as Sensitive Species for the state of Utah. Also found in the Colorado River are the channel catfish, roundtail chub, speckled dace, Plains killifish, fathead minnow, red shiner, sand shiner, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, carp, black bullhead, and walleye.</p> <p>Recreation: Downstream from the town of Moab, UT, the Colorado River provides a popular year-round float opportunity for boaters both motorized and non-motorized. Approximately 12,000 visitors per year boat on this section of the river. Locals and visitors from all over the world use this section to fish, raft, powerboat, canoe, hike, camp, and enjoy the spectacular red rock country scenery. Outfitters market their trips both nationally and internationally.</p> <p>This section of the Colorado River provides the most common method of approach for boaters entering Cataract Canyon, a world renowned white water adventure. Outfitters stop for boaters along this BLM</p>			

Attachment 2: ORVs and Tentative Classification of Individual Eligible Wild and Scenic River(s)/Segments, Monticello FO

segment of the Colorado River, offering points to get onto or off the river. Jet boats shuttle canoe trips from the confluence of the Green and Colorado Rivers in Canyonlands National Park back to Moab using this stretch of the Colorado River. There are remnants of a petrified forest on the river bank, a fossil point of interest with brachiopods, horned corral, and two forms of primitive sharkline fish teeth, providing visitors a view into the distant past.

Wildlife: The Colorado River provides riparian habitat through an otherwise semi-arid region that supports a wide variety of wildlife species including avian, terrestrial, and aquatic. This reach of the river provides or is potential habitat for threatened and endangered species such as the Bald eagle, Southwestern willow flycatcher, Mexican spotted owl, and the Yellow-billed cuckoo (candidate species). The river provides crucial habitat for desert bighorn sheep, peregrine falcons, golden eagles, and other raptors. The Colorado River is a major bird migratory corridor, and provides the essential habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, songbirds, and neo-tropical migrants. Other wildlife utilizing this habitat includes mule deer, raccoons, bats, reptiles, amphibians, and Northern river otters.

Cultural: The Colorado River has evidence of significant occupation and use by both prehistoric and historic peoples. Native Americans consider the Colorado River and its major flowing tributaries as sacred spaces. The variety and number of archeological and historical sites adjacent to the river embrace the occupation of these prehistoric and historic peoples. Sites include alcoves, rock shelters, lithic scatters, rock art, and open camp sites. Prehistoric sites have the potential to provide information concerning the use of the river corridors by Archaic, Fremont, and Pre-Puebloan Cultures, as well as the Numic speaking peoples. Early travelers and traders also utilized the Colorado River as fords, crossings developed with the advent of increased travel between the Southwest and the Pacific coast. Historic European homesteads are also present.

Ecological: The Colorado River is adjacent to the Pacific Flyway and provides important habitat for many migrating neo-tropical shorebird and waterfowl species. The aquatic, wetland and riparian habitats provide respite and survival for the existence of many wildlife species. The river corridor contains vegetative islands that serve as important refuge and nesting habitats for many of the migrant waterfowl species, including the Canada goose and plovers. The river corridor contains some the last remnant populations of river otters, as well as nesting and forage habitat for endangered Bald eagle, endangered Mexican spotted owl, endangered Southwestern willow flycatcher, endangered bats, and the four species of endangered native fish endemic to the Colorado River system. There are also remnant native Cottonwood and willow present along the river banks which provide habitat to wildlife species.

- **Hanging Gardens** – Hanging gardens are unique herbaceous communities that develop under certain geologic and climatic features in arid to semi-arid climates. They are fed by groundwater aquifers in either fine-grained sandstones or in limestones and exist on cliff faces or in undercut alcoves. Hanging garden vegetation is structurally and floristically distinct from other spring-supported vegetation in the American southwest.

**INDIAN CREEK –
Perennial stream from NF boundary to Shay Canyon, and Intermittent from Shay Canyon to Donnelly Canyon**

Segment Description	Length In BLM River Miles	Outstandingly Remarkable Values ORVs	Tentative Classification (See Appendix)
Manti-LaSal National Forest Boundary to Donnelley Canyon	4.8 miles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural 	Recreational

Description of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs)

Cultural: Rock art sites are the significant cultural resources along Indian Creek. Newspaper Rock, the best-known site along the Creek, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Native Americans, who have visited these sites, recognize images that relate to their migration history. Cultural resources in this area represent the interface between two prehistoric cultural groups: Pre Puebloan and Fremont. This interface is represented in unique motifs in the rock art in this area as well as within site features and artifacts such as ceramics and baskets.

Attachment 2: ORVs and Tentative Classification of Individual Eligible Wild and Scenic River(s)/Segments, Monticello FO

FABLE VALLEY – Perennial stream			
Segment Description	Length In BLM River Miles	Outstandingly Remarkable Values ORVs	Tentative Classification (See Appendix)
Source to Mouth	6.8 miles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wildlife • Ecological 	Scenic
Description of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs):			
<p>Wildlife: Fable Valley is a narrow, discontinuous riparian corridor characterized by appropriate willow-dominated riparian vegetation, which is prime habitat for the Southwestern willow flycatcher. The extreme north end of the canyon is a deep, narrow slick rock-dominated zone that is prime habitat for the Mexican spotted owl, and is designated as critical habitat for Mexican spotted owls.</p> <p>Surveys for both of these species have been conducted in Fable Valley with both of these endangered species present. This is the only canyon in the field office area in which both endangered species have been documented. This area is also important for other neo-tropical birds that migrate into Utah. Fable Valley has perennial water and an abundance of native riparian vegetation, and sagebrush benches. The valley is a very important area for other wildlife, including mule deer, elk, bats, reptiles, amphibians, and raptors.</p> <p>Ecological: Fable Valley offers a diversity of both plant and animal species, including the presence of rare communities. There is an array of ecological values including a unique riparian habitat that allows for the cohabitation of two federally listed T & E avian species.</p> <p>The multi-terraced canyon walls are adequate for nesting and roosting of the threatened Mexican spotted owl, while the numerous small open pools and discontinuous flows fed by subsurface springs and seeps provide for a year round supply of water. The associated willow-dominated riparian areas include over 17 vegetative species, with few exotic tamarisk, providing habitat for the endangered southwestern willow flycatcher, and 27 upland vegetative species. The Monument milkvetch (<i>Astragalus monumentalis</i>) and the Kachina daisy (<i>Erigeron kachinensis</i>), both sensitive species, may also occur in the area.</p>			
DARK CANYON - Perennial stream			
Segment Description	Length In BLM River Miles	Outstandingly Remarkable Values ORVs	Tentative Classification (See Appendix)
Youngs Canyon to Glen Canyon National Recreational Area	6.4 miles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic • Recreation • Wildlife 	Wild
Description of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs)			
<p>Scenic: The Dark Canyon area is roadless, primitive and undeveloped, and is one of the deepest canyon systems in the region. The remote location, dramatic rugged terrain, deep walled canyon, and naturalness of the area create a high scenic value. It has unobstructed and expansive diversity of views including 1,200 foot vertical cliff walls, rimrock, outcrops and spires, and a visual contrast from soil and rock color, flowing water, potholes, pour offs, and diverse vegetation located throughout the canyon and tributaries.</p> <p>The BLM portion of Dark Canyon watershed is contiguous with Glen Canyon National Recreation Area where it drains into the Colorado River, and with the Manti-LaSal National Forest where Dark Canyon is a designated wilderness area.</p> <p>Recreation: Dark Canyon has a high diversity including outstanding natural, historical, and cultural features offering recreational, educational, and scientific opportunities for visitors. It attracts visitors internationally. A wide variety of recreational opportunities are available including backpacking, camping, photography, wildlife viewing, canyoneering and orienteering, and viewing prehistoric archeological sites. The Ancestral Puebloans used this canyon area leaving behind cliff dwellings, rock shelters, rock art, and storage areas, which are viewed from within the corridors of the canyon.</p> <p>Wildlife: Dark Canyon is within designated critical habitat for the Mexican spotted owl. Surveys have been</p>			

