

# NATIONAL CONSERVATION LANDS

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT - UTAH  
5-YEAR STRATEGY 2014 - 2019

Utah



*Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument*



On March 30, 2009, President Barack Obama signed the Omnibus Public Land Management Act, which states:

***“In order to conserve, protect, and restore nationally significant landscapes that have outstanding cultural, ecological, and scientific values for the benefit of current and future generations, there is established in the Bureau of Land Management the National Landscape Conservation System.” [Sec. 2002 (a)] “The Secretary shall manage the system in accordance with any applicable law (including regulations) relating to any component of the system...and in a manner that protects the values for which the components of the system were designated.” [Sec. 2002 (c)]***



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## **Mission and Vision for National Landscape Conservation System**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) mission for the National Landscape Conservation System is to conserve, protect, and restore nationally significant landscapes and places that have outstanding cultural, ecological, and scientific values for the benefit of current and future generations.

The BLM vision for National Conservation Lands is to be a world leader in conservation by protecting landscapes, applying evolving knowledge, and bringing people together to share stewardship of the land.

## **National Landscape Conservation System Components**

In 2000, under the Clinton Administration, a new national land conservation system was created by order of the Secretary of the Interior, and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) was given the honor of managing this new system of public lands. Codified into federal law in the 2009 Omnibus Public Land Management Act enacted by President Barack Obama, it is officially called the National Landscape Conservation System and includes a wide range of special areas, called National Conservation Lands, on the BLM administered public lands throughout the country, mostly in the West.

As defined by the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, National Conservation Lands include the following areas administered by the BLM:

- National Monuments
- National Conservation Areas
- Wilderness
- Wilderness Study Areas
- Wild and Scenic Rivers
- National Scenic or Historic Trails
- Any area designated by Congress to be administered for conservation purposes.

## The National Strategy for Conservation, Protection, and Restoration and the Utah Strategy

In order to ensure the conservation, protection, and restoration of these National Conservation Lands, the BLM developed a 15-year national strategy in 2012 called “The Geography of Hope” ([www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/info/newsroom/2011/september/NR\\_09\\_30\\_2011.html](http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/info/newsroom/2011/september/NR_09_30_2011.html)). Each state was then asked to tailor the national strategy to fit its unique set of National Conservation Lands and to show how these lands would meet the conservation, protection, and restoration mission of the National Landscape Conservation System over the next several years.

BLM Utah prepared this five-year strategy for Utah’s National Conservation Lands in dialogue with the Utah Resource Advisory Council as a “living” document to be updated as successes are achieved, priorities updated, and opportunities arise. The strategy does not amend BLM land use plans or replace local planning or decision-making processes. Instead, it lays out how BLM Utah plans to achieve its legally mandated mission to conserve, protect, and restore these nationally significant lands in BLM’s care.

The Utah Strategy follows the four broad themes and the associated goals which were set out in the National Strategy. The general actions which BLM Utah intends to take on Utah’s public lands are described by theme and goal. Local, on-the-ground projects which are specific to particular National Conservation Lands units in Utah are detailed in Appendix A. As always, implementation is contingent on available budget and staffing, as well as consistency with law, policy, and approved decisions.

BLM Utah invites all who are interested in these special areas, including stakeholders, partners, friends groups, volunteers, the state, counties, and communities to join us in identifying and achieving common goals for the benefit of current and future generations.

## BLM Utah's National Conservation Lands

Utah has a unique mix of National Conservation Land units including one national monument, two national conservation areas, 18 designated wilderness areas, 86 wilderness study areas, 19 miles of designated wild and scenic rivers and three national historic trails (see map on page 8). Utah's National Conservation Lands include unique landscapes which range from red rock deserts to folded and swirling geologic cliffs, to deep river canyons. Native Americans inhabited much of the state and left behind ruins, images on canyon walls and other artifacts. Dinosaur bones, often a child's first introduction to science, continue to be discovered around the state. Every Utah field office includes National Conservation Lands. Management of National Conservation Lands is a critical component of Utah BLM public lands now and into the future.

### National Monuments

**Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument**, in south central Utah, is BLM's first national monument, and, at 1.9 million acres, the largest national monument in the contiguous United States. The monument's vast and austere landscape—one of the West's last frontiers—embraces a spectacular array of scientific and historic resources and presents exemplary opportunities for geological, paleontological, archaeological, historical and biological research. The Monument has four visitor centers and two contact stations and is crossed by the Old Spanish National Historic Trail.

### National Conservation Areas

BLM Utah manages two National Conservation Areas totaling more than 108,500 acres.

**The Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Area** (63,500 acres), in southwest Utah, is within an ecological transition zone between the Mojave Desert and the Great Basin. These lands contain significant geological, paleontological, archeological, and historic period resources, including the Main and Armijo Branches of the Old Spanish National Historic Trail. The remote and undeveloped character of this National Conservation Area provides for diverse and high quality recreational and scenic opportunities.

**Red Cliffs National Conservation Area** (45,000 acres), in southwest Utah, is within the transition zone between the Mojave Desert and the Colorado Plateau ecoregions. The National Conservation Area borders the city of St. George and is an important component of the Red Cliffs Desert Reserve, a multi-jurisdictional land base that has been collaboratively managed by BLM, the State of Utah, Washington County, and local municipalities since 1996 to protect populations and habitat of the threatened Mojave Desert tortoise and other at-risk native plant and animal species. There are also more than 130 miles of non-motorized recreation trails available to the public.



## Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas

BLM Utah currently administers 18 **wilderness areas** totaling 260,400 acres. Wilderness areas are special places essentially undisturbed by human activities. These areas will be managed in perpetuity in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964 and the BLM's wilderness management regulations.

BLM Utah manages 86 **wilderness study areas** totaling 3,232,000 acres. Wilderness study areas often have special qualities such as ecological, cultural, geological, historical, scientific and scenic values. These areas are administered to maintain their wilderness characteristics until such time as Congress decides to designate them as Wilderness or release them for multiple-use purposes.

## National Historic Trails

BLM Utah manages three National Historic Trails (the **Pony Express**, the **Old Spanish** and the **California**), and co-administers the Old Spanish National Historic Trail in coordination with the National Park Service. The Pony Express Trail, located in the northern part of Utah, stretches across nearly 146 miles of the state. Several Pony Express stations are part of the history of this trail and can be visited by the public. The Old Spanish Trail stretches across over 326 miles of the state. The California Trail, also located in the northern portion of Utah, stretches across nearly 111 miles across the state.

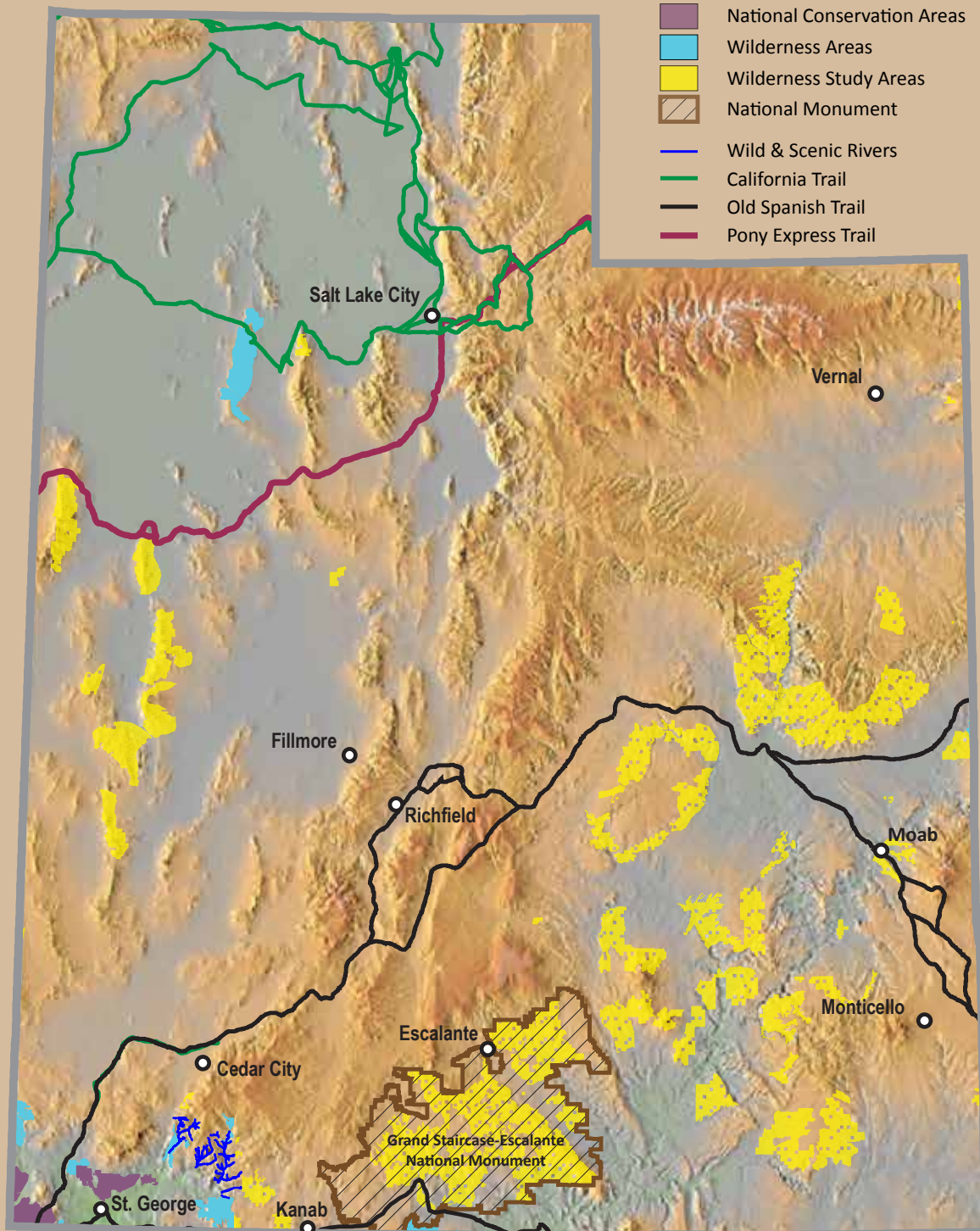
## Wild and Scenic Rivers

BLM Utah administers **eleven wild and scenic river segments** in southwestern Utah, **all tributaries to the Virgin River**. The segments total approximately 20 miles of river; each flows either into or out of Zion National Park. All but two of the BLM-managed segments flow through designated wilderness areas. Primitive recreational activities, such as hiking, backpacking, camping, and fishing, are available on these segments.

