

APPENDIX 16—SUMMARY OF MANAGEMENT OF NON-WSA LANDS WITH WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS FOR THE RICHFIELD FIELD OFFICE PROPOSED RMP/FINAL EIS

Appendix 16 summarizes the management decisions for non-Wilderness Study Area (WSA) lands with wilderness characteristics to be included in the Richfield Field Office (RFO) Proposed Resource Management Plan/Final Environmental Impact Statement (PRMP/FEIS). It also includes a discussion of the interdisciplinary process that occurred before these decisions were made.

Twenty-nine non-WSA lands with wilderness characteristic units were proposed for wilderness characteristic management and analyzed within Alternative D of the PRMP/FEIS. (For more information about these 29 units, see Chapter 3 of the Draft RMP/EIS.) BLM staff reviewed the units and weighed the considerations of the wilderness characteristic values and the ability to manage and protect these values. Other resources and resource uses were considered, as were existing conflicts between resource uses. Proposed decisions within the RFO Proposed RMP that would provide alternative ways of protecting the wilderness characteristic values were also reviewed. Based on that review, portions of 12 of the 29 non-WSA lands with wilderness characteristics units (78,600 acres) would be managed for wilderness characteristic values and would be carried forward in the RFO PRMP/FEIS (Table A16-1).

Table A16-1. Non-WSA Lands with Wilderness Characteristics

| Non-WSA Lands With Wilderness Characteristics Unit | County | Acres Found to Possess Wilderness Characteristics | Acres Proposed for Special Management of Wilderness Characteristic Values |
|--|-------------------|---|--|
| Dirty Devil/French Spring | Garfield Wayne | 133,100 | 6,100 |
| Dogwater Creek | Garfield | 3,500 | 3,100 |
| Horseshoe Canyon South | Wayne | 20,600 | 12,200 |
| Jones Bench | Sevier | 3,300 | 2,600 |
| Labyrinth Canyon | Wayne | 12,300 | 2,800 |
| Little Rockies | Garfield | 23,200 | 9,500 |
| Mount Ellen-Blue Hills | Garfield Wayne | 49,800 | 3,900 |
| Mount Pennell | Garfield | 65,600 | 4,700 |
| Notom Bench | Wayne | 8,000 | 8,200 |
| Ragged Mountain | Garfield | 25,900 | 7,900 |
| Red Desert | Wayne | 40,700 | 8,900 |
| Wild Horse Mesa | Wayne | 49,700 | 8,700 |
| Total | | 435,700 | 78,600 |

PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRESCRIPTIONS FOR NON-WSA LANDS WITH WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS CARRIED FORWARD IN THE PROPOSED RMP/FINAL EIS

The following management prescriptions would apply to the wilderness characteristics areas carried forward in the PRMP/FEIS. These prescriptions were developed to protect wilderness values, while allowing other resource uses as appropriate. These management prescriptions also would be consistent with other BLM Field Offices in southern Utah and with the Price Field Office (PFO), which shares management of one of the non-WSA units.

- Designate as Visual Resource Management (VRM) Class II
- Limit motorized use to designated routes
- Retain lands in public ownership
- Designate as an Avoidance Area for rights-of-way (ROW)
- Designate leasing category as no surface occupancy (NSO), no exceptions, waivers, or modifications
- Close to mineral material sales
- Designate as unavailable for further consideration for coal leasing
- Continue maintenance and use of existing facilities
- Prohibit private or commercial woodland harvest or seed collection
- Healthy Lands Initiative projects could be considered where they improve the overall goals and objectives for managing the wilderness characteristics of these areas.

Non-WSA Lands With Wilderness Characteristics Units to be Managed for Wilderness Characteristic Values

Dirty Devil/French Spring

There are 6,100 acres within the Dirty Devil/French Spring Non-WSA Lands with Wilderness Characteristics unit, directly adjacent to the Dirty Devil WSA, which would be managed for wilderness characteristic values.

The Dirty Devil/French Spring unit consists of many sub-parcels adjacent to the Dirty Devil and Happy Canyon/French Spring WSAs. The non-WSA parcels chosen for wilderness characteristics management are located on the northern portion of the unit between the WSA and motorized ways used for accessing the area. Management for wilderness characteristics would complement the WSA and overall management of the area. The routes provide not only easily recognizable boundaries for the sub-parcels but also extra protection from intrusions into the WSA.