Attachment 2: ORVs and Tentative Classification of Individual Eligible Wild and Scenic River(s)/Segments, Monticello FO

<p>conducted in this canyon, and there have been owls using this area. Dark Canyon and its drainages also contain the only two protected activity center(s) (PAC) for the Mexican spotted owl within the Monticello Field Office area. PACs are nest areas occupied at least once since 1989. The habitat in this canyon is also critical for peregrine falcon and other raptors. At the lower elevations, there are ringtail cats and bobcats as well as desert bighorn sheep present.</p>			
<p>SAN JUAN RIVER – Perennial river</p>			
<p>The north side of the San Juan is under BLM Monticello Field Office management, San Juan SRMA. The South side falls under the jurisdiction and administration of the Navajo Nation. The Navajo Nation and Monticello Field Office area boundary is located at the centerline of the San Juan River.</p>			
Segment Description with approximate river miles	Length In BLM River Miles	Outstandingly Remarkable Values ORVs	Tentative Classification (See Appendix)
Segment # 1: W. Montezuma Creek to private land just before "avulsed" parcel of Navajo Nation land at St Christopher's Mission	8.5 miles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish • Wildlife • Cultural/Historic 	Recreational
Segment #2: West of "accreted" land at town of Bluff, UT near River Mile (minus) -1 to River Mile 9	10 miles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish • Recreation • Wildlife • Cultural/Historic • Ecological 	Recreational
Segment #3: Near River Mile 9 to near River Mile 23, above the Mexican Hat formation	13.3 miles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic • Fish • Recreation • Geologic • Wildlife • Ecological 	Wild
Segment #4: Near River Mile 23 to near River Mile 28	4.2 miles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic • Fish • Recreation • Wildlife • Ecological 	Recreational
Segment #5: Near River Mile 28 to boundary of Glen Canyon NRA near River Mile 45	17.3 miles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scenic • Fish • Recreation • Geologic • Wildlife • Ecological 	Wild
<p>Description of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs)</p>			
<p>Fish (Segments 1-5): The San Juan River, which is part of the Upper Colorado River system, has a unique resident endemic fish population. This river contains designated critical habitat for the endangered Colorado pikeminnow and the Razorback sucker. These endangered species are also listed as Sensitive Species in Utah (any wildlife species or subspecies that has experienced a substantial decrease in population, distribution and/or habitat availability) and protected under state laws. They are found no where else in the world besides the Colorado River system. The San Juan River is also home to the Bluehead sucker and Flannelmouth sucker, which are listed as Sensitive Species for the state of Utah. Also found in the San Juan River are the channel catfish, roundtail chub, speckled dace, fathead minnow, red shiner, sand shiner,</p>			

Attachment 2: ORVs and Tentative Classification of Individual Eligible Wild and Scenic River(s)/Segments, Monticello FO

smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, carp, black bullhead, yellow bullhead, walleye, and northern pike.

Wildlife (Segments 1-5): The San Juan River, which runs through an otherwise semi-arid region, provides riparian habitat that supports a wide variety of wildlife species including avian, terrestrial, and aquatic. Potential habitat is also provided for the following threatened or endangered species: Bald eagle, Southwestern willow flycatcher, and the Yellow-billed cuckoo (candidate species). The river provides crucial habitat for wintering eagles, peregrine falcon, cooper's hawk and other raptors, and is a major migration route and nesting area for neo-tropical birds, shorebirds, and waterfowl species. The San Juan River provides habitat for Lucy's warbler, and Broad-tailed hummingbird, which are species on the Utah Partners in Flight Priority Species. Other wildlife utilizing this habitat includes desert bighorn sheep, mule deer, raccoons, the Northern river otter, bats, reptiles and amphibians.

Cultural (Segments 1 and 2): There is no doubt that the San Juan River Valley was heavily populated in prehistoric times. The riverbank has washed much of the evidence of that occupation away. What does remain is rock art that is unsurpassed on the Colorado Plateau. Several of the rock art sites are recognized as "Type Sites" for specific rock art motifs because they are so wonderfully expressed and are so well preserved.

Historic (Segments 1 and 2): These segments contain historic sites associated with the settlement and development of Southeastern Utah. Some of the most critical events in that settlement process took place in the vicinity of the convergence of Comb Ridge and the San Juan River. These include the epic "Hole in the Rock" journey, the construction and abandonment of Barton's Trading Post, and the early attempts at irrigation from the San Juan River. The San Juan River was designated as the northern boundary of the Navajo Reservation from just west of Montezuma Creek to Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

Scenic (Segment 3): VRM Class I. This segment begins at the base of the Lime Ridge Anticline, where spectacular variations in color are created by the interbedded layers of gray limestone and red sandstones, contrasting with green riparian vegetation at the water's edge. Within the canyon, views are of steep vertical cliff walls nearly 900 feet high with unobstructed views to the rims, and views of abandoned river meanders perched high above the current water level.