## Utah National Conservation Lands Strategy 2014-2019

The Utah Strategy reflects the ideas and suggestions offered by the public and BLM employees and incorporates the requirements of Secretarial Order 3308 (Appendix B), the America's Great Outdoors Report, the Department of the Interior Strategic Plan for 2011-2016, and other sources. This strategy will assist the National Conservation Lands program in budget development for the coming years and will help BLM determine what work is most important within individual units.

# National Landscape Conservation System Areas in Utah



The Utah strategy builds on the four main themes and priority goals of the national strategy and links them to actions developed specifically for Utah National Conservation Lands. Actions to be carried out on Utah lands are detailed in the following sections. Actions specific to particular units of the National Conservation Lands System in Utah are detailed in Appendix A. Actions are listed in priority order, although more than one action may be equally as important as the next listed action. As these projects are developed more fully in the coming years, BLM Utah and the separate units will engage with the public to ensure that the projects continue to meet the goals of the Utah Strategy.

The four main themes of the Utah and the National strategies are:

***Theme 1: Ensure the Conservation, Protection, and Restoration of National Conservation Lands Values:***

*Enact conservation measures within the National Conservation Lands, use science to further conservation, and provide for compatible use that protects National Conservation Land resources and values.*

***Theme 2: Collaboratively Manage the National Conservation Lands as Part of the Larger Landscape:***

*Practice better conservation through collaborative management.*

***Theme 3: Raise Awareness of the Value and Benefits of BLM's National Conservation Lands:***

*Raise public awareness and understanding of the National Conservation Lands, cultivate relationships, promote community stewardship of these lands, and provide for use and enjoyment by present and future generations.*

***Theme 4: Build upon BLM's Commitment to Conservation:***

*Promote a model of conservation excellence and fully integrate the National Conservation Lands within the BLM.*

## Escalante River Watershed Partnership

### Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument

The Escalante River is one of the last free-flowing small rivers in the American Southwest. Arising on the slopes of the Aquarius Plateau and Boulder Mountain (USFS) as a series of small streams that merge together, the river then flows about 90 miles through Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and Glen Canyon National Recreation Area discharging into the waters of Lake Powell. The Escalante River Watershed comprises of 1.6 million acres of that, 15,000 acres are riparian and canyon vegetation.

The Escalante River Watershed Partnership (ERWP) was formed in 2009 to further the collaborative efforts of woody invasive removal along the Escalante River that began in 2000. Since the inception of ERWP the partnership has expanded its projects to further improve habitat in upland and riparian communities within montane and lowland ecosystems. Currently, there are over 30 participating partners including the U. S. Forest Service, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, Glen Canyon National Park, the State of Utah, Conservation Corps, non-profit organizations, local landowners and business

## *Theme 1: Ensure the Conservation, Protection, and Restoration of National Conservation Lands Values*

*National Conservation Lands are designated by Congress or the President to conserve, protect, and restore their unique values for the benefit of current and future generations. As such, there is an overarching and explicit commitment to conservation and resource protection as the primary objective within these areas. In this theme, we focus on ensuring that BLM management on these lands is guided by the purposes for which the lands were designated and on using science to further conservation, protection, and restoration of these landscapes, while providing opportunities for compatible public use and enjoyment.*

**Goal 1A: Clearly communicate that the conservation, protection, and restoration of National Conservation Lands' objects and values are the highest priority in the planning and management of the National Conservation Lands consistent with the designating legislation or presidential proclamation.**

The Utah State Office will:

- Conduct trainings and webinars to assist district and field offices with implementing the new National Conservation Lands manuals.
- Highlight conservation, protection, and restoration actions within National Conservation Lands. Promote and publicize accomplishments to the public.

Field and unit offices will:

- Ensure that new, revised, and amended Resource Management Plans protect the values of National Conservation Lands.
- Engage statewide stakeholders for input on managing National Conservation Lands in Utah, including implementation of this strategy.
- Establish conservation and restoration priorities for wilderness, wilderness study areas, and historic trails (e.g., reclaim illegal trespass activities in wilderness or wilderness study areas).

**Goal 1B: Expand understanding of the National Conservation Lands values through assessment, inventory, and monitoring.**

The state office will:

- Collaborate with other federal, state, and local agencies as well

as the public to assess, inventory, and monitor resources at a landscape level across jurisdictional boundaries.

- Develop a wilderness study area monitoring strategy with the assistance of volunteers.

Field and unit offices will:

- Design data collection protocols, in concert with partners, to monitor resources, assure protocols are consistent, repeatable, and reliable. Ensure that this information applies to landscapes across jurisdictional boundaries.
- Develop “citizen science” partnerships with interested and affiliated groups to share assessment, inventory, and monitoring tasks. These partnerships will be overseen by BLM or other qualified specialists.
- Develop and share an annual report on inventory, assessment, and monitoring information for all National Conservation Lands units.

#### **Goal 1C: Provide a scientific foundation for decision-making.**

The state office will:

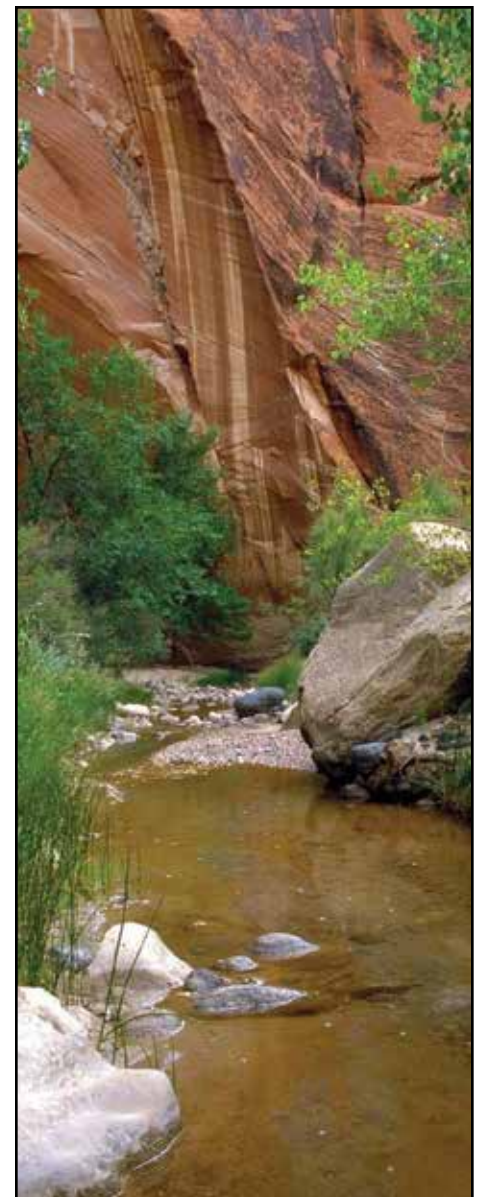
- Build a network of federal and state agencies, including neighboring land managing agencies, to assist in basic research programs.
- Collaborate with National Conservation Lands from the same ecoregion in adjacent states to enhance the understanding of ecological processes of National Conservation Lands.
- Identify Utah National Conservation Lands’ research priorities and promote them to outside partners through participation in professional conferences, hosting unit conferences, and participating in research partnerships.

Field and unit offices will:

- Identify National Conservation Lands applied research programs that will provide scientific data that can be applied to non-National Conservation Lands.
- Make research results readily available to BLM staff, partners and the public.
- Cultivate partnerships to develop web-based (or newer technology) training to National Conservation Lands staff regarding applicable new scientific research.
- Employ monitoring results to adjust use levels to sustainable levels through adaptive management wherever and whenever possible.

owners, the towns of Escalante and Boulder, and Garfield County.

New treatment occurs on 200 acres on public lands and 150 acres on private lands annually. Conservation Corps crews are utilized for the majority of work along with private contractors primarily working with private landowners.



*Grand Staircase-Escalante  
National Monument*

## Moab Friends 4Wheelin'

For the past eight years, a local four wheel drive (4WD) club, Moab Friends 4Wheelin', has contributed hundreds of volunteer hours to a large number of Moab-area projects primarily to control off highway vehicle incursions on Wilderness Study Areas (WSA) which are bordered by popular motorized routes.

They have raked out tracks, erected signs and barricades, and engaged in public education campaigns.

Access to many of the projects requires both extreme vehicle capability and driving skills, as well as the skills necessary to build fences and barricades which will last. Due largely to their efforts, past "problem spots" along the boundaries of WSA's close to Moab have all but disappeared.

In February, 2013, the group's efforts were recognized by Utah BLM with their earning of the State Director's Public Land Partner Award.