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the remainder of the unit, which would make these areas more suitable for multiple-use management. Routes and state/private lands within the sub-parcels further segment areas and result in some areas that are not contiguous to the WSA. Some of the sub-parcels include a higher density of range developments and routes (150 miles of inventoried routes occur within this unit). Types of disturbances include allotment and riparian protection fencing, livestock troughs, water tanks, catchments, reservoirs, corrals, trend plots, seismic disturbances, overlooks, trailheads, dispersed camping locations, and other soil disturbances near routes (possibly related to road maintenance). Continued use and maintenance of these existing resources could detract from the wilderness experience expected by visitors, creating conflict between users. Portions of the unit, which include active mineral leases (23 percent) and claims, have been identified as having high potential

for minerals. New uranium drilling projects have been occurring in the southern portion of the area (Poison Springs) since 2007. Twenty-four state sections and one private parcel would be contained within the non-WSA lands with wilderness characteristics unit or become isolated between the WSA and the unit.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide additional protection for the portions of the Dirty Devil/French Spring unit managed for multiple use. There would be 38,700 acres designated as VRM Class II. This designation would retain the characteristic landscape, allowing for only minor changes to the landform and vegetation. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes on 105,600 acres and closed on the remaining 27,500 acres. There were 61,392 acres of this unit identified for avoidance or exclusion of ROWs. Oil and Gas Leasing would be allowed with minor constraints on 47,600 acres, restricted to NSO on 56,500 acres, and there would be no acres closed within the unit. Management actions pertaining to the Canyonlands Herd Management Area (HMA) would continue to present opportunities for viewing wild burros, which is often associated with primitive recreation experiences.

Dogwater Creek

There are 3,100 acres of the Dogwater Creek unit (Southern parcel), adjacent to Capitol Reef National Park (CRNP), which would be managed for wilderness characteristic values. The access route to the Sand Cove Reservoir would be designated as a motorized route within the unit and future maintenance of the reservoir authorized.

The Dogwater Creek unit consists of two separate parcels, which are adjacent to CRNP lands administratively endorsed for wilderness. The southern parcel was chosen for management of wilderness characteristics. The only developments identified in this unit are a reservoir with access via a two-track route. These developments, which were not noticed during the inventory phase, would continue to be unnoticeable within the unit. Management for wilderness characteristics would complement the management that the National Park Service (NPS) proposed.

Manageability issues and resource conflicts with private lands were identified within the remainder of the unit (northern parcel), which would make this area more suitable for multiple-use management. The parcel is bordered on three sides by private property, and access to the parcel is controlled by the private property owner. BLM would have no control over future disturbances on the private property and its effects to the wilderness characteristic values.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide additional protection for the portions of the Dogwater Creek unit managed for multiple use. The area would be designated as VRM Class II. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. Oil and Gas Leasing would be allowed with minor constraints.

Horseshoe Canyon South

There are 12,200 acres of this unit, adjacent to Horseshoe Canyon South WSA, Horseshoe Canyon NPS and/or Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA) units that would be managed for wilderness characteristic values. The three trailhead access routes for the Horseshoe Canyon NPS unit would be designated for motorized use, and the facilities at the main trailhead would continue to be managed through a general agreement between the BLM and NPS.

The Horseshoe Canyon unit consists of sub-parcels around the perimeter of the Horseshoe Canyon WSA. The parcels chosen for management of wilderness characteristics are located in the northern portion of the

unit. These parcels are also adjacent to NPS areas administratively endorsed for wilderness (Horseshoe Canyon Unit of Canyonlands NP and Glen Canyon NRA). Management for wilderness characteristics would complement the overall WSA and NPS management of this northern portion of the unit. The trailhead access routes and county maintained roads provide easily recognizable boundaries for the parcels.

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the remainder of the unit, which would make these areas more suitable for multiple-use management. Potential conflicts present include access to state land, Section 4 structures at Granary Spring, fencing, and a reservoir. Routes and state lands within the sub-parcels further segment areas and result in some areas that are not contiguous to the WSA. Western portions of the unit are adjacent to a County B road, pertinent to access to the Hans Flat Ranger Station and NPS lands. This road has become entrenched from decades of grading. Future road maintenance may include crowning and providing for proper drainage to prevent further entrenching. Wilderness characteristics management directly adjacent to the road may result in conflicts with those maintenance needs. The sub-parcels occurring between the county maintained road and the WSA also provide opportunities for dispersed camping and staging for hiking, “canyoneering,” and horse use trips into the WSA. As interest and use of the area increases, use of these undeveloped sites will become more important for providing for camping and staging areas a safe distance from the main county road.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide additional protection for the portions of the Horseshoe Canyon South unit managed for multiple use. There would be 3,600 acres designated as VRM Class II. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes on 20,500 acres and closed on the remaining 100 acres. There were 3,606 acres of this unit identified for avoidance or exclusion of ROWs. Oil and Gas Leasing would be allowed with minor constraints on 7,100 acres and restricted to NSO on 13,500 acres of the unit. Management actions pertaining to the Canyonlands HMA would continue to provide opportunities for viewing of wild burros, which is often associated with primitive recreation experiences.

Jones Bench

There are 2,600 acres of the Jones Bench unit, adjacent to CRNP, which would be managed for wilderness characteristic values.