Scenic (Segment 4): This segment begins as the river flow parallels the base of the Raplee Anticline, a spectacular section of contrasting color caused by the interbedded sandstone and limestone, which have been tilted and eroded, forming the unique "Navajo Rug" formation of zigzag lines of colored rock. On the opposite river bank is the nationally recognized "Mexican Hat" formation. Next in view are the variously carved spires of Cedar Mesa Sandstone, and an excellent view of the exposed volcanic neck called "Alhambra".

Scenic (Segment 5): This San Juan River segment is one of the deepest in the entire Navajo Canyonlands Ecological Section with canyon walls over 1,200 feet high. This spectacular Goosenecks section is one of the finest examples of entrenched river meanders in the United States and is of national significance. A float through this section allows unique views across the low "necks" of the meander loops to the canyon walls of the opposite side of the loop. There is extreme visual contrast between the limestone walls of the inner gorge and views of the red Cedar Mesa Sandstone that tower an additional 800 feet on the terraces above.

Recreation (Segments 2 and 3): These sections of the San Juan River become narrower, swifter, and rockier with white water rapids and many riffles to negotiate (some particularly challenging at low water due to rocks), and flow past ever changing geological formations, historical mining sites, abundant wildlife, and towering multi-colored cliff formations. The San Juan River, from the Sand Island put-in the Mexican Hat take-out, draws the highest number of boaters every year with a three year average of 13,500 user days/year. Permits are required due to the large demand for day and multi-day use.

- **Sand Waves** – The San Juan River is world renowned for its sand waves. At high water, the results of snowmelt or hard rain, the river pushes huge amounts of sand down stream. The swollen flows pile sand into dunes on the river bottom, which are seen on the surface of the water as even waves. These waves can crest at 8 feet and disappear within minutes, only to reappear and build again. Remarkably, whole wave trains appear to move upstream defying the flow of the river. Although sand waves can be seen anywhere along the river, they are most abundant where tributaries like Comb and Chinle Washes (Segment 2) add vast quantities of new sand to the channel, and again in the Goosenecks, downstream (Segment 5).

Recreation (Segment 4): This short section of the San Juan River fills the river runner's experience with

Attachment 2: ORVs and Tentative Classification of Individual Eligible Wild and Scenic River(s)/Segments, Monticello FO

spectacular views (described above in Scenic) of the many differing geological formations surrounding the river.

Recreation (Segment 5): Below the town of Mexican Hat the boater winds through high walled, entrenched meanders in a remote area with very limited access. Solitude, spectacular geology, historical mining sites, and opportunities for remarkable side canyon hiking surround the visitor with recreational experiences. Class II and one Class III rapids (named Government Rapid) make this section an exciting multi-day river run. Camping is in specific permitted campsites due to the high use demand and the few appropriate sites available along the high cliff walls.

- **Sand Waves** – The San Juan River is world renowned for its sand waves. At high water, the results of snowmelt or hard rain, the river pushes huge amounts of sand down stream. The swollen flows pile sand into dunes on the river bottom, which are seen on the surface of the water as even waves. These waves can crest at 8 feet and disappear within minutes, only to reappear and build again. Remarkably, whole wave trains appear to move upstream defying the flow of the river. Although sand waves can be seen anywhere along the river, they are most abundant where tributaries like Comb and Chinle Washes add vast quantities of new sand to the channel. Occurrence is most common along the first nine miles downstream from Sand Island (Segment 2) and in the Goosenecks (Segment 5).

Ecological (Segments 2-5): The San Juan River offers an array of ecological values including a unique riparian corridor through an otherwise semi-arid region with a diversity of both plant and animal species, and rare communities. Approximately 400 plant species have been identified along the San Juan River and its tributaries. This includes five sensitive and rare species, the Western hophornbeam, Alcove rock daisy, Howel scorpion weed, Bluff phacelia, and Cooper Canyon milkvetch, as well as one federally listed threatened species, Navajo sedge, which is found only in hanging gardens. The San Juan River also provides an abundance of current and potential habitat for multiple species of fish and wildlife, as noted above, and offers educational / scientific opportunities to study unique desert botany and zoology in a complete ecosystem.

- **Hanging Gardens** – Hanging gardens are unique herbaceous communities that develop under certain geologic and climatic features in arid to semi-arid climates. They are fed by groundwater aquifers in either fine-grained sandstones or in limestones, and exist on cliff faces or in undercut alcoves. Hanging garden vegetation is structurally and floristically distinct from other spring-supported vegetation in the American southwest.

Geologic (Segments 3 and 5): The deeply incised San Juan canyon cuts across the broad anticlinal structure of the Monument upwarp, making it a textbook example of a transverse canyon. Whether the San Juan canyon was formed through geomorphic processes of antecedence or superposition is the subject of great interest and debate among geologists. The San Juan River is famous for its sand waves or antidunes (see Recreation above), and Algal Banks.

- **Algal Banks** – Algal bioherms or mounds occur in the Desert Creek and Ismay intervals of the Pennsylvanian Paradox Formation. These mounds consist of accumulations of green leafy algae, which resemble beds of fossilized corn flakes. Similar algal mounds are major producers of oil and gas in the Paradox Basin of Utah, Colorado, and Arizona. Algal banks exposed along the San Juan River afford geologists a rare opportunity to study the reservoir-facies characteristics and geometry of these stratigraphic oil traps in outcrops. They provide a production-scale analogue for reservoir modeling, and design and implementation of enhanced hydrocarbon (oil/gas) recovery programs in the Paradox Basin.

ARCH CANYON – Perennial stream in some areas, Intermittent in others			
Segment Description	Length In BLM River Miles	Outstandingly Remarkable Values ORVs	Tentative Classification (See Appendix)
Manti-LaSal National Forest Boundary to ½ mile west of its confluence with Comb Wash	6.9 miles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fish • Recreation • Wildlife 	Recreational

Attachment 2: ORVs and Tentative Classification of Individual Eligible Wild and Scenic River(s)/Segments, Monticello FO