**Goal 1D: Use the National Conservation Lands as an outdoor laboratory and demonstration center for new and innovative management that aids in the conservation, protection, and restoration of National Conservation Land areas.**

The state and unit offices will:

- Identify Utah specific innovative management and business practices that aid in the conservation, protection, and restoration of National Conservation Lands.
- Disseminate information learned from these practices to other National Conservation Lands units.
- Share research findings in the BLM Daily Report and other internal and external media outlets.
- Direct demonstration projects, pilot projects, and other experimental approaches to public land management to National Conservation Lands where practicable.
- Utilize National Conservation Lands to establish scientific controls for companion research/management actions on adjacent public lands.

**Goal 1E: Allow discretionary uses to those compatible with the conservation, protection, and restoration of the values for which National Conservation Lands were designated.**

The field and unit offices will:

- Provide for discretionary uses that are compatible with conservation, protection, and restoration of the values for which the National Conservation Lands were designated.
- Ensure that projects which may affect National Conservation Lands are coordinated with state and national office National Conservation Lands staff.

**Goal 1F: Manage facilities in a manner that conserves, protects, and restores National Conservation Lands values.**

The field and unit offices will:

- Design and build facilities that enhance or harmonize natural and cultural resources of each National Conservation Land unit using the *BLM's Guidelines for a Quality Built Environment*. Use "green" products for all building facilities for maintenance, construction, etc. to reflect conservation and sustainability values; build facilities that qualify for LEED certification.
- Remove abandoned, dilapidated, or unneeded facilities and structures that do not possess cultural or historic significance

- and restore areas where these facilities occupied.
- Assure that National Conservation Land values are conserved, protected, and restored during the completion of all transportation plans.



*Moab Friends 4Wheelin', Behind the Rocks Wilderness Study Area*

## Archaeological Conservation and Research

The Colorado Archaeological Alliance, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting archaeological conservation and research, is partnering with the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument Archaeologist and a research team from Northern Arizona University (NAU) to pin down when the Ancestral Pueblo populations of southern Utah first began to grow corn on the Colorado Plateau.

Their multi-year research project has resulted in a survey of more than 1,200 acres on the Monument. So far, they have recorded some of the earliest upland Anasazi sites yet found on the Monument, along with historic signatures from the early Mormon pioneers, prehistoric rock art, ancient pueblos, and cliff-side storage features.

The NAU team has collected two wetland cores which they hope will give them a record of vegetation change on the Monument. They expect that the plant pollen they extract from the mud sediments will tell us when the first corn fields were established in Meadow Canyon and on 50 Mile Mountain.

## ***Theme 2: Collaboratively Manage the National Conservation Lands as Part of the Larger Landscape***

*This theme recognizes that Utah's National Conservation Lands are part of larger ecoregions which include privately owned lands, State lands, lands managed by other federal agencies, and tribal lands. By establishing connections across boundaries with other jurisdictions, management of these National Conservation Lands will complement conservation areas within the respective jurisdictions of the National Park Service, the Fish and Wildlife Service Refuge System, the US Forest Service, state and local governments, private conservation lands, and other BLM land managed for resource protection through land-use planning designations. Taking a collaborative landscape approach to management provides better opportunities to promote healthy landscapes and contribute to the local economy and social fabric of the community.*

*The goals and actions here focus on building and strengthening partner networks for managing ecosystems that cross jurisdictional boundaries; promoting community involvement in planning for emerging public land interests and for long-term, sustainable management; and recognizing the many historic connections between Utah's long-lived communities, including Native Americans and pioneer settlements, and the landscapes which make up Utah's National Conservation Lands.*

### **Goal 2A: Emphasize an ecosystem-based approach to manage the National Conservation Lands in the context of the surrounding landscape.**

The state and unit offices will:

- Work cooperatively across the ecosystems (including surrounding states) to manage federal lands.
- Build a partnership between agencies and groups (including surrounding states) that are working on landscape-level, ecosystem-based approaches to management on the Colorado Plateau, the Great Basin, and the Mojave and Sonoran Desert ecoregions.
- Strengthen coordination with Fish and Wildlife Landscape Conservation Cooperatives, Rapid Ecoregional Assessment Teams, and other groups working at a landscape level.



- Create an internal, Utah BLM working group to focus on landscape level and ecosystem-oriented management approaches.
- Integrate ecosystem-based approaches into National Conservation Lands Science Strategies.

**Goal 2B: Adopt a cross-jurisdictional, community-based approach to landscape-level conservation planning and management.**

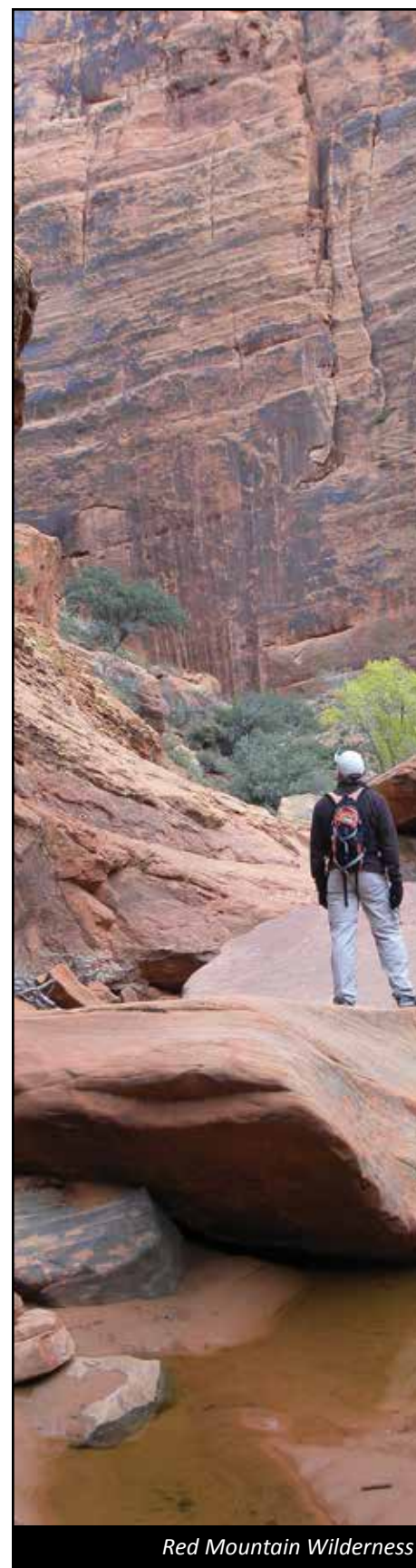
The field and unit offices will:

- Develop and maintain cooperative agreements with gateway communities, state and local governments, stewardship groups, educational institutions, and friends groups to accomplish priority on-the-ground work, and address key issues such as biodiversity, connectivity, and climate change.
- Work with neighboring and gateway communities, traditionally-affiliated communities, state and local governments, and communities with historic roots in or adjacent to National Conservation Lands to promote conservation efforts on National Conservation Lands.
- Use existing collaborative forums to engage the public and other agencies in landscape level conservation efforts.
- Explore and implement management practices that recognize and value the historic and traditional land uses that have shaped Utah’s landscapes.

**Goal 2C: Work with Congress, tribes, other federal and state agencies, and national and local communities to identify and protect lands that are critical to the long-term ecological sustainability of the landscape.**

The state, field and unit offices will:

- Work with state and county partners and private citizens to identify tools beyond acquisition that might serve conservation purposes.
- Work within both cultural landscapes and natural ecosystems to manage for sustainability.
- Develop partnership-driven plans to restore landscapes and create or enhance wildlife corridors, using National Conservation Lands as core areas.
- Identify landscape elements and wildlife corridors which are critical to long-term ecological health.



*Red Mountain Wilderness*

## Citizen Science

### Southern Utah's Christmas Bird Count

On the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and the surrounding public lands managed by the Kanab Field Office, the Audubon Christmas Bird Count is an annual event that turns ordinary citizens into scientists. Before the birders take out their binoculars, Monument and Field Office staffs go into the local schools to train up students in the fine art of bird identification.

Then, whether the weather is fine or fowl, newly-trained birders and old hands go into the field to build a national database that is helping scientists analyze trends in climate change.

Each birder uses a field identification and inventory guide that tracks where the birders go to look and which kinds of birds they see on the day of the "Count." Their records join those made by hundreds of thousands of fellow "citizen-scientists" in the Audubon Society's database.

**Goal 2D: Adopt a community-based approach to recreation and visitor services delivery, consistent with the conservation purpose of the National Conservation Lands and the socio-economic goals of the local community.**

The state office will:

- Analyze the socio-economic benefits of National Conservation Lands and identify the socio-economic goals of local communities affiliated with National Conservation Lands including traditional uses which were occurring prior to designation.

The field and unit offices will:

- Engage tribes, partners, state and local governments, the Resource Advisory Council and stakeholders to identify the public value of Utah's National Conservation Lands.
- Engage directly with County Commissioners, Chambers of Commerce, County Economic Development departments, civic leaders, and friends groups to maximize the public value of National Conservation Lands for gateway and surrounding communities.
- Assess visitor and community satisfaction and identify visitor and community needs.
- Ensure that new recreation or visitor service developments promote the conservation, protection, or restoration of National Conservation Lands.