The Jones Bench unit shares its southern boundary with CRNP lands administratively endorsed for wilderness. A cherry-stemmed route providing access to CRNP occurs in the western portion of the unit and the Rock Spring pipeline bisects the northeastern portion of the unit. The majority of the unit, which occurs between these disturbances, is adjacent to CRNP and management for wilderness characteristics would complement the management proposed by the NPS.

The remainder of the unit would be managed for multiple use, including continued access to Forest Service lands to the west of the unit.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide additional protection for the portions of the Jones Bench unit managed for multiple use. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. Oil and Gas Leasing with minor constraints would apply to 600 acres and restricted to NSO on 2,500 acres of the unit.

Labyrinth Canyon

There are 2,800 acres of the Labyrinth Canyon unit within the RFO, adjacent to Horseshoe Canyon North WSA and the Horseshoe Canyon NPS unit, which would be managed for wilderness characteristic values.

The Labyrinth Canyon unit consists of sub-parcels around the perimeter of the Horseshoe Canyon North WSA. The parcel chosen for management of wilderness characteristics is located in the southern portion of the unit and is adjacent to the WSA and/or the Horseshoe Canyon Unit of Canyonlands NP, which is administratively endorsed for wilderness. Management for wilderness characteristics would complement the overall WSA and NPS management of this portion of the unit.

The two remaining sub-parcels located within the RFO extend into BLM PFO administered lands. Management considerations were made for consistency with management decisions of the PFO. Establishing easily recognizable boundaries along the Emery/Wayne County line would be unfeasible and lead to confusion and conflict with wilderness characteristics management along the county line. Other considerations weighed for these sub-parcels included the size of the remaining western sub-parcel and high mineral potential within the eastern sub-parcel.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide additional protection for the portions of the Labyrinth Canyon unit managed under multiple use. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. Oil and Gas Leasing would be allowed with minor constraints.

Little Rockies

There are 9,500 acres within the Little Rockies unit, directly adjacent to the Little Rockies WSA, which would be managed for wilderness characteristic values.

The Little Rockies unit consists of four separate parcels adjacent to the Little Rockies WSA. The areas chosen for management of wilderness characteristics are in the northern, second, and southern parcels of the unit. Boundaries have been adjusted to exclude intrusions, except for two routes, one north of Maidenwater Canyon and one originating from the southern boundary, that would be designated for motorized use to allow continued access for grazing management. Management for wilderness characteristics would complement the WSA and overall management of the area.

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the remainder of the unit, which would make these areas more suitable for multiple use management. Routes and state lands within the sub-parcels further segment areas and result in some areas that are not contiguous to the WSA. Types of disturbances are seismic lines, reservoirs, rain gauge, a spring development, rip rap pit, old uranium disturbances and vehicle-based camping. Continued use and maintenance of these existing resources could detract from the wilderness experience expected by visitors, creating conflict among users. The unit has been identified as having high potential for minerals. Uranium mining activities occur directly across Highway 276 from the third parcel (Del Monte Mine, Tony M Mine), and there is potential for conflicts with uranium development in this area. There are four state sections within the non-WSA lands with wilderness characteristics unit.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide additional protection for the portions of the Little Rockies unit managed for multiple use. There would be 16,900 acres designated as VRM Class II. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. Oil and Gas Leasing with minor constraints would apply to 4,100 acres and restricted to NSO on 9,500 acres of the unit.

Mount Ellen-Blue Hills

There are 3,900 acres (three parcels) within the Mount Ellen-Blue Hills unit, directly adjacent to the Mount Ellen-Blue Hills WSA, which would be managed for wilderness characteristic values.

The Mount Ellen-Blue Hills unit consists of many sub-parcels adjacent to the Mount Ellen-Blue Hills WSA. The parcels chosen for management of wilderness characteristics include all northern and southern parcels and an area east of the Birch Creek access. Management for wilderness characteristics would complement the WSA and overall management of the area.

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the remainder of the unit, making these areas more suitable for multiple-use management. Routes and state lands within the sub-parcels further segment areas and result in some areas that are not contiguous to the WSA. Some of the sub-parcels include a higher density of range developments and routes (30 miles of inventoried routes and 9.91 miles of cherry-stemmed routes occur within this area). Types of disturbances include numerous fences, spring developments with pipelines and troughs, corrals, reservoirs, erosion control structures, and mining-related disturbances, and the western parcel is heavily used in support of commercial Special Recreation Permit (SRP) activities. Continued use and maintenance of these existing resources could detract from the wilderness experience expected by visitors, creating conflict among users. Portions of the unit include active mineral claims and have been identified as having high potential for minerals. There are seven state sections that would be contained within the non-WSA lands with wilderness characteristics unit or become isolated between the WSA and the unit.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide additional protection for the portions of the Mount Ellen-Blue Hills unit managed for multiple use. There would be 16,800 acres designated as VRM Class II. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes on 49,400 acres and closed on the remaining 400 acres. There were 2,261 acres of this unit identified for avoidance or exclusion of ROWs. Oil and Gas Leasing would be allowed with minor constraints on 18,000 acres and restricted to NSO on 4,100 acres of the unit.