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cultural • Ecological 	
Description of Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs)			
<p>Fish: Arch Canyon contains aquatic habitat for the Bluehead sucker, Flannelmouth sucker, and Speckled dace. The first two species are listed as Species of Special Concern (any wildlife species or subspecies that has experienced a substantial decrease in population, distribution and/or habitat availability) for the state of Utah.</p> <p>Recreation: The flowing water in Arch Canyon with its red rock walls, arches, pinnacles, rock outcrops, alcoves and numerous prehistoric ruins and rock art, provides a popular recreation destination. The VRM Class II with Class A scenic quality, the steep walled, meandering canyon with a variety of vegetation types attract 3,000 – 5,000 visitors annually for horseback riding, hiking, primitive camping, and OHV use. Arch Canyon is a popular destination site with commercial, educational, research groups, and private parties.</p> <p>Wildlife: Arch Canyon provides habitat to several wildlife species. There is designated critical habitat for Mexican spotted owls in the upper reaches of the canyon. Surveys have determined that owls use this canyon for forage while nesting in nearby canyons. There is also potential habitat for the Southwestern willow flycatcher.</p> <p>Cultural: The cultural resources located here are well preserved prehistoric buildings clustered in sites occupied for hundreds of years. During some periods of that occupation, buildings strongly resembling architecture in Chaco Canyon were built. The canyon also contains rock art, with both pictographs and petroglyphs found here. Sites are almost always located well above the stream bottom because of the flash floods that occur in Arch Canyon. They are of significance because of the scientific information they contain, the fact that they are well preserved, and because of their interest to the recreating public.</p> <p>Ecological: Unique, rich riparian vegetation exists in Arch Canyon. Unique for this area are grasses and shrubs, usually common to the mid-western United States, which appear along the creek. Arch Canyon is important habitat for fish and wildlife species.</p>			

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Attachment 3. Wild, Scenic and Recreational Classification Worksheets for Eligible River(s)/Segments (Condensed)

COLORADO RIVER, SEGMENT # 1						
Attribute	Wild	Y N	Scenic	Y N	Recreational	Y N
Water Resource Development	Free of Impoundment	Y	Free of Impoundment		Some existing impoundment or diversion.	
Shoreline Development	Essentially primitive. Little or no evidence of human activity.	N	Largely primitive and undeveloped.	N	Some development. Substantial evidence of human activity. [Potash facility in area]	Y
Accessibility	Generally inaccessible except by trail.	N	Accessible in places by road.		Readily accessible by road or railroad.	Y
Water Quality	Meets or exceeds Federal criteria or federally approved State standards	Y	Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.		Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.	
Conclusion					Recreational	
COLORADO RIVER, SEGMENT # 2						
Attribute	Wild	Y N	Scenic	Y N	Recreational	Y N
Water Resource Development	Free of Impoundment	Y	Free of Impoundment		Some existing impoundment or diversion.	
Shoreline Development	Essentially primitive. Little or no evidence of human activity.	Y	Largely primitive and undeveloped.		Some development. Substantial evidence of human activity.	
Accessibility	Generally inaccessible except by trail.	N	Accessible in places by road. [to river area]	Y	Readily accessible by road or railroad.	
Water Quality	Meets or exceeds Federal criteria or federally approved State standards	Y	Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.		Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.	
Conclusion			Scenic			
COLORADO RIVER, SEGMENT # 3						
Attribute	Wild	Y N	Scenic	Y N	Recreational	Y N
Water Resource Development	Free of Impoundment	Y	Free of Impoundment		Some existing impoundment or diversion.	
Shoreline Development	Essentially primitive. Little or no evidence of human activity.	Y	Largely primitive and undeveloped.		Some development. Substantial evidence of human activity.	
Accessibility	Generally inaccessible except by trail.	Y	Accessible in places by road.		Readily accessible by road or railroad.	
Water Quality	Meets or exceeds	Y	Water quality sufficient		Water quality sufficient	

Attachment 3. Wild, Scenic and Recreational Classification Worksheets for Eligible River(s)/Segments (Condensed)

	Federal criteria or federally approved State standards		to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.		to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.	
Conclusion	Wild					
INDIAN CREEK						
Attribute	Wild	Y N	Scenic	Y N	Recreational	Y N
Water Resource Development	Free of Impoundment	N	Free of Impoundment	N	Some existing impoundment or diversion. <i>[diversion present]</i>	Y
Shoreline Development	Essentially primitive. Little or no evidence of human activity.	N	Largely primitive and undeveloped.	N	Some development. Substantial evidence of human activity. <i>[Nat'l Historic Site, camping]</i>	Y
Accessibility	Generally inaccessible except by trail.	N	Accessible in places by road.		Readily accessible by road or railroad. [State Highway 211]	Y
Water Quality	Meets or exceeds Federal criteria or federally approved State standards	N	Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.	Y	Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values. <i>[303d – pH stressor]</i>	Y
Conclusion					Recreational	
FABLE VALLEY						
Attribute	Wild	Y N	Scenic	Y N	Recreational	Y N
Water Resource Development	Free of Impoundment	Y	Free of Impoundment		Some existing impoundment or diversion.	
Shoreline Development	Essentially primitive. Little or no evidence of human activity.	Y	Largely primitive and undeveloped.		Some development. Substantial evidence of human activity.	
Accessibility	Generally inaccessible except by trail.	N	Accessible in places by road. <i>[jeep route present in lower area]</i>	Y	Readily accessible by road or railroad.	
Water Quality	Meets or exceeds Federal criteria or federally approved State standards	Y	Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.		Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.	
Conclusion			Scenic			

Attachment 3. Wild, Scenic and Recreational Classification Worksheets for Eligible River(s)/Segments (Condensed)

DARK CANYON						
Attribute	Wild	Y N	Scenic	Y N	Recreational	Y N
Water Resource Development	Free of Impoundment	Y	Free of Impoundment		Some existing impoundment or diversion.	
Shoreline Development	Essentially primitive. Little or no evidence of human activity.	Y	Largely primitive and undeveloped.		Some development. Substantial evidence of human activity.	
Accessibility	Generally inaccessible except by trail.	Y	Accessible in places by road.		Readily accessible by road or railroad.	
Water Quality	Meets or exceeds Federal criteria or federally approved State standards	Y	Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.		Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.	
Conclusion	Wild					
SAN JUAN RIVER # 1						
Attribute	Wild	Y N	Scenic	Y N	Recreational	Y N
Water Resource Development	Free of Impoundment	N	Free of Impoundment	N	Some existing impoundment or diversion. <i>[diversions]</i>	Y
Shoreline Development	Essentially primitive. Little or no evidence of human activity.	N	Largely primitive and undeveloped.	N	Some development. Substantial evidence of human activity. <i>[development in river area]</i>	Y
Accessibility	Generally inaccessible except by trail.	N	Accessible in places by road.		Readily accessible by road or railroad.	Y
Water Quality	Meets or exceeds Federal criteria or federally approved State standards	Y	Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.		Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.	
Conclusion					Recreational	
SAN JUAN RIVER # 2						
Attribute	Wild	Y N	Scenic	Y N	Recreational	Y N
Water Resource Development	Free of Impoundment	N	Free of Impoundment	N	Some existing impoundment or diversion. <i>[diversions present]</i>	Y
Shoreline Development	Essentially primitive. Little or no evidence of	N	Largely primitive and undeveloped.	N	Some development. Substantial evidence of	Y