### **Theme 3: Raise Awareness of the Value and Benefits of BLM's National Conservation Lands**

*This theme seeks to cultivate shared stewardship for BLM Utah National Conservation Lands and advances the relevance of conservation lands to communities. The goals and actions focus on connecting people to the land; reaching out to educators, community leaders and decision-makers; providing opportunities to engage with public lands management to accomplish critical conservation tasks; and developing skills, capacity, and commitment among volunteers, students, researchers, and institutional partners.*

**Goal 3A: Launch a long-term public awareness initiative about the BLM's National Conservation Lands, including national, international, and local outreach, communications, and media plans.**

The state office will:

- Implement National Conservation Lands branding, wordmark, design criteria, messaging, publication standards and web-based information established by the BLM-Washington Office.
- Develop a communication plan which highlights the social and economic value and benefits of Utah's National Conservation Lands and science research and research opportunities available on those lands.
- Incorporate the use of social media tools to advance the goals of Utah's National Conservation Lands.
- Develop a Utah National Conservation Lands communications toolkit (brochures, fact sheets, postcards, posters, videos, social media, etc.) that highlights all of Utah's units and provides specific user information about each area.
- Develop a "National Conservation Lands Unit of the Month" campaign to highlight specific resources and opportunities in a particular unit.
- Develop State Director level public service announcements about National Conservation Lands in Utah (e.g., YouTube videos).
- Incorporate information about the National Conservation Lands into existing public education and outreach programs.
- Develop a collection of photographs and articles about National Conservation Lands emphasizing the value and available opportunities to promote resource enhancement,

#### **Volunteers**

BLM is very fortunate to have the "hands on" support of many volunteers who contribute their time and hard work to helping BLM protect, preserve, and restore the National Conservation Lands in Utah.

In 2013, volunteers contributed close to 3,000 hours of service towards National Conservation Lands in Utah at a value of close to \$67,000.



## American Conservation Experience (ACE)

### Emerging Professionals Internship Corps (EPIC)

In innovative and highly successful partnership with BLM, the American Conservation Experience EPIC program connects the next generation of natural and cultural resource management professionals to the best career training ground in the world, working along side the most experienced land management professionals in our country. At the same time as hundreds of young crew volunteers and professional-level interns are learning the tools for managing the diverse natural and cultural landscapes in the American west, BLM's priority National Conservation Lands are benefitting from the talents, enthusiasm and skills of the best and brightest who are motivated to become the future stewards of our public trust.

In Utah alone, American Conservation Experience volunteers and interns have contributed thousands of hours of work completing habitat restoration, Wilderness management, public outreach and education, and National Environmental Policy Act compliance. These dedicated young people work side-by-side with BLM staff, volunteers and community members to accomplish BLM's mission

recreation, volunteer, etc. Include these success stories on BLM Utah web pages, social media, BLM Daily, etc.

### **Goal 3B: Advance and strengthen partnerships to facilitate shared stewardship and to advance the relevance of the National Conservation Lands to place-based and interest-based communities.**

The state office will:

- Invite our partners to the annual BLM Utah Recreation and National Conservation Lands Workshops.

The field and unit offices will:

- Establish local advisory committees for specific National Conservation Land units as necessary.
- Encourage the development and/or expansion of "friends groups" for National Conservation Lands.
- Identify groups who either are currently partnering or might be interested in partnering with BLM to share the stewardship of National Conservation Lands; reach out to non-traditional communities, including place-based arts and humanities programs and local university-led summer field programs.
- Create volunteer or student driven monitoring programs where possible, including, but not limited to wilderness study areas and wild and scenic rivers.
- Develop a partnership with Utah Land Stewards and similar groups.

### **Goal 3C: Expand opportunities for volunteers within the National Conservation Lands.**

The state office will:

- Maintain a volunteer coordinator at the Utah State Office.
- Compile a list of volunteer groups working on public lands and share with field offices.
- Develop a Utah-BLM annual volunteer recognition award.

The field and unit offices will:

- Expand and market volunteer opportunities for stewardship projects on National Conservation Lands through social media and volunteer.gov, and by engaging the Public Land Foundation in volunteer recruitment.
- Increase volunteer opportunity outreach to Utah's outdoor recreation communities, including off-highway vehicle groups,

hiking and equestrian groups, hunters and anglers, rock art enthusiasts, artists, and international visitors.

- Expand volunteer opportunities to include local schools and universities.
- Provide opportunities for volunteers to work alongside scientists, researchers and other BLM specialists on National Conservation Lands.
- Host and publicize National Conservation Lands-specific National Public Lands Day, National Trails Day, and Earth Day volunteer projects.
- Highlight noteworthy volunteer accomplishments in news releases, BLM Daily and other media types.

**Goal 3D: Engage the public in stewardship of the National Conservation Lands through education and interpretation.**

The field and unit offices will:

- Strengthen relationships with partner groups to promote the resources and values of the National Conservation Lands.
- Promote the unique values of the National Conservation Lands at gateway community visitor centers and other facilities that provide information and services to the public.
- Partner with local schools to increase use of National Conservation Lands as an “outdoor classroom.”
- Prepare and provide interpretive and education materials to commercial users who can deliver the conservation message to their user groups.
- Coordinate environmental education activities with local partners including but not limited to; Bureau of Reclamation, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the U.S. Geological Survey, the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, the state and counties and local colleges, and student conservation groups.

**Goal 3E: Recruit, train, and mentor young people from diverse backgrounds so that they may engage professionally in recreation, education, and stewardship on National Conservation Lands.**

The state, field, and unit offices will:

- Emphasize youth employment opportunities. Focus on nurturing students and youth toward seeking permanent careers in natural resource management.

to conserve these unique treasures for present and future generations, helping to ensure that some of our nation’s most amazing places are managed in the interest of all Americans. Connecting people to place serves not only the National Conservation Lands in which ACE members work, but serves to expand and strengthen a sense of stewardship and responsibility for the places and landscapes that sustain us.



*American Conservation Experience (ACE) Youth Corps*

### Utah's Nature High Summer

**Camp (NHSC)** provides an opportunity for high school students to learn about land management agencies and the impact the public can have on natural resources. This innovative partnership brings together eight State and Federal agencies: Utah Association of Conservation Districts, Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Reclamation, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, United States Geological Survey, Richfield Snow College South, and the Forest Service.

The NHSC team's mission is to encourage young people to pursue careers in science; as well as provide an opportunity for students from varied backgrounds to gain respect for the multiple avenues of natural resource management. The students spend a week learning from natural resource specialists with hands-on fieldwork in hydrology, range land management, wildlife/aquatic biology, soils, and forestry. Students leave with a greater appreciation and understanding of public land management and stewardship ethics.

NHSC plays a significant role in enhancing the Department of the Interior's America's Great Outdoors and Youth Initiatives as the team is committed to creating meaningful outdoor experiences and fostering an appreciation for nature and stewardship in America's youth. NHSC encourages young people to get outdoors, re-discover the wonders of the natural environment, and most of all, have fun!

- Work with youth organizations such as Student Conservation Association, American Conservation Experience, and others to employ youth to assist with mission critical work, such as wilderness study area monitoring and Travel and Transportation Management projects. Incorporate National Conservation Lands concepts and values into all youth hire assignments.
- Provide opportunities for outdoor adventures for veterans and wounded warriors; incorporate National Conservation Lands concepts into outdoor adventure experiences.
- Continue partnerships with environmental stewardship groups that engage youth in recreation, education, and stewardship programs.
- Develop and expand cooperative agreements with colleges and universities for student research projects with an emphasis on National Conservation Lands.



*A teaching moment at the Nature High Summer Camp*

## **Theme 4: Build upon BLM's Commitment to Conservation**

*This theme describes goals and actions which will fully integrate the mission and management of National Conservation Lands within the Bureau of Land Management as a whole. The goals and actions focus on improving internal communication and coordination within BLM Utah and with BLM on a regional and national level.*

### **Goal 4A: Improve internal communication and understanding of the National Conservation Lands and its potential to enhance the BLM as a whole.**

The state office will:

- Provide the following internal opportunities: Feature National Conservation Lands as an agenda item at State Leadership Team meetings; include National Conservation Lands as a topic in all new employee orientations; discuss National Conservation Lands at all Utah BLM program workshops.
- Complete an annual report on Utah National Conservation Lands accomplishments and post on the Utah BLM website.
- Develop and implement an internal communication plan that highlights the National Conservation Lands. The plan's objective will be to educate BLM employees about the vision, mission, and strategy of the Utah National Conservation Lands. It will lay out the differences between National Conservation Lands and "regular BLM," and will identify how managing for National Conservation Lands objects, values, and resources can enhance Utah BLM as a whole.
- Maintain an Utah National Conservation Lands internal document sharing website.

### **Goal 4B: Cultivate shared responsibility for the National Conservation Lands conservation mandate as an integral part of BLM's multiple-use, sustained-yield mission.**

The state office will:

- Identify shared missions that overlap National Conservation Lands with other Utah BLM programs (e.g., range, forestry, minerals, wildlife, recreation fee programs, etc.); with legislated conservation and protection mandates (e.g., threatened and endangered species, special status species,

## **Southwest Utah National Conservation Lands Friends**

### **Beaver Dam Wash and Red Cliffs National Conservation Areas**

The Southwest Utah National Conservation Lands Friends (SUNCLF), a newly-formed "friends" group, has developed a pool of engaged citizens to assist the BLM's St George Field Office with inventory efforts and long-term monitoring of the natural, historic and cultural resources in the Beaver Dam Wash and Red Cliffs National Conservation Areas (NCA). In addition to citizen stewardship, volunteers help BLM to promote resource protection and visitor safety, through interpretive and education programs.

In 2013, SUNCLF volunteers donated 600 hours to monitoring archeological and paleontological sites in the NCAs. Focusing on youth education outreach, SUNCLF staff and volunteers organized projects that involved students in the preparation of "seed balls" for habitat restoration in Beaver Dam Wash NCA, in rock art site recording and graffiti removal in Red Cliffs NCA.





Road Canyon Wilderness Study Area

weed management, etc.); emerging interests (e.g., recreation, tourism); and heritage resources (e.g., cultural resources, paleontology).

- Develop an annual report detailing progress in implementing the Utah Strategy for 2014-2019.

The field and unit offices will:

- Develop unit level National Conservation Land strategies as needed.
- Conduct field tours of National Conservation Lands with interdisciplinary team field staff.