Mount Pennell

There are 4,700 acres within the Mount Pennell unit, directly adjacent to the Mount Pennell WSA, which would be managed for wilderness characteristic values.

The Mount Pennell unit consists of several sub-parcels adjacent to the Mount Pennell WSA. The areas chosen for management of wilderness characteristics consist of six parcels adjacent to the WSA south of Tarantula Mesa. Management for wilderness characteristics would complement the WSA and overall management of the area.

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the remainder of the unit, which would make these areas more suitable for multiple-use management. Routes and state/private lands within the sub-parcels further segment areas and result in some areas that are not contiguous to the WSA. Some sub-parcels include a higher density of range developments and routes (31 miles of routes and additional miles of cherry-stemmed routes occur within this area). Types of disturbances are fencing, a proposed cattleguard, pipeline, reservoirs, erosion check dams, and habitat projects, which have been identified for retreatment and expansion, and the northwestern portion of the unit is heavily used in support of commercial SRP activities. Continued use and maintenance of these existing resources could detract from the wilderness experience expected by visitors, creating conflict between users. The unit has been identified as having high potential for minerals and recent uranium drilling projects have been occurring just to the east and south of the southern parcel. There are 10 state sections and two private parcels that would be contained within the non-WSA lands with wilderness characteristics unit or become isolated between the WSA and the unit.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide additional protection for the portions of the Mount Pennell unit managed for multiple use. There would be 13,000

acres designated as VRM Class II. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. There were 2,309 acres of this unit identified for avoidance or exclusion of ROWs. Oil and Gas Leasing would be allowed with minor constraints on 44,200 acres and restricted to NSO on 4,600 acres of the unit.

Notom Bench

There are 8,200 acres within the Notom Bench non-WSA lands with wilderness characteristics unit, adjacent to the CRNP, which would be managed for wilderness characteristic values.

The Notom Bench unit consists of four separate parcels, which are adjacent to CRNP lands administratively endorsed for wilderness. All but the southern parcel would be managed for wilderness characteristics values. Routes would be designated to retain access to the Cottonwood Wash state section and the Oak Creek trailhead. As per coordination with Wayne County and CRNP, the user created route in Burro Wash would remain closed. Portions of the eastern boundary of these parcels follow the Notom Road and/or the powerline ROW. A 1,000-foot buffer would be afforded for the utility corridor along the Notom Road and powerline ROW.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide additional protection for the southern parcel of the Notom Bench unit. The parcel would be designated as VRM Class II. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes for administrative uses. Access to the parcel is restricted by the private land owner. Oil and Gas Leasing would be allowed with minor constraints on the unit.

Ragged Mountain

There are 7,900 acres within the Ragged Mountain unit, which would be managed for wilderness characteristic values.

The Ragged Mountain unit is a stand-alone unit located within the Henry Mountains range. New boundaries were identified that would provide for management of the wilderness characteristic values within the northwestern portion of the unit.

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the south and eastern portions of the unit that would make these areas more suitable for multiple-use management. Routes and a state section further segment the eastern portion of the unit. Types of disturbances are a BLM communication tower, spring development, protection fences, new catchments, and “chainings” related to the 2003 Bulldog Fire rehabilitation project. The western portion of the unit is heavily encroached by pinyon/juniper and is being considered for a fuels reduction project. Continued use and maintenance of these existing resources could detract from the wilderness experience expected by visitors, creating conflict among users. Portions of the unit include active mineral claims, and the unit has been identified as having high potential for minerals. The southeastern and eastern portions of the unit have an extensive network of historic mining roads related to uranium activities and gold exploration along Crescent Creek. New uranium drilling has been occurring and additional activity is proposed for these areas. One state section is located in the eastern portion of the unit.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide additional protection for the portions of the Ragged Mountain unit managed for multiple use. There would be 15,700 acres designated as VRM Class II. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. There were 15,735 acres of this unit identified for avoidance or exclusion of ROWs. Oil and Gas Leasing would be allowed with minor constraints on 16,500 acres and restricted to NSO on 7,900 acres of the unit.

Red Desert

There are 8,900 acres within the Red Desert unit, adjacent to the CRNP, which would be managed for wilderness characteristic values.

The Red Desert unit consists of sub-parcels located between the Hartnet or Cathedral Valley roads and the CRNP boundary. The adjacent CRNP lands are administratively endorsed for wilderness. All of the sub-parcels adjacent to CRNP that are north of Highway 24 would be managed for wilderness characteristic values. Routes would be designated to retain access to CRNP lands at Temple of the Sun, Temple of the Moon, and Jailhouse Rock. Portions of the southern boundary of the sub-parcel adjacent to the Fremont River have been adjusted to exclude the power line for the communities of Hanksville and Caineville. A 1,000-foot buffer would be afforded for the utility corridor along this power line ROW.