Attachment 3. Wild, Scenic and Recreational Classification Worksheets for Eligible River(s)/Segments (Condensed)

	human activity.				human activity. <i>[Camping, boat ramp, Sand Island]</i>	
Accessibility	Generally inaccessible except by trail.	N	Accessible in places by road.		Readily accessible by road or railroad.	Y
Water Quality	Meets or exceeds Federal criteria or federally approved State standards	Y	Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.		Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.	
Conclusion					Recreational	
SAN JUAN RIVER # 3						
Attribute	Wild	Y N	Scenic	Y N	Recreational	Y N
Water Resource Development	Free of Impoundment	Y	Free of Impoundment		Some existing impoundment or diversion.	
Shoreline Development	Essentially primitive. Little or no evidence of human activity.	Y	Largely primitive and undeveloped.		Some development. Substantial evidence of human activity.	
Accessibility	Generally inaccessible except by trail.	Y	Accessible in places by road.		Readily accessible by road or railroad.	
Water Quality	Meets or exceeds Federal criteria or federally approved State standards	Y	Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.		Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.	
Conclusion	Wild					
SAN JUAN RIVER # 4						
Attribute	Wild	Y N	Scenic	Y N	Recreational	Y N
Water Resource Development	Free of Impoundment	Y	Free of Impoundment		Some existing impoundment or diversion.	
Shoreline Development	Essentially primitive. Little or no evidence of human activity.	N	Largely primitive and undeveloped.	N	Some development. Substantial evidence of human activity. <i>[ranch-horses, activities]</i>	Y
Accessibility	Generally inaccessible except by trail.	N	Accessible in places by road.		Readily accessible by road or railroad. <i>[road along shoreline]</i>	Y
Water Quality	Meets or exceeds Federal criteria or federally approved State standards	Y	Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.		Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.	
Conclusion					Recreational	

Attachment 3. Wild, Scenic and Recreational Classification Worksheets for Eligible River(s)/Segments (Condensed)

SAN JUAN RIVER # 5						
Attribute	Wild	Y N	Scenic	Y N	Recreational	Y N
Water Resource Development	Free of Impoundment	Y	Free of Impoundment		Some existing impoundment or diversion.	
Shoreline Development	Essentially primitive. Little or no evidence of human activity.	Y	Largely primitive and undeveloped.		Some development. Substantial evidence of human activity.	
Accessibility	Generally inaccessible except by trail.	Y	Accessible in places by road.		Readily accessible by road or railroad.	
Water Quality	Meets or exceeds Federal criteria or federally approved State standards	Y	Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.		Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.	
Conclusion	Wild					
ARCH CANYON						
Attribute	Wild	Y N	Scenic	Y N	Recreational	Y N
Water Resource Development	Free of Impoundment	N	Free of Impoundment	N	Some existing impoundment or diversion. <i>[historic irrigation dike]</i>	Y
Shoreline Development	Essentially primitive. Little or no evidence of human activity.	N	Largely primitive and undeveloped.	N	Some development. Substantial evidence of human activity. <i>[cultural fenced site]</i>	Y
Accessibility	Generally inaccessible except by trail.	N	Accessible in places by road.		Readily accessible by road or railroad. <i>[route along stream bed]</i>	Y
Water Quality	Meets or exceeds Federal criteria or federally approved State standards	Y	Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.		Water quality sufficient to maintain outstandingly remarkable values.	
Conclusion					Recreational	

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Attachment 4. Summary of Eligible River/Segments and Their Tentative Classification, Monticello Field Office

River Segment Name	Segment Description and Length in River Miles ¹	Reason for Consideration ²	Free-Flowing	Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs)	Tentative Classification
Colorado River Segment 1	Northern most MFO boundary on east side of Colorado River (1 mile north of Potash land) south to private land BLMRM: 2.2 miles TRM: 6.2 miles	a, b, d, e	Yes	Scenic Fish Recreation Wildlife Cultural Ecological	Recreational
Colorado River Segment 2	State lands near River Mile 44 to approx. River Mile 38.5 BLMRM: 5.5 miles TRM: 6.8 miles	a, b, d, e	Yes	Scenic Fish Recreation Wildlife Cultural Ecological	Scenic
Colorado River Segment 3	From approximately River Mile 37.5 at State land to boundary of Canyonlands NP near River Mile 31 BLMRM: 6.5 miles TRM: 6.5 miles	a, b, d, e	Yes	Scenic Fish Recreation Wildlife Cultural Ecological	Scenic
Indian Creek	Forest boundary to Donnelly Canyon BLMRM: 4.8 miles	e, f	Yes	Cultural	Recreational
Fable Valley	Source to mouth at Gypsum Creek BLMRM: 6.8 miles TRM: 6.8miles	e, f	Yes	Wildlife Ecological	Scenic
Dark Canyon	Youngs Canyon to GCNRA BLMRM: 6.4 miles TRM: 13.6 miles	b, e, f	Yes	Scenic Recreation Wildlife	Wild
San Juan River Segment 1 North side – MFO, portions	W. Montezuma Creek to private land just before "avulsed"	a, b, e	Yes	Fish Wildlife	Recreational

Attachment 4. Summary of Eligible River/Segments and Their Tentative Classification, Monticello Field Office

River Segment Name	Segment Description and Length in River Miles ¹	Reason for Consideration ²	Free-Flowing	Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs)	Tentative Classification
are within San Juan River SRMA; South side – Navajo Nation.	parcel of Navajo Nation land at St. Christopher’s Mission BLMRM: 8.5 miles TRM: 15.3 miles			Historic Cultural	
San Juan River Segment 2 North side – MFO, portions are within San Juan River SRMA; South side – Navajo Nation	West of "accreted" land at town of Bluff, UT at River Mile (minus) -1 to River Mile 9 BLMRM: 10 miles TRM: 9.5 miles	a, b, e	Yes	Fish Recreation Wildlife Historic Cultural Ecological	Recreational
San Juan River Segment 3 North side – MFO, San Juan River SRMA; South side – Navajo Nation.	River Mile 9 to River Mile 23 above Mexican Hat formation BLMRM: 13.3 miles TRM: 13.3 miles	a, b, d, e	Yes	Scenic Fish Recreation Geology Wildlife Ecological	Wild
San Juan River Segment 4 North side – MFO; South side – Navajo Nation.	River Mile 23 to River Mile 28 BLMRM: 4.2 miles TRM: 5.3 miles	a, b, d, e	Yes	Scenic Fish Recreation Wildlife Ecological	Recreational
San Juan River Segment 5 North side – MFO, San Juan River SRMA & Cedar Mesa ACEC; South side–Navajo Nation.	Mile 28 to Glen Canyon NRA River mile 45 BLMRM: 17.3 miles TRM: 17.3 miles	a, b, d, e	Yes	Scenic Fish Recreation Geologic Wildlife Ecological	Wild
Arch Canyon	Forest boundary to ½ mile west of its confluence with Comb Wash	d, e, f	Yes	Fish Recreation Wildlife	Recreational