**Goal 4C: Clearly understand, define, and support staffing needs, and administratively organize the National Conservation Lands areas to operate as a cross-cutting program within the BLM.**

The state, field, and unit offices will:

- Assess current staffing levels and future skill needs for optimum management of the National Conservation Lands to meet BLM objectives.
- Identify roles and responsibilities for core staff and capitalize on the expertise of state, district, and field office staff to accomplish National Conservation Lands goals.

The field and unit offices will:

- Ensure that all field offices have a designated lead responsible for each component of the conservation system within that office. The primary duties include budget development and policy implementation. One person may serve as the lead for multiple National Conservation Lands components.

**Goal 4D: Ensure the National Conservation Lands budget is coordinated with the other BLM programs. Set clear expectations and procedures for interdisciplinary budget development, priority setting, and reporting of accomplishments.**

The state office will:

- Develop a consistent reporting system for field office accomplishments in National Conservation Land units. Report accomplishments in concert with other BLM programs.
- Give funding priority to projects that conserve, protect, or restore National Conservation Land objects or values.
- Promote consistent use of funding codes by field offices. Find



ways to improve budget and performance tracking for National Conservation Land areas that are funded by multiple programs.

The field and unit offices will:

- Expand the use of collaborative cost-share projects such as recreation fee collection, cooperative conservation initiatives, and other federal and non-federal programs to achieve management objectives for National Conservation Lands.
- Work proactively with partners to raise funds to assist with labor, operations, and maintenance.
- Explore opportunities to increase revenues under the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act.



*Desolation Canyon Wilderness Study Area*

## Thinking Dinos? Think Discovery!

### Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument

New dinosaur species are discovered at Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument each year. In 2013, though, something very special was discovered: we found out just how radically a dinosaur can change the lives of young people.

The Staircase sponsored five college-age ambassadors from the Impossible to Possible program on a 196-mile “Run Through Time” across the Monument. The program, i2P, has led expeditions around the world to push youth beyond the limits by running the equivalent of a marathon a day across some of the most challenging terrain in the world.

The five ambassadors “running through time” on the Monument still found time to fit in a paleontology excavation with Monument Paleontologist Dr. Alan Titus, and had daily on-site lessons in paleontology, archaeology, ecology, conservation, and wilderness developed by Monument staff.



*Calf Creek Falls, Grand Staircase-  
Escalante National Monument*

## Glossary

**Activity-level plans** are increasingly interdisciplinary and are focused on multiple resource program areas to reflect the shift to a more watershed-based or landscape-based approach to management. [BLM H-1601-1 Land Use Planning Handbook, Section IV. A. (March, 2005)]

**Citizen Science** is a scientific research technique allowing amateur or nonprofessional scientists or volunteers to collect scientific data using methodologies developed by professional researchers. Projects are overseen by professional scientists.

**Communities of Place or Interest** broadly includes and is not limited to: local communities, gateway communities, national or local interest groups, Friends groups, cultural communities, business interests, and others.

**Conservation** is the “...harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources without permanent impairment of the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment.” (Sec. 103(c) Federal Land Management and Policy Act)

**Cultural Landscapes** are landscapes which exhibit a distinctive set of features that reflect traditional, usually regional, long-term adaptations of people to place. They evolve over time, and their physical features—their roads and paths, clearings, fields, buildings, boundary markers and fences, and all the ways in which humans create a place to live—tell us how people have lived and made a living from the land. Cultural landscapes are the manmade element of a “sense of place.”

**Ecoregions** are large geographic areas defined by their shared ecological characteristics such as climate, geology, geomorphology, soils, ecosystem processes, and natural assemblages of plants and animals. Examples of ecoregions include the Sonoran Desert and the Colorado Plateau. Ecoregions cross traditional administrative boundaries such as county and state lines and typically encompass areas much larger than those managed by individual BLM field offices.

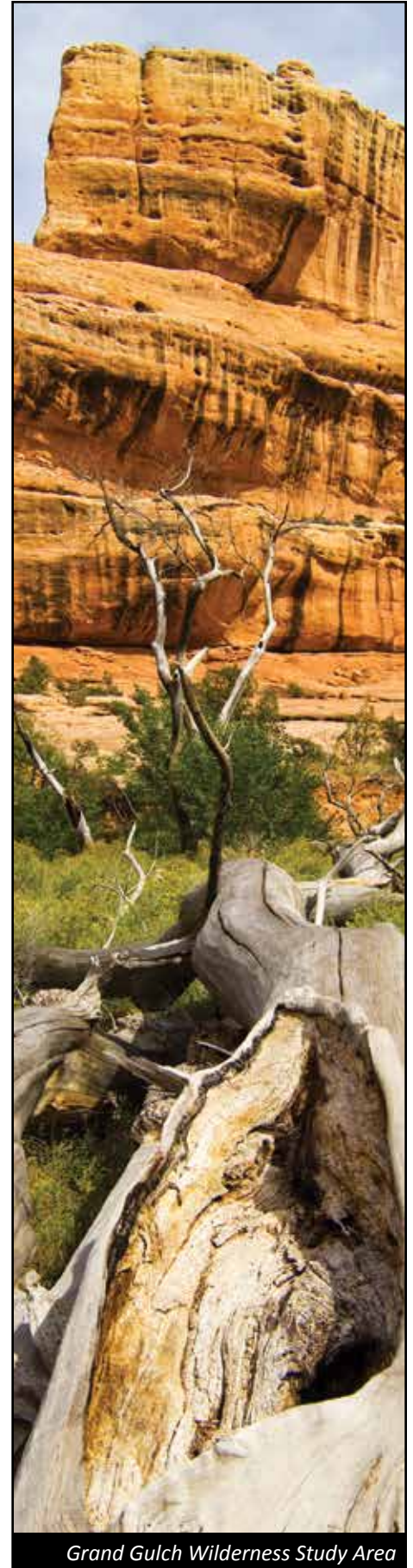
**Ecosystem** is a community of living organisms (plants, animals and microbes) interacting with the nonliving components of their environment (air, water and mineral soil) as a system.

**Implementation Plan:** Upon approval of the land use plan, subsequent implementation decisions are put into effect by developing implementation (activity-level or project-specific) plans. An activity level plan typically describes multiple projects in detail that will lead to on-the-ground action.

**Implementation Strategy** is a useful tool to facilitate successful implementation of land use plans. An implementation strategy lists prioritized decisions that (1) will help achieve the desired outcomes of one or more land use plans and (2) can be implemented given existing or anticipated resources. Developing implementation strategies enables the BLM to prioritize the preparation of implementation decisions. A well thought-out implementation strategy should prioritize each decision for funding and implementation. The strategy should also be interdisciplinary (not program by program). Developing an implementation strategy creates an important opportunity for continued collaboration with the public, Tribes, state and local governments, and other Federal agencies. [BLM H-1601-1 Land Use Planning Handbook, Section IV. A. (March, 2005)]

**National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS) objects and values:** The term “NLCS objects and values” generally means the entire collection of various public land resources that Congress or the President have directed the BLM to protect through each respective designation. Because there are so many different laws involved in designating the various NLCS components, and each law directs the BLM to protect a different set of values, resources, objects, and/or visitor experiences - the term “NLCS values” is used as a catch-all for the variety of things Congress has directed the BLM to do above and beyond its standard multiple-use mission in FLPMA.

The use of the term “**objects**” appears in the American Antiquities Act of 1906 signed by Theodore Roosevelt which gives the President of the United States authority “...to declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated upon the lands owned or controlled by the Government of the United States to be national monuments...” The term “**values**” is presented in the Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009 and often in the establishing legislation for individual National Conservation Lands units. Throughout this document, the terms “National Conservation Lands resources,” “National Conservation Lands values,” or “National Conservation Lands resources and values” are used in reference to National Conservation Lands objects and values.



*Grand Gulch Wilderness Study Area*

**Stakeholder** is an all-encompassing term which includes a person, group, organization, elected official, or government agency interested, affected or can be affected by an organization's action. Examples include and are not limited to: recreationists, off-highway coalitions, hunting organizations, ranchers, energy and mineral interests, business interests, Resource Advisory Councils, Friends groups, partners, tourism boards, chambers of commerce, elected officials, schools and universities, and other federal, state, and local government agencies.

**Sustainable Recreation** are recreational activities that provide for environmental sustainability while fulfilling social and economic needs of present and future generations of Americans.

### **Components of the National Landscape Conservation System:**

**National Monuments** are areas designated for conservation purposes either by act of Congress or Presidential proclamation under authority of the 1906 American Antiquities Act.