The remainder of the Red Desert unit consists of one sub-parcel south of Highway 24 and the BLM lands bordered by the Hartnet Road, Highway 24, and the Cathedral Valley road. Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within these portions of the unit, which would make these areas more suitable for multiple-use management. Routes and state lands further segment these portions of the unit. Types of disturbances include reservoirs, vehicle camping spurs along the Cathedral Valley and Hartnet Roads, Fremont River gauging station, a proposed bentonite sale area, rain gauge, study enclosure, corrals, fencing, mining-related disturbances, well sites, culinary well and pipeline for the community of Caineville, a material stockpile area, new ROW to private property, and a pioneer cemetery. Many routes and camp areas are heavily used in support of commercial SRP activities. Continued use and maintenance of these existing resources could detract from the wilderness experience expected by visitors, creating conflict between users. Four state sections are located within the unit.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide additional protection for the portions of the Red Desert unit managed for multiple use. There would be 10,100 acres designated as VRM Class II. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. Oil and Gas Leasing would be allowed with minor constraints.

Wild Horse Mesa

There are 8,700 acres of the Wild Horse Mesa unit within the RFO, which would be managed for wilderness characteristic values, consistent with management proposed by the PFO.

The Wild Horse Mesa unit is a stand-alone unit located partially within the RFO and partially within the PFO. New boundaries were identified to allow for a portion of the area to be managed for wilderness characteristic values consistently with the area proposed by the PFO. The identified routes on Big Wild Horse Mesa, which provide access to range improvements, would be designated for continued motorized use.

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the remainder of the RFO portion of the Wild Horse Mesa unit, which would make this area more suitable for multiple-use management. Routes and state lands further segment this portion of the unit. The unit includes 43 miles of inventoried routes, plus additional GPS routes identified during inventories conducted in preparation for the Draft RMP/EIS. Types of disturbances are fences, dispersed camp sites, stock ponds and reservoirs, mining related disturbances, and a guzzler. Continued use and maintenance of these existing resources could detract from the wilderness experience expected by visitors, creating conflict between users. Portions of the unit include active mineral leases and claims, and the unit has been identified as having high potential for minerals. There has been recent uranium interest and drilling occurring in the southern portion of the

unit since summer 2007. Six state sections are located within the unit, including one that is leased for the Mars Experiment Station.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide additional protection for the portions of the Wild Horse Mesa unit managed for multiple use. There would be 18,200 acres designated as VRM Class II. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. Three acres of this unit were identified for avoidance or exclusion of ROWs. Oil and Gas Leasing with minor constraints would apply to 2,300 acres and restricted to NSO on 8,800 acres of the unit.

Non-WSA Lands With Wilderness Characteristics Units to be Managed for Multiple Use

BLM staff reviewed the following units and weighed the considerations of the wilderness characteristic values, as well as the ability to manage and protect these values. Other resources and resource uses were considered, as were existing conflicts between resource uses. Proposed decisions within the RFO Proposed RMP that would provide alternative ways of protecting the wilderness characteristic values were also reviewed. Based on these factors, the following non-WSA lands with wilderness characteristic units would be managed for multiple use.

The following proposed decisions would provide similar protection to all the non-WSA lands with wilderness characteristic units. Proposed decisions for riparian protection zones would protect the naturalness of those areas. Decisions for the allocation of cultural sites to scientific, public, conservation, and traditional and experimental uses would increase knowledge of cultural resources and enhance opportunities for primitive forms of recreation. Protection of cultural resources adds to the character of the setting that supports these recreational opportunities. Strategies that would be employed for avoiding or reducing fragmentation of special status species habitat (e.g., collocating communication and other facilities, employing directional drilling for oil and gas, and closing and reclaiming roads) would help consolidate surface disturbing activities and protect additional acres from loss of naturalness. Site-specific decisions that would provide management protection such as VRM Class and off-highway vehicle (OHV) designations, ROW avoidance/exclusion areas, and Oil and Gas Leasing categories are addressed individually for the units.

Bull Mountain

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the Bull Mountain unit, which would make this area more suitable for multiple-use management. Two reservoirs are within the unit and mining disturbances in and adjacent to the unit. Access to one of the reservoirs and portions of the mining disturbances were cherry stemmed out of the unit during inventory. The unit has been identified as having high potential for minerals; based on past activities, future mineral interest is likely. Areas within and adjacent to the Bull Mountain WSA and this non-WSA lands with wilderness characteristics unit contain chaining projects. The portions of the projects outside the WSA were maintained in 2002. The non-WSA lands with wilderness characteristics unit would isolate a state section between the unit and the WSA with no identified access. The Bull Mountain unit would continue to be managed for multiple use, including potential for mineral development and future access to state land.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide management protection for portions of the Bull Mountain unit. There would be 65 acres designated as VRM Class II. This designation would retain the characteristic landscape, allowing for only minor changes to the landform and vegetation. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. There were

72 acres of this unit identified for avoidance or exclusion of ROWs. Oil and Gas Leasing with minor constraints would apply to 2,800 acres of the unit.