Attachment 4. Summary of Eligible River/Segments and Their Tentative Classification, Monticello Field Office

River Segment Name	Segment Description and Length in River Miles ¹	Reason for Consideration ²	Free-Flowing	Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs)	Tentative Classification
	BLMRM: 6.9 miles TRM: 7.7 miles			Cultural Ecological	

¹ BLMRM= BLM River Miles; TRM= Total River Miles

² Reasons for Consideration:

- a. Nationwide Rivers Inventory (NRI) list, NPS 1995, (Utah modified Oct 5, 2001)
- b. American Rivers Outstanding List, May 1991
- c. 1970 USDA/USDI list, and 1972 list
- d. A Citizen's Proposal to Protect the Wild Rivers of Utah, 1995 (Utah River Council)
- e. Identified in public scoping
- f. Identified by Federal Agencies, State of Utah, Indian Tribes, local governments, and professional specialists within the BLM Monticello Field Office

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Attachment 5. Suitability Considerations by Eligible River Segment

Suitability Considerations	Consideration Applied to Eligible River
Colorado River – 3 Segments	
<p>Characteristics which would or would not make it suitable</p>	<p>The Colorado River possesses outstandingly remarkable scenic, fish, recreation, wildlife, cultural and ecological values.</p> <p>Scenically the Colorado River is a desert waterway with ever changing vistas of grand proportions. The Colorado River provides habitat for species of fish found nowhere else in the world. Water related recreational activities, such as rafting calm water to Class I-IV rapids, are nationally recognizable. The river is a flyway for neo-tropical bird migrations, and important habitat for wildlife. The cultural and historical values of the river range from prehistoric, including Ancestral Puebloan sites, to recent historical sites. The river supports an extensive ecological system within the desert environment.</p>
<p>Land ownership status and current use of the area.</p>	<p>Ownership along the Monticello Field Office-administered east/south side of the river portion of the river is approximately 73%; the remaining is in state (SITLA-19%), and private (8%) ownership (Moab FO administers the west/north side).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recreational water related activities, boating, rafting, fishing, sight-seeing. - Available for grazing. - OHV use limited to designated roads and trails.
<p>Uses, including reasonably foreseeable uses, that would be enhanced or curtailed if designated; and values that would be diminished if not designated.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Colorado River is navigable, thus the water is controlled by the State of Utah. -[The privately owned Potash facility is located on the west side within the Moab FO segment and opposite the 2.2 mile Monticello FO segment; leases are issued by the State of Utah]. - Interstate [water] compacts are not affected by WSR [WSRA, Sec 13: Jurisdiction of the States]. No water allotment needs are anticipated to provide protection of the ORVs. - There are no withdrawals in the area on the Monticello administered side of the river; however, Moab has withdrawals from mining on the side they administer. - On the lower 12 mile segment mineral leasing is currently Category 1, surface use with standard conditions apply for approximately the first 4 miles of land adjacent to the river. Below approximately river mile 40 to the Canyonlands NP boundary, mineral leasing is Category 2, special conditions apply. - Recreation: no difference if designated or not; NPS issues permits on Colorado R; Moab FO patrols these segments. - Geology: is millions of years old and will not change except for natural weathering / erosion. - Riparian / Vegetative / Wildlife: enhancement or protective mgmt are available under law/policy. - Grazing: most occurs on mesas outside ¼ mile; however, some within ¼ mile at river edge. - SITLA – although the Monticello FO RMP management decisions will not be binding upon trust lands, development of trust land can be drastically affected by management prescriptions applied to adjacent public lands. - WSAs/Wilderness: no WSAs are located within the Colorado River area of the Monticello FO.

Attachment 5. Suitability Considerations by Eligible River Segment

Suitability Considerations	Consideration Applied to Eligible River
<p>Interest of federal, public, state, tribal, local, or other public entity in designation of non-designation, including administration sharing.</p>	<p><u>Interest/Support:</u> high from national river groups, NPS, some local residents, and environmental organizations; American Rivers, Utah River Council, and NRI listing.</p> <p><u>Participation:</u> other federal agencies are actively participating in WSR process, and currently (NPS and BLM Moab FO) partner with administration of the river; NPS/Canyonlands NP carries the costs associated with recreation permit process.</p> <p><u>Interest/Support:</u> low or negative interests or support from some of the local population and from the San Juan County government.</p> <p><u>Participation:</u> San Juan County notes they do not have the staff or financial ability to participate, share, nor help administer or manage values on a WSR. ... San Juan County will not share in either the administration or the cost of WSR designation of the Colorado River. ... As stated by San Juan County - The State or its political subdivisions will not participate in the preservation and administration of lands or rivers which are located on federal lands.</p> <p><u>NPS:</u> the lower portion of the Monticello FO Colorado River eligible segment, as it flows into Canyonlands NP, has the same tentative classification (Wild) as that determined by NPS for the segment within Canyonlands National Park. The (Wild) classification has been changed to Scenic due to the presence of motorized boating on the river.</p> <p><u>USFS:</u> no eligible river/segments on Colorado River.</p> <p><u>Other BLM Areas:</u> eligibility determination and tentative classification levels for the Colorado River were determined to be the same (Scenic) by both the BLM Monticello FO (south / east side) and the BLM Moab FO (north / west side).</p>
<p>Manageability of the river if designated, and other means of protecting values.</p>	<p>BLM uses management prescriptions and applicable laws / policies to protect the river and its ORVs. Management prescriptions were included in the 1991 RMP for the Colorado River, which was found eligible in that earlier evaluation process.</p> <p>Currently, recreational use is under a permit system administered by the National Park Service (Canyonlands NP). There are no other current management / protection overlays in the Monticello FO Colorado River area.</p> <p>- SITLA - The presence of trust lands along the WSR corridor could encumber the manageability of the WSR system by over segmentation or by development that is inconsistent with the purpose of the WSRA.</p>
<p>The estimated costs of administering the river, including costs for acquiring lands.</p>	<p>There should be no acquisition costs involved in the potential designation of the Colorado River as a WSR. Administration costs would include staff / time to develop and complete study and management reports.</p>
<p>The extent to which administration costs will be shared by local and state governments.</p>	<p>San Juan County: "Considering the budget status of the State and County, it seems highly unlikely that either would put much priority in managing and/or protecting the non-federal lands in the area".</p>
<p>Indian Creek</p>	
<p>Characteristics which would or would not make it suitable</p>	<p>Indian Creek possesses a cultural value. Indian Creek is a remarkable example of the interface between two prehistoric cultural groups, the Pre Puebloan and the Fremont with Newspaper Rock petroglyph panel listed on the National Register of Historic Places.</p>
<p>Land ownership status and current</p>	<p>Ownership along Indian Creek is 96% BLM with a very small (.2 mile)</p>