**National Conservation Areas** are areas designated for conservation purposes by act of Congress.

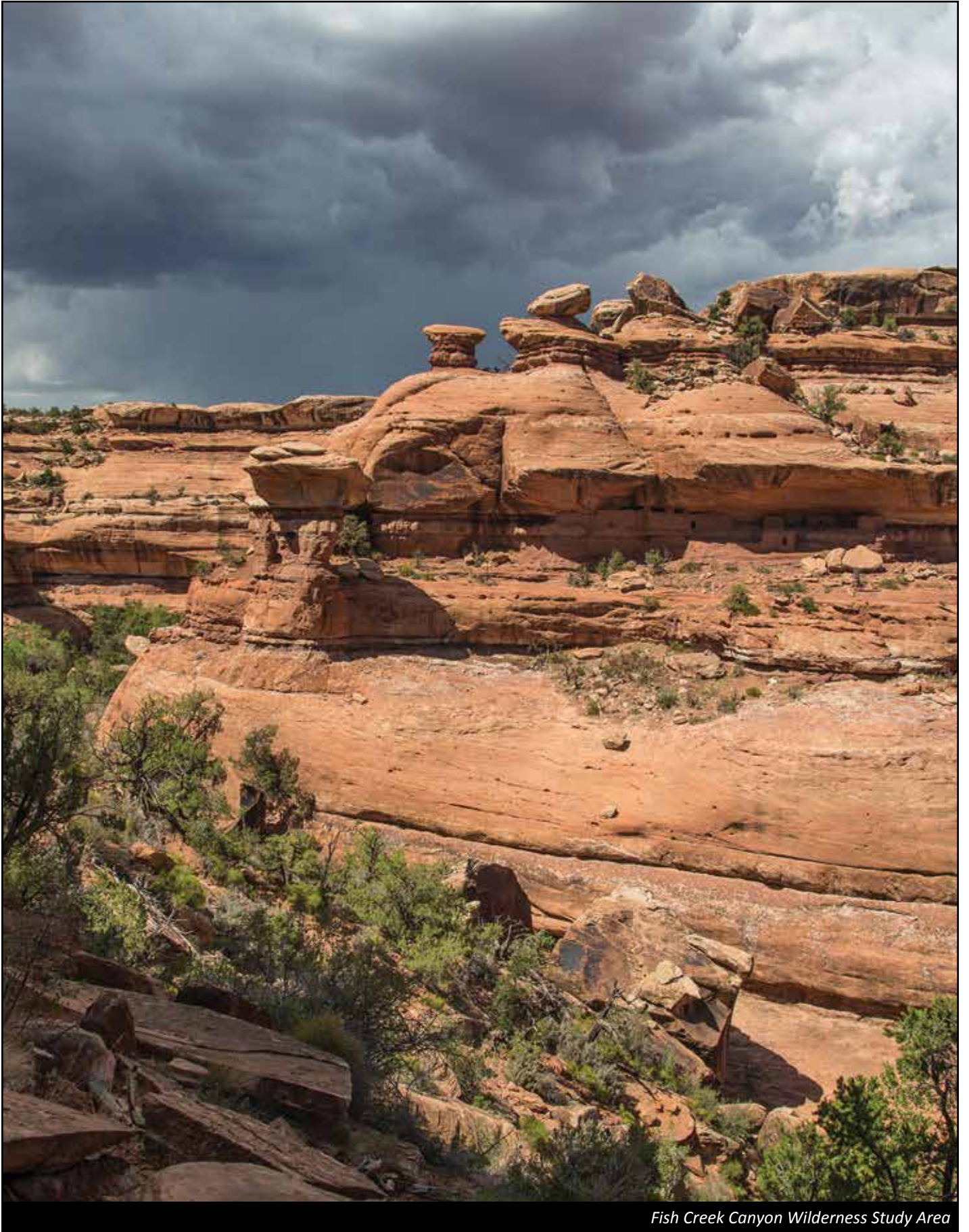
**Wilderness Areas** are part of the National Wilderness Preservation System established by the 1964 Wilderness Act: "A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain." Each addition to the National Wilderness Preservation System is specifically designated by act of Congress. Wilderness areas are managed by the BLM, U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

**Wilderness Study Areas** are roadless areas that has been inventoried (but not designated by Congress) by BLM and found to have wilderness characteristics as described in Section 603 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 and Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964. Wilderness Study Area characteristics include: roadless areas of at least 5,000 acres of public land or are of a manageable size; naturalness - generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature; and provides outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined types of recreation.

**Wild and Scenic Rivers** are rivers or river sections designated either by act of Congress or through the recommendation of a Governor and administrative action by the Secretary of the Interior. These rivers are designated to preserve their free-flowing condition and are not dammed or otherwise impeded. The National Wild and Scenic Rivers System was established through the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968.

**National Scenic Trails or National Historic Trails** are extended trails designated by act of Congress to protect their natural beauty or historic qualities. National scenic and historic trails are components of the National Trails System authorized through the National Trails System Act of 1968.

**Other areas designated by act of Congress** to be administered for conservation purposes include: Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (Oregon); Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area (Oregon), Piedras Blancas Outstanding Natural Area (California), Jupiter Inlet Outstanding Natural Area (Florida); the Headwaters Forest Reserve (California); the Conservation Lands of the California Desert.



*Fish Creek Canyon Wilderness Study Area*

## Appendix - A: BLM Utah National Conservation Lands Actions

This appendix outlines local, on-the-ground projects and programs which track the four broad themes and associated goals described in the Utah Strategy and the National Strategy. This appendix is organized by unit and unit type. The National Monument and National Conservation Areas are listed first, followed by Wilderness, Wilderness Study Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, and the National Scenic and Historic Trails. BLM Utah will initiate or continue work in each unit as appropriate for the themes and goals. The four broad themes are:

*Theme 1: Ensure the Conservation, Protection, and Restoration of National Conservation Lands Values*

*Theme 2: Collaboratively Managing the National Conservation Lands as Part of the Larger Landscape*

*Theme 3: Raise Awareness of the Value and Benefits of BLM's National Conservation Lands*

*Theme 4: Build upon BLM's Commitment to Conservation*

### Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument

Proclamation 6920 —Establishment of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument  
September 18, 1996

*Theme 1: Ensure the Conservation, Protection, and Restoration of National Conservation Lands Values*

**Goal 1A: Clearly communicate that the conservation, protection, and restoration of National Conservation Lands' values are the highest priority in the planning and management of the National Conservation Lands consistent with the designating legislation or presidential proclamation.**

- Conserve, protect, and restore the objects and values of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM) as prioritized in the GSENM Implementation Plan.

**Goal 1B: Expand understanding of the National Conservation Lands values through assessment, inventory, and monitoring.**

- Implement BLM Utah pilot's Assessment, Inventory, and Monitoring (AIM) program on GSENM.
- Build on the success of the Grand Staircase Escalante Partner-supported Site Steward Monitoring program; the Northern Arizona University-supported Human Impact Monitoring program; the Paleontology Inventory and Salvage program; the Partners in Flight hummingbird and bat inventories; the multi-agency Colorado Plateau pronghorn and cougar collar studies; the State of Utah-partnered water quality and sampling program; and the Ute Ladies Tresses inventory.
- Initiate a Utah-listed noxious weed inventory in the Paria River Watershed; a pollen core-based history of climate change; and a paleobotany study on the Kaiparowits Plateau.

**Goal 1C: Provide a scientific foundation for decision-making.**

- Develop a comprehensive data and records management file structure and web-based management system for the GSENM that will enable sharing monitoring data and documents.
- Complete and implement the Monument Science Plan.
- Maintain coordination and cooperative projects with Monument Advisory Committee.

**Goal 1D: Use the National Conservation Lands as an outdoor laboratory and demonstration center for new and innovative management that aids in the conservation, protection, and restoration of National Conservation Land areas.**

- Expand and/or continue the Colorado Mesa University-partnered Visitor Experience Inventory program in the Escalante Canyons and Cottonwood Canyon; the Escalante River Watershed Partnership; the oral history interview program; the Seeds of Success partnership; the Audubon Society/Kaibab Paiute Tribe partnership at Old Cottonwood Spring; the Colorado Plateau Archaeological Alliance-partnership for archaeological inventory in the Paria Canyon and on Fiftymile Mountain; and the USDA Agricultural Research Service program to study the genetics of Utah Indian Rice and Needle & Thread Grasses.

**Goal 1E: Allow discretionary uses to those compatible with the conservation, protection, and restoration of the values for which National Conservation Lands were designated.**

- Develop and implement programmatic environmental assessments for commercial special recreation permits, science permits, and heritage-focused organized group activities.
- Develop and publish supplementary rules for protection of natural and cultural resources, control of noxious weeds, motorized and non-motorized vehicles and bicycles, travel and parking off designated routes, camping and campfires, group size limits, human waste, pets, horses and pack animals, abandoned property, aircraft and air delivery, rock climbing, canyoneering, fireworks and explosives, and hunting.
- Provide for a well-managed grazing strategy that supports local customs, cultures, and economics.

***Theme 2: Collaboratively Managing the National Conservation Lands as Part of the Larger Landscape***

**Goal 2A: Emphasize an ecosystem-based approach to manage the National Conservation Lands in the context of the surrounding landscape.**

- Develop a comprehensive vegetation management strategy.
- Continue participation in wildlife corridor identification projects with Utah Division of Wildlife Resources.
- Expand the Antelope Reintroduction Viability Study, Partners in Flight cooperative studies, and the Big Horn sheep expansion program with State of Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, and continue the cougar monitoring program with the US Geological Service.

**Goal 2B: Adopt a cross-jurisdictional, community-based approach to landscape-level conservation planning and management.**

- Work closely with the Monument Mayors Association.
- Prepare a plan for the Hole-in-the-Rock Corridor.
- Continue participation in Federal Managers of the Colorado Plateau, Southern Utah Planning Authority Council, and Canyon Region Economic Development Alliance.

**Goal 2C: Work with Congress, tribes, other federal and state agencies, and national and local communities to identify and protect lands that are critical to the long-term ecological sustainability of the landscape.**

- Develop a comprehensive vegetation management strategy.
- Continue working with the Monument Advisory Committee for recommendations focused on adaptive management.

**Goal 2D: Adopt a community-based approach to recreation and visitor services delivery, consistent with the conservation purpose of the National Conservation Lands and the socio-economic goals of the local community.**

- Implement the Appreciative Inquiry 2013 recommendations in coordination with stakeholders and communities.
- Continue to provide the travelling dinosaur exhibit program to regional communities and venues with Grand Staircase-Escalante Partners.
- Continue serving as a supporter and participant in the annual community-based celebrations and events, including Kanab's Western Legends and Amazing Earthfest, and the Escalante Arts Festival/ Artist in Residence Program.
- Continue partnering with the Glen Canyon Natural History Association and American Conservation Experience to support hiring local residents as seasonal hosted workers in Visitor Centers.
- Continue the Walks and Talks program to share science, natural, and cultural history about the Monument between scientists, researchers, staff, local experts, visitors, and students.
- Continue to provide visitor service support to the Anasazi State Park through staff assistance and a summer intern program.