Bullfrog Creek

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the Bullfrog Creek unit, which would make this area more suitable for multiple-use management. Routes and state lands segment this stand-alone unit, creating sub-parcels that would reduce manageability for wilderness characteristic values. The area includes 21 miles of inventoried routes and 5.35 miles of cherry-stemmed routes. Types of disturbances are a spring development, reservoirs, drill hole, overlook, a gravel pit, and petrified wood collection area. Continued use and maintenance of these existing resources could detract from the wilderness experience expected by visitors, creating conflict among users. The unit has been identified as having high potential for minerals and is adjacent to the Tony M/Ticaboo uranium mining and milling projects. Uranium prospecting has occurred in the unit as reflected by the existing mining routes and adits, and future mineral interest is likely. Three state sections are located within the unit, two of which would be isolated with no identified access. Because of the proximity to the existing Ticaboo uranium projects and existing previous mining activity within the unit, the Bullfrog Creek unit would continue to be managed for multiple use, including potential for mineral development and future access to state land.

Fiddler Butte

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the Fiddler Butte unit, which would make this area more suitable for multiple-use management. Routes and state lands segment this unit, creating sub-parcels that would reduce manageability for wilderness characteristic values. Types of disturbances are spring developments and reservoirs with existing access and a corral. Numerous locations along the Poison Spring road are being used for dispersed vehicle camping with spur routes for access. Continued use and maintenance of these existing resources could detract from the wilderness experience expected by visitors, creating conflict among users. The unit has been identified as having high potential for minerals. Recent uranium drilling has been occurring adjacent to the Poison Spring road, including maintenance of access routes. Some previous mining activities are still noticeable. One state section is located within the unit, and one state section would be isolated between the Fiddler Butte WSA and the non-WSA lands with wilderness characteristics unit. The Fiddler Butte unit would continue to be managed for multiple use, including potential for mineral development, grazing administration, motorized recreational opportunities, and future access to state land.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide management protection for portions of the Fiddler Butte unit. There would be 11,000 acres of the unit designated as VRM Class II. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. Oil and Gas Leasing with minor constraints would apply to 10,900 acres of the unit.

Flat Tops

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the Flat Tops unit, which would make this area more suitable for multiple-use management. The unit is partially located within the RFO, but extends into BLM PFO administered lands. Management considerations were made for consistency with the management decisions of the PFO to continue to manage this unit for multiple use. Routes and state lands within the RFO portion of the unit, create sub-parcels that would reduce manageability for wilderness characteristic values. Types of disturbances include allotment fences, ponds, seismic routes in various stages of rehabilitation, drill holes, and an equipment loading ramp. Continued use and maintenance of these existing resources could detract from the wilderness experience expected by visitors, creating conflict between users. The unit has been identified as having high potential for minerals

and 92 percent of the unit is currently leased. Three state sections are located within the unit. As a result of mineral potential and leases occurring within the unit, the Flat Top unit would continue to be managed for multiple use, including potential for mineral development and future access to state lands.

Fremont Gorge

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the Fremont Gorge unit, which would make this area more suitable for multiple-use management. Types of disturbances are numerous dispersed vehicle camping areas, reservoirs, study plot, wood cutting activities, sandstone quarry locations, mining disturbances, and chaining projects. The Parker Mountain Management Framework Plan (MFP) identified this area for wood products and in accordance with the MFP, this area has been the only area available for wood product sales on BLM lands within Wayne County, West of CRNP. Continued use and maintenance of these existing resources could detract from the wilderness experience expected by visitors, creating conflict among users. The unit has been identified as having high potential for minerals. Uranium mining has occurred in the past, and portions of the area are covered by copper claims. A Community Wildfire Protection Plan has been completed for Central Wayne County. The plan proposes fuels reduction treatments in Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) areas on private, state, Forest Service, and BLM lands within 1.5 miles of communities at risk. Two of the communities included in this plan are Torrey and Grover, which are located along the Western side of the unit. The Fremont Gorge unit would continue to be managed for multiple use, including potential for mineral development and WUI activities.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide management protection for portions of the Fremont Gorge unit. There would be 2,200 acres designated as VRM Class II. Management of the suitable Fremont Gorge wild and scenic river would provide protection from surface disturbance along the river corridor. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes on 14,500 acres and closed within 1,500 acres of the unit. There were 1,485 acres of this unit identified for avoidance or exclusion of ROWs. Oil and Gas Leasing would be allowed with minor constraints on 14,500 acres and restricted to NSO on 1,500 acres of the unit.