Attachment 5. Suitability Considerations by Eligible River Segment

Suitability Considerations	Consideration Applied to Eligible River
use of the area.	4% of state land. - Newspaper Rock Interpretive Site lies within ¼ mile of Indian Creek. - There is a parking lot with toilet at the Newspaper Rock site on the opposite side of the road from Indian Creek, and a primitive campground on the creek side of the road. (Change to this campground is possible in the RMP based on the Indian Creek EA, due to safety issues (flooding). - Scenic Highway 211 runs next to the creek area the length of the eligible segment within ¼ mile of sections of the stream. - The Nature Conservancy owns the Dugout Ranch north of this eligible segment.
Uses, including reasonably foreseeable uses, that would be enhanced or curtailed if designated; and values that would be diminished if not designated.	- There is grazing in the area. - This is a popular corridor for rock climbers to access climbing routes further north. This is a heavily traveled area by visitors to the Needles District of Canyonlands National Park; Rte 211 is the only way into and out of the park. Needles reported visitation of 44,333 vehicles in 2003, and 44,400 through the end of July 2004. Many of these visitors stop at the Newspaper Rock Interpretive Site. - Mineral leasing is Category 2, surface use with special conditions. - SITLA – although the MFO RMP management decisions will not be binding upon trust lands, development of trust land can be drastically affected by management prescriptions applied to adjacent public lands. - Private landowners immediately below this segment use water for domestic and irrigation purposes. The potential to expand this use is possible, per San Juan County.
Interest of federal, public, state, tribal, local, or other public entity in designation of non-designation, including administration sharing.	There is no county support for designation. There is support from the environmental community for determinations of suitability. San Juan County does not feel that the residents support WSR designation for Indian Creek. San Juan County will not share in either the administration or the cost of WSR designation of Indian Creek.
Manageability of the river if designated, and other means of protecting values.	Currently the Indian Creek eligible WSR is within the Shay Canyon ACEC and Canyon Basins SRMA. BLM uses management prescriptions and applicable laws / policies to protect the stream and its ORVs. If designated, other means of management for protecting values will be extrapolated from the impact analysis for the Monticello RMP/EIS. USFS – Indian Creek on Forest Service land was determined not eligible.
The estimated costs of administering the river, including costs for acquiring lands.	There is no private land to acquire. Administration costs would include staff / time to develop and complete study and management reports.
The extent to which administration costs will be shared by local and state governments.	San Juan County stated that considering the budget status of the State and County, it seems highly unlikely that either would put any priority in managing and/or protecting the non-federal lands in the area.
Fable Valley	
Characteristics which would or would not make it suitable	Fable Valley possesses wildlife and ecological values. Fable Valley is a narrow, discontinuous riparian corridor that provides habitat for wildlife, two threatened and endangered (T&E) species, and is on the migration route for neo-tropical birds.

Attachment 5. Suitability Considerations by Eligible River Segment

Suitability Considerations	Consideration Applied to Eligible River
Land ownership status and current use of the area.	Ownership within the stream corridor is 100% BLM land. There is an old jeep trail that runs along the lower portion the valley near the stream.
Uses, including reasonably foreseeable uses, that would be enhanced or curtailed if designated; and values that would be diminished if not designated.	Mineral leasing is Category 4, closed to leasing and mineral entry. There is livestock trailing and emergency grazing allowed during drought or severe winters.
Interest of federal, public, state, tribal, local, or other public entity in designation of non-designation, including administration sharing.	There is no county support for designation. There is support from the environmental community for determinations of suitability. San Juan County will not share in either the administration or the cost of WSR designation of Indian Creek.
Manageability of the river if designated, and other means of protecting values.	BLM uses management prescriptions and applicable laws / policies to protect the river and its ORVs. If designated, other means of management for protecting values will be extrapolated from the impact analysis for the Monticello RMP/EIS. Fable Valley lies within Dark Canyon WSA, partially within Dark Canyon ACEC, and within the Canyon Basins SRMA. Fable Valley is managed according to the Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review (IMP), which provides for primitive recreation.
The estimated costs of administering the river, including costs for acquiring lands.	There is no private land to acquire. Administration costs would include staff / time to develop and complete study and management reports.
The extent to which administration costs will be shared by local and state governments.	San Juan County stated that considering the budget status of the State and County, it seems highly unlikely that either would put much priority in managing and/or protecting the non-federal lands in the area.
Dark Canyon	
Characteristics which would or would not make it suitable	Dark Canyon possesses scenic, recreation and wildlife values. Dark Canyon is an internationally recognized area known for rugged terrain, primitive recreation, and habitat supporting a broad array of wildlife.
Land ownership status and current use of the area.	Ownership within the stream corridor is 100% BLM land.
Uses, including reasonably foreseeable uses, that would be enhanced or curtailed if designated; and values that would be diminished if not designated.	Mineral leasing is Category 4, closed to leasing and mineral entry.
Interest of federal, public, state, tribal, local, or other public entity in designation of non-designation, including administration sharing.	Interest/Support is high from national river groups, other agencies, some local residents, and environmental organizations. San Juan County has expressed support for Dark Canyon as a potential WSR.
Manageability of the river if designated, and other means of protecting values.	BLM uses management prescriptions and applicable laws / policies to protect the river and its ORVs. If designated, other means of management for protecting values will be extrapolated from the impact analysis for the Monticello RMP/EIS. Dark Canyon lies within Dark Canyon WSA, partially within Dark Canyon ACEC, and within the Canyon Basins SRMA. Dark Canyon is managed according to the Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review (IMP), which provides for primitive recreation.