***Theme 3: Raise Awareness of the Value and Benefits of BLM's National Conservation Lands***

**Goal 3B: Advance and strengthen partnerships to facilitate shared stewardship and to advance the relevance of the National Conservation Lands to place-based and interest-based communities.**

- Expand the Citizen Site Steward program to include archeology, paleontology, botany, and back country recreation.
- Expand partnerships with groups including Escalante River Watershed Partnership, Kaibab Paiute youth, Southern Utah University Youth Conservation Corps and Intergovernmental Internship Cooperative programs, and the Scenic Byway 12 Foundation.



### **Goal 3C: Expand opportunities for volunteers within the National Conservation Lands.**

- Expand the Site Steward program.
- Expand the paleontology lab volunteer program.
- Continue support for volunteer camp hosts.
- Continue to support volunteer opportunities at visitor centers.
- Continue to work with the Escalante River Watershed Partnership volunteers.

### **Goal 3D: Engage the public in stewardship of the National Conservation Lands through education and interpretation.**

- Maintain the Junior Scientist program through the visitor centers.
- Continue the annual outfitter and guides workshop.
- Continue an environmental education program in Kane and Garfield County schools, including native plant propagation and restoration projects.
- Develop a new visitor services brochure for use in visitor centers.
- Continue the visitor center bookstore partnership with Glen Canyon Natural History Association.

### **Goal 3E: Recruit, train, and mentor young people from diverse backgrounds so that they may engage professionally in recreation, education, and stewardship on National Conservation Lands.**

- Continue to work with GeoCorps Youth Interns in GSENM Paleontology program; Student Conservation Corps Youth on trailhead projects and site stewardship; Kaibab Paiute youth and elders to restore native vegetation at Old Corral Spring; and interns from the Utah State University-Utah Conservation Corps Environmental Education program.
- Continue to work with temporary youth and diversity hires in the GSENM Native Seed repository project; the Seeds of Success restoration plot monitoring program; and willow plantings to restore riparian areas on the Monument

## ***Theme 4: Build upon BLM's Commitment to Conservation***

### **Goal 4A: Improve internal communication and understanding of the National Conservation Lands and its potential to enhance the BLM as a whole.**

- Prepare quarterly Monument Managers' Report and post on the internet.
- Prepare an annual Monument Manager's Report for the BLM Washington Office and post on the internet.

### **Goal 4C: Clearly define, understand, and justify staffing needs, and administratively organize the National Conservation Lands areas to operate as a cross-cutting program within the BLM.**

- Develop and adopt a business plan for visitor center operations.
- In coordination with the Arizona Strip Field Office, the Vermillion Cliffs National Monument, and the Kanab Field Office, develop and adopt a business plan and coordinated annual budget for the Paria Canyon Special Recreation Management Area.

**Goal 4D: Ensure that the National Conservation Lands budget coordinates with other BLM programs. Set clear expectations and procedures for cross-programmatic budget development, priority setting, and reporting of accomplishments.**

- Seek funding and partnership support from National Park Service and US Forest Service for operations at GSENM Visitor Centers.
- Seek funding and partnership support from the Kanab Field Office and Arizona Strip for operations at Grand Staircase Visitor Center in Kanab.
- Explore other options for partnering in visitor centers, including coordinating with county tourism councils.

## **Beaver Dam Wash and Red Cliffs National Conservation Areas**

***Theme 1: Ensure the Conservation, Protection, and Restoration of National Conservation Lands Values***

**Goal 1A: Clearly communicate that the conservation, protection, and restoration of National Conservation Lands' values are the highest priority in the planning and management of the National Conservation Lands consistent with the designating legislation or presidential proclamation.**

- Complete the Resource Management Plan for each National Conservation Area, assuring that conservation, protection, and restoration of the National Conservation Area values are the highest management priorities for each unit.
- Complete a Comprehensive Travel and Transportation Management Plan for each of the National Conservation Areas.

**Goal 1B: Expand understanding of the National Conservation Lands values through assessment, inventory, and monitoring.**

- Continue the partnership with The Nature Conservancy in Utah to implement research and habitat restoration projects.
- Continue the partnership with the Utah Geological Survey to inventory and document paleontological resources in the National Conservation Areas.
- Continue partnerships with Washington County-Red Cliffs Desert Reserve and Snow Canyon State Park to conduct trail monitoring.

**Goal 1D: Use the National Conservation Lands as an outdoor laboratory and demonstration center for new and innovative management that aids in the conservation, protection, and restoration of National Conservation Land areas.**

- Develop strategies to assist in the recovery of the threatened Mojave Desert tortoise, working through established Recovery Implementation Teams for the Upper Virgin River and Northeast Recovery Units.
- Continue to implement brome control research and habitat restoration pilot projects, under existing

partnerships with The Nature Conservancy, US Geological Survey, University of Nevada Las Vegas, and the Mojave Desert Initiative.

### ***Theme 3: Raise Awareness of the Value and Benefits of BLM's National Conservation Lands***

#### **Goal 3B: Advance and strengthen partnerships to facilitate shared stewardship and to advance the relevance of the National Conservation Lands to place-based and interest-based communities.**

- Continue the existing Site Stewardship and Environmental Education programs, working with Color Country Site Stewards, Dixie National Forest/Arizona Strip Interpretive Association, and the Friends of the Color Country National Conservation Areas.
- Continue the partnership with the American Conservation Experience to support youth internship opportunities in recreation, wilderness, environmental education, interpretation, and habitat restoration in the National Conservation Areas.
- Continue partnerships with Washington County-Red Cliffs Desert Reserve and Snow Canyon State Park to conduct environmental education outreach.

#### **Goal 3E: Recruit, train, and mentor young people from diverse backgrounds so that they may engage professionally in recreation, education, and stewardship on National Conservation Lands.**

- Continue partnership with the American Conservation Experience to support youth internship programs in recreation, wilderness, environmental education, interpretation, and habitat restoration in the National Conservation Areas.
- Continue the partnership with Washington County School District to host 6th grade learning experiences in the National Conservation Areas.
- Continue the partnership with Friends of the Color Country National Conservation Areas to develop youth programs that focus on habitat restoration projects, site stewardship, and oral histories for each National Conservation Area.

## **Wilderness**

### ***Theme 1: Ensure the Conservation, Protection, and Restoration of National Conservation Lands Values***

#### **Goal 1A: Clearly communicate that the conservation, protection, and restoration of National Conservation Lands' values are the highest priority in the planning and management of the National Conservation Lands consistent with the designating legislation or presidential proclamation.**

- The Salt Lake Field Office will complete the wilderness management plan for Cedar Mountain Wilderness by the end of FY2014.
- The St. George Field Office will complete a Wilderness Management Plan for the Cottonwood Canyon and Red Mountain Wilderness areas, located within the Red Cliffs National Conservation Area. The

plan will ensure that management actions preserve wilderness character.

- The St. George Field Office will complete Wilderness Management Plans for the remainder of the newly designated wilderness areas in Washington County, as funding is made available to support these planning efforts. The Canaan Mountain Wilderness Management Plan will be given priority for completion, to protect wilderness character and minimize user conflicts.

**Goal 1B: Expand understanding of the National Conservation Lands values through assessment, inventory, and monitoring.**

- The St. George and Salt Lake Field Offices will complete “Keeping It Wild” monitoring for all designated wilderness areas and post information on the Keeping It Wild web site.
- The St. George and Salt Lake Field Offices will complete an annual wilderness monitoring for designated wilderness areas.

**Goal 1D: Use the National Conservation Lands as an outdoor laboratory and demonstration center for new and innovative management that aids in the conservation, protection, and restoration of National Conservation Land areas.**

- The Salt Lake Field Office will identify areas in the Cedar Mountain Wilderness that could be candidates for invasive species, fuels, and rangeland health research projects.

***Theme 2: Collaboratively Managing the National Conservation Lands as Part of the Larger Landscape***

**Goal 2A: Emphasize an ecosystem-based approach to manage the National Conservation Lands in the context of the surrounding landscape.**

- The Salt Lake Field Office will consider the potential effects on adjacent lands and resources when planning and implementing management actions in the Cedar Mountain Wilderness.

## **Wilderness Study Areas**

***Theme 1: Ensure the Conservation, Protection, and Restoration of National Conservation Lands Values***

**Goal 1A: Clearly communicate that the conservation, protection, and restoration of National Conservation Lands’ values are the highest priority in the planning and management of the National Conservation Lands consistent with the designating legislation or presidential proclamation.**

- Continue to manage wilderness study areas under the Wilderness Study Area Management Manual.
- Add to state and field office wilderness study area web pages the message: “conservation, protection, and restoration of wilderness characteristics is the highest priority in wilderness study area planning and management.”

- The Monticello Field Office will obtain funding to purchase flight time for aerial reconnaissance utilizing Glen Canyon National Recreation Area's aircraft to monitor and photo-document wilderness study area conditions.
- The Monticello Field Office will complete a Memorandum of Understanding with Friends of Cedar Mesa to develop and implement a wilderness study area information and protection plan for the area.