Kingston Ridge

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the Kingston Ridge unit, which would make this area more suitable for multiple-use management. Routes and state lands segment this unit, creating sub-parcels that would reduce manageability for wilderness characteristic values. Types of disturbances include fencing, spring, and pipeline developments. Continued use and maintenance of these existing resources could detract from the wilderness experience expected by visitors, creating conflict between users. Two state sections are located within the unit. The Kingston Ridge unit would continue to be managed for multiple use, including potential for mineral development, grazing administration, and future access to state land.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide management protection for portions of the Kingston Ridge unit. There would be 100 acres designated as VRM Class II. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. Oil and Gas Leasing would be allowed with minor constraints.

Limestone Cliffs

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the Limestone Cliffs unit, which would make this area more suitable for multiple-use management. The unit is partially located within the RFO, but extends into BLM PFO administered lands. Management considerations were made for consistency with the management decisions of the PFO to continue to manage this unit for multiple use. Routes and

state/private lands segment this unit, creating sub-parcels that would reduce manageability for wilderness characteristic values. Inventories identified 17 miles of routes and 3.02 miles of cherry-stemmed routes within the area. Types of disturbances include allotment fencing, reservoirs, pipelines and storage, a Section 4 cabin, study enclosure, livestock trailing, and camping and mining disturbances. Continued use and maintenance of these existing resources could detract from the wilderness experience expected by visitors, creating conflict between users. The unit has been identified as having high potential for minerals. Two private parcels occur within the unit, along with associated fencing, water systems, and development. The Limestone Cliffs unit would continue to be managed for multiple use, including future access and infrastructure for private lands, potential for mineral development, and grazing administration.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide management protection for portions of the Limestone Cliffs unit. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. Oil and Gas Leasing with minor constraints would occur on 24,700 acres of the unit.

Long Canyon

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the Long Canyon unit, which would make this area more suitable for multiple-use management. Routes segment this unit, creating sub-parcels, which would reduce manageability for wilderness characteristic values. Types of disturbances include reservoirs and the Halls Creek trailhead, which includes picnic tables, trailhead information, and dispersed vehicle camping sites. The Halls Creek Trailhead is and would continue to be managed under a memorandum of understanding with CRNP. Continued use and maintenance of these existing resources could detract from the wilderness experience expected by visitors, creating conflict between users. The unit has been identified as having high potential for minerals. Two state sections are isolated within the unit with no identified access. The Long Canyon unit would continue to be managed for multiple use, including potential for mineral development, grazing administration, and motorized access to recreational opportunities.

Mount Hillers

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the Mount Hillers unit, which would make this area more suitable for multiple-use management. The unit has been identified as having high potential for minerals. The northeastern portion of the parcel contains an extensive network of mining routes from previous uranium mining activities. The RFO has received drilling proposals north of this unit and expect to receive similar proposals to the south. The Mount Hillers unit would continue to be managed for multiple use, including potential for mineral development.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide management protection for the Mount Hillers unit. There would be 1,200 acres designated as VRM Class II. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. There were 1,236 acres of this unit identified for avoidance or exclusion of ROWs. Oil and Gas Leasing would be allowed with minor constraints on 500 acres and restricted to NSO on 1,300 acres of the unit.

Muddy Creek/Crack Canyon

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the Muddy Creek/Crack Canyon unit, which would make this area more suitable for multiple-use management. The unit is partially located within the RFO, but the majority of the unit is located within BLM PFO administered lands. Management considerations were made for consistency with the management decisions of the PFO. The PFO would continue to manage the portion of unit adjacent to the RFO for multiple use. Routes and state lands segment this unit (31 miles of inventoried routes) creating sub-parcels that would reduce manageability

for wilderness characteristic values. Types of disturbances include reservoirs, mining-related disturbances, vehicle camping spurs along the Cathedral Valley Road and many routes, and camp areas are heavily used in support of commercial SRP activities. Portions of this unit near Factory Butte are proposed as a managed open area for motorized use with supporting infrastructure. Managing the adjacent areas for wilderness characteristics would create an expectation from non-motorized users that would likely create conflicts between them and motorized users. The unit has been identified as having high potential for minerals, and gypsum and uranium mining activities have occurred in the past. Seven state sections are located within the unit, two of which would be isolated with no identified access. The Muddy Creek/Crack Canyon unit would continue to be managed for multiple use, including motorized recreation opportunities, potential for mineral development, and future access to state land.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide management protection for portions of the Muddy Creek/Crack Canyon unit. There would be 8,100 acres designated as VRM Class II. Motorized use would be limited to designated routes on 50,352 acres and closed within 4,700 acres of the unit. Management prescriptions for the North Caineville Mesa Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) would provide protection for that portion of the unit. There were 3,840 acres of this unit identified for avoidance or exclusion of ROWs. Oil and Gas Leasing would be allowed with minor constraints on 10,400 acres and restricted to NSO on 3,800 acres of the unit.