Attachment 5. Suitability Considerations by Eligible River Segment

Suitability Considerations	Consideration Applied to Eligible River
The estimated costs of administering the river, including costs for acquiring lands.	There is no private land to acquire. Administration costs would include staff / time to develop and complete study and management reports.
The extent to which administration costs will be shared by local and state governments.	San Juan County stated that considering the budget status of the State and County, it seems highly unlikely that either would put any priority in managing and/or protecting the non-federal lands in the area.
San Juan River – 5 segments	
Characteristics which would or would not make it suitable	<p>The San Juan River possesses scenic, fish, recreation, geology, wildlife, cultural / historic, and ecological values, dependent on the segment.</p> <p>The San Juan River is known for its recreational boating draw, both pre-historical and historical sites, abundant river wildlife and endemic fish populations, and unique geologic formations. The corridor provides an ecological / riparian niche in a desert environment.</p>
Land ownership status and current use of the area.	<p>The north side of the San Juan River is predominantly on BLM federally owned land with BLM ownership on this side of the river corridor approximately 88%, and private ownership slightly less than 12%, with .02% on the north side in Navajo Nation ownership.</p> <p>The entire south side of the San Juan River, from the Colorado state line to the outflow from Lake Powell at the Arizona state line, is owned and under the jurisdiction of the Navajo Nation.</p> <p>There are roads in portions of the San Juan River area, access to the river for irrigation of agricultural fields at various points, the towns of Bluff and Mexican Hat and State Highway 163 are north of the river. State Highway 191 bridge crosses the San Juan below the BLM Sand Island Campground and Boat Launch area; State highway 163 crosses the river at Mexican Hat, and there are dirt roads accessing the river area at approximately river mile 6 near River House Ruin, a well known archeological site for river parties' visitation.</p> <p>The State highway #163 parallels the river but not within sight of the river, and there are dirt roads in the lower segments around the town of Mexican Hat. This is a well used recreational segment of the San Juan River with high levels of both private and commercial boating use on the river. There is development outside the river corridor, including grazing, gravel facilities, and oil and gas development, and a recreational horse facility within the river corridor and a dirt road leading to it along the river's edge, as well as the Town of Mexican Hat.</p>
Uses, including reasonably foreseeable uses, that would be enhanced or curtailed if designated; and values that would be diminished if not designated.	<p>The primary issue with possible designation is the ownership by the Navajo Nation of the south side of the river. The Navajo Nation has expressed concern about and interest in their nation's future water development projects.</p> <p>There are Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) withdrawals along the north side (BLM) of the San Juan River. These withdrawals were made under Power Site Withdrawal 122, and subject to Section 24 of the Federal Power Act. Withdrawals were upon lands that could be required for power development purposes. Lands of interest were reserved to the US government for public purposes and were to be withdrawn and withheld from private appropriation. They were to be dedicated for some public purpose. In this case, for development of water power sites. The lands withdrawn could be covered by water if dams were constructed on the San Juan River. In 1957, the</p>

Attachment 5. Suitability Considerations by Eligible River Segment

Suitability Considerations	Consideration Applied to Eligible River
	<p>withdrawals were partially revoked to allow for mineral entry. Mineral leasing categories vary depending on location along the river. Mineral values such as sand, gravel, oil and gas are extremely important to San Juan County and the local economy. There are presently oil wells along portions of the San Juan River. San Juan County feels that further development is highly probable, and that oil and gas development as well as other mineral extraction activities is incompatible with WSR designation.</p>
<p>Interest of federal, public, state, tribal, local, or other public entity in designation of non-designation, including administration sharing.</p>	<p>Interest/Support is high from national River groups, other agencies, some local residents, and environmental organizations. San Juan County does not support WSR designation on the San Juan River.</p>
<p>Manageability of the river if designated, and other means of protecting values.</p>	<p>BLM uses management prescriptions and applicable laws / policies to protect the river and its ORVs. Management prescriptions were included in the 1991 RMP for the San Juan River, which was found eligible in that earlier evaluation process. The San Juan River is managed as a Special Recreation Management Area. Glen Canyon National Recreation Area participates with BLM in the management of the lower section of the San Juan River.</p>
<p>The estimated costs of administering the river, including costs for acquiring lands.</p>	<p>Costs of land acquisition is unknown at this time, or whether there is any need to acquire land. Administration costs would include staff / time to develop and complete study and management reports.</p>
<p>The extent to which administration costs will be shared by local and state governments.</p>	<p>San Juan County will not share in either the administration or the cost of WSR designation of the SJR.</p>
Arch Canyon	
<p>Characteristics which would or would not make it suitable</p>	<p>Arch Canyon possesses fish, recreation, wildlife, cultural and ecological values. Arch Canyon offers a unique combination of riparian areas supporting fish and wildlife in a desert environment with cultural sites and recreational opportunities.</p>
<p>Land ownership status and current use of the area.</p>	<p>Ownership within the stream corridor is 90% BLM with 10% state lands. A route used for off-highway vehicle OHV motorized travel is present the length of the stream / banks of Arch Canyon and crosses the stream 60 times in 8 miles.</p>
<p>Uses, including reasonably foreseeable uses, that would be enhanced or curtailed if designated; and values that would be diminished if not designated.</p>	<p>Mineral leasing is Category 2 with surface uses limited by special conditions. The area has designated critical habitat for Mexican spotted owl, and potential habitat for the Southwestern willow flycatcher, both T & E species. There is a fenced cultural site approximately ½ mile from the eastern boundary that has frequent visitation.</p>
<p>Interest of federal, public, state, tribal, local, or other public entity in designation of non-designation, including administration sharing.</p>	<p>Interest/Support is high from national River groups, other agencies, some local residents, and environmental organizations. San Juan County does not support the possible designation of Arch Canyon.</p>
<p>Manageability of the river if designated, and other means of</p>	<p>BLM uses management prescriptions and applicable laws / policies to protect the river and its ORVs. Arch Canyon is within Cedar Mesa</p>

Attachment 5. Suitability Considerations by Eligible River Segment

Suitability Considerations	Consideration Applied to Eligible River
protecting values.	<p>ACEC and Grand Gulch SRMA.</p> <p>Management for the protection of outstandingly remarkable values could conflict with the OHV route. Although OHV use in this area is considered recreational, the route does not contribute to the outstandingly remarkable recreational value per BLM UTSSO and BLM WO guidance.</p> <p>Arch Canyon was determined eligible on the Manti-LaSal National Forest land with a tentative classification of Scenic. The route that is present and in use on Forest Service land is closed to motorized vehicle use within the national forest at the FS/BLM boundary where it becomes a foot trail.</p>
The estimated costs of administering the river, including costs for acquiring lands.	There is no private land to acquire. Administration costs would include staff / time to develop and complete study and management reports.
The extent to which administration costs will be shared by local and state governments.	San Juan County stated that considering the budget status of the State and County, it seems highly unlikely that either would put much priority in managing and/or protecting the non-federal lands in the area.

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