Mussentuchit Badlands

The Mussentuchit Badlands unit is partially located within the RFO, but the majority of the unit is located within BLM PFO administered lands. Management considerations were made for consistency with the management decisions of the PFO. The PFO would continue to manage the portion of the unit adjacent to the RFO for multiple use. Therefore, the portion of the unit within the RFO would also be managed for multiple use.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide management protection for portions of the Mussentuchit Badlands unit. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. Oil and Gas Leasing with minor constraints would apply to 100 acres of the unit.

Phonolite Hill

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the Phonolite Hill unit, which would make this area more suitable for multiple-use management. Routes and state lands segment this unit, creating sub-parcels that would reduce manageability for wilderness characteristic values. Types of disturbances are a cabin, mining-related disturbances, spring developments and protection fencing, allotment fencing, and a pipeline. Continued use and maintenance of these existing resources could detract from the wilderness experience expected by visitors, creating conflict between users. One state section is located within the unit. The Phonolite Hill unit would continue to be managed for multiple use, including grazing administration and access to state land.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide management protection for portions of the Phonolite Hill unit. There would be 1,000 acres designated as VRM Class II. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. Oil and Gas Leasing would be allowed with minor constraints within the unit.

Pole Canyon/Hunter Spring

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the Pole Canyon/Hunter Spring unit, which would make this area more suitable for multiple-use management. Routes, some of which provide

access to Forest Service lands, segment the unit (13 miles of inventoried routes) creating sub-parcels that would reduce manageability for wilderness characteristic values. Types of disturbances are fencing, a communication tower, springs, and the culinary water pipeline for the Town of Antimony. Continued use and maintenance of these existing resources could detract from the wilderness experience expected by visitors, creating conflict between users. The Pole Canyon/Hunter Spring unit would continue to be managed for multiple use, including access to Forest Service lands and maintenance of the Antimony culinary water pipeline.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide management protection for portions of the Pole Canyon/Hunter Spring unit. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. Oil and Gas Leasing would be allowed with minor constraints.

Rock Canyon

The Rock Canyon unit is partially located within the RFO, but the majority of the unit is located within BLM PFO administered lands. Management considerations were made for consistency with the management decisions of the PFO. The PFO would continue to manage the portion of the unit adjacent to the RFO for multiple use. Therefore, the portion of the unit within the RFO would also be managed for multiple use.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide management protection for portions of the Rock Canyon unit. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. Oil and Gas Leasing with minor constraints would apply to 500 acres of the unit.

Rocky Ford

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the Rocky Ford unit, which would make this area more suitable for multiple-use management. Routes, including access to private lands, segment this unit creating sub-parcels that would reduce manageability for wilderness characteristics values. Types of disturbances include spring developments, pipelines to troughs, reservoirs, and mining related disturbance. Continued use and maintenance of these existing resources could detract from the wilderness experience expected by visitors, creating conflict between users. The Rocky Ford unit would continue to be managed for multiple use, including grazing administration and continued access to private land.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide management protection for portions of the Rocky Ford unit. There would be 400 acres designated as VRM Class II. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. Oil and Gas Leasing would be allowed with minor constraints.

Sweetwater Reef

The Sweetwater Reef unit is partially located within the RFO, but the majority of the unit is located within BLM PFO administered lands. Management considerations were made for consistency with the PFO's management decisions. The PFO would continue to manage the portion of the unit adjacent to the RFO for multiple use. Therefore, the portion of the unit within the RFO also would be managed for multiple use. Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the Sweetwater unit, which would make this area more suitable for multiple-use management. Types of disturbances are routes, range developments, and allotment fencing. The unit has been identified as having high potential for minerals and current leases are held within the unit. One state section is located within the RFO portion of the unit with no identified access.

Wildcat Knolls

Manageability issues and resource conflicts were identified within the Wildcat Knolls unit, which would make this area more suitable for multiple-use management. The Wildcat Knolls unit is partially located within the PFO, with the majority of this unit within the RFO. Coordination with the PFO indicated that they have a pending ROW application that would affect the lands within the PFO portion of the unit. The unit has been identified as having high potential for minerals and because of its proximity to existing mining operations, future interest for minerals development is likely. One state section is located within the unit with no identified access. The Wildcat Knolls unit would continue to be managed for multiple use, including potential for mineral development and future access to state land.

Decisions proposed in the Proposed RMP for other resources or values would provide management protection for portions of the Wildcat Knolls unit. Motorized use within the unit would be limited to designated routes. Oil and Gas Leasing with minor constraints would apply to 5,900 acres of the unit.

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