**Goal 1B: Expand understanding of the National Conservation Lands values through assessment, inventory, and monitoring.**

- The Moab Field Office will continue to work with local off-highway vehicle groups to maintain the route marking and fencing along off-highway vehicle routes that form the boundaries of Mill Creek Canyon, Negro Bill Canyon, and Behind the Rocks wilderness study areas.
- The Monticello Field Office will coordinate with local community visitor centers and the San Juan County Economic Development Department to publicize wilderness study area existence, management, and visitor etiquette.
- The Salt Lake Field Office will complete surveys of cultural sites in the Deep Creek wilderness study areas.
- The Fillmore Field Office will coordinate with the local counties regarding the management of open routes within and around wilderness study areas.

**Goal 1C: Provide a scientific foundation for decision-making.**

- The Moab Field Office will coordinate with the Canyon Country District fuels staff to establish scientific controls to companion research/management actions on adjacent public lands.
- The Monticello Field Office will coordinate with the Canyon Country District fuels staff to establish scientific controls to companion research/management actions on adjacent public lands. This includes assessing the use of manager-ignited prescribed fire and/or vegetation management in areas where vegetation conditions are or are trending outside the natural range of variability for given ecological systems.
- The Vernal Field Office fuels staff will to ensure scientific controls and objectives from the 2008 Resource Management Plan are met. This includes assessing the use of manager-ignited prescribed fire and/or vegetation management in areas where vegetation conditions are trending outside the natural range of variability for given ecological systems.
- The Fillmore Field Office will work with the West Desert District fuels staff to explore fire management goals and objectives for the wilderness study areas within the field office.

**Goal 1D: Use the National Conservation Lands as an outdoor laboratory and demonstration center for new and innovative management that aids in the conservation, protection, and restoration of National Conservation Land areas.**

- Assess the use of manager-ignited prescribed fire and/or vegetation management in areas where vegetation conditions are, or are trending, outside the natural range of variability for at-risk ecological systems.
- Monitor grazing allotments in wilderness study areas to ensure compliance with Utah Standards of Rangeland Health.
- The Salt Lake Field Office will support research proposals at local universities for cultural, wildlife,

forestry, and geology studies in the Deep Creek wilderness study area.

- The Salt Lake Field Office will support big horn sheep population management in the North Stansbury wilderness study areas.

**Goal 1E: Allow discretionary uses to those compatible with the conservation, protection, and restoration of the values for which National Conservation Lands were designated.**

- Evaluate all Special Recreation Permit proposals within wilderness study areas to ensure that the proposed activities are compatible with conserving, protecting, or restoring wilderness characteristics.

**Goal 1F: Manage facilities in a manner that conserves, protects, and restores National Conservation Lands values.**

- The Moab Field Office will continue to sign off-highway vehicle routes that form the boundaries of Negro Bill Canyon, Mill Creek Canyon and Behind the Rocks wilderness study areas, adding fencing where necessary.
- The Moab Field Office will continue to monitor and maintain the Five Mile fence along the Westwater wilderness study area boundary and the four associated information kiosks.
- The Monticello Field Office will sign off-highway vehicle routes that form the boundaries of Mule Canyon, Road Canyon, and Grand Gulch wilderness study areas.
- The Monticello Field Office will work with Utah State Office forestry/woodlands program to inventory, monitor, and manage fuel wood cutting activities adjacent to wilderness study areas within the Cedar Mesa Special Recreation Management Area.
- The Vernal Field Office will continue with travel management planning so that signs can be installed and linear transportation features can be treated appropriately under the most recent management document.
- The Vernal Field Office will work with the field office forester to inventory, monitor, and manage fuel wood cutting activities adjacent to wilderness study areas.
- The Fillmore Field Office will continue to monitor boundary signs and kiosks to assure that open routes within wilderness study areas are properly signed for off-highway vehicle use.
- The Fillmore Field Office will work with the Salt Lake Field Office and Juab County to monitor and enforce BLM and county ordinances for wilderness study areas.

***Theme 2: Collaboratively Managing the National Conservation Lands as Part of the Larger Landscape***

**Goal 2A: Emphasize an ecosystem-based approach to manage the National Conservation Lands in the context of the surrounding landscape.**

- Coordinate with adjacent land managing agencies to promote ecosystem-based management.
- The Monticello Field Office will work with Canyons of the Ancients National Monument staff to seamlessly manage cross-boundary wilderness study areas such as Squaw and Papoose Canyon.

**Goal 2B: Adopt a cross-jurisdictional, community-based approach to landscape-level conservation planning and management.**

- The Moab Field Office will amend the agreement with Grand County to require Sand Flats Recreation Area personnel to inform BLM of any issues that arise with Negro Bill Canyon and Mill Creek Canyon wilderness study areas.
- The Moab Field Office will continue to coordinate with Sand Flats Recreation Area staff the maintenance of existing fence road closures of routes that otherwise would penetrate the aforementioned wilderness study areas.
- The Moab Field Office will work with local radio stations to help educate listeners about wilderness study area management and conservation efforts.
- The Monticello Field Office will work with the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area and Canyons of the Ancients National Monument to design a cross-boundary, collaborative management plan for the greater Cedar Mesa, Dark Canyon, and Squaw/Papoose wilderness study areas.
- The Fillmore Field Office will coordinate with Juab County and the Salt Lake Field Office to design cross-boundary, collaborative management direction for the Deep Creek wilderness study areas.
- The Fillmore Field Office will coordinate with Beaver County and the Cedar City Field Office to design cross-boundary, collaborative management direction for the Wah Wah wilderness study areas.

**Goal 2C: Work with Congress, tribes, other federal and state agencies, and national and local communities to identify and protect lands that are critical to the long-term ecological sustainability of the landscape.**

- The Moab Field Office will determine whether information produced by the ecosystems service project (being done by U S Geological Survey, in coordination with Moab BLM's Master Leasing Plan and Environmental Impact Statement) is applicable to the wilderness study areas.
- The Monticello Field Office will work with Friends of Cedar Mesa, the Navajo Nation, and Glen Canyon National Recreation area to protect wilderness study areas lands throughout the greater Cedar Mesa area. These lands serve as an important habitat linkage to other intact landscapes and form core habitat for a number of important plant and animal populations.
- The Fillmore Field Office will work with Juab and Beaver counties to protect lands within the wilderness study areas. These lands serve as an important habitat linkage to other intact landscapes and for core habit for various plant and animal populations.

**Goal 2D: Adopt a community-based approach to recreation and visitor services delivery, consistent with the conservation purpose of the National Conservation Lands and the socio-economic goals of the local community.**

- The Moab Field Office will prepare an economic analysis of the contributions of Moab Field Office wilderness study areas to the local economy.
- The Monticello Field Office will engage with the Monticello and Blanding Chambers of Commerce, South East Utah Visitors Centers, and the San Juan County Economic Development Department to provide appropriate resource and visitation messaging for all wilderness study areas.
- The Fillmore Field Office will engage with Millard and Juab counties to provide appropriate resource and visitation messaging for all wilderness study areas.

### **Theme 3: Raise Awareness of the Value and Benefits of BLM's National Conservation Lands**

#### **Goal 3A: Launch a long-term public awareness initiative about the BLM's National Conservation Lands, including national, international, and local outreach, communications, and media plans.**

- Add to existing wilderness study area contact point kiosks the message: “conservation, protection, and restoration of wilderness characteristics is the highest priority in wilderness study area planning and management.”
- Work with local newspapers and radio stations to educate readers and listeners about wilderness study area management and conservation efforts.

#### **Goal 3B: Advance and strengthen partnerships to facilitate shared stewardship and to advance the relevance of the National Conservation Lands to place-based and interest-based communities.**

- Continue cooperation with existing Friends groups, Wilderness Volunteers, etc.
- The Monticello Field Office will continue to improve and expand the Cultural Site Stewardship program to support a full time volunteer coordinator position.
- The Monticello Field Office will continue the relationship with local groups such as the Monticello High School Outdoor Club and the Four Corners School of Outdoor Education.
- The Vernal Field Office will continue the relationship with local groups such as the Interagency Off-highway Vehicle Work Group, Uintah Mountain Club, the Escape Club, National Outdoor Leadership School, and other local groups.
- The Fillmore Field Office will continue cooperation with the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and Juab County to assist in monitoring, signing and kiosk installation.

#### **Goal 3C: Expand opportunities for volunteers within the National Conservation Lands.**

- The Moab Field Office will add to the Memorandum of Understanding with the Grand County administered Sand Flats Recreation Area the requirement for Sand Flats personnel to inform BLM of any issues that arise with Negro Bill Canyon and Mill Creek Canyon wilderness study areas.
- The Moab Field Office will continue to work with visiting volunteer groups (schools, American Hiking Society, Sierra Club, etc.) for trail work and restoration work within those wilderness study areas in the immediate vicinity of Moab.
- The Moab Field Office will continue to work with the Westwater Association for Volunteer Excellence program on restoration projects within the Westwater Canyon wilderness study area.
- The Monticello Field Office will work with local off-highway vehicle groups to maintain route markings and fencing along off-highway vehicle routes that form the boundaries of Mule Canyon, Road Canyon, Grand Gulch, Dark Canyon, Indian Creek, and Squaw/Papoose wilderness study areas.
- The Monticello Field Office will work with visiting volunteer groups (schools, American Hiking Society, Sierra Club, Great Old Broads for Wilderness, Rocky Mountain Field Institute, etc.) for trail work and restoration work within the greater Cedar Mesa wilderness study area.
- The Fillmore Field Office will work with off-highway vehicle groups to maintain route signing around the 8 wilderness study areas within the Field Office.



**Goal 3D: Engage the public in stewardship of the National Conservation Lands through education and interpretation.**

- The Moab Field Office will request the National Park Service outdoor education program (which schedules outings primarily to Moab area wilderness study areas) to include the National Conservation Lands message in their activities with local school groups.

**Goal 3E: Recruit, train, and mentor young people from diverse backgrounds so that they may engage professionally in recreation, education, and stewardship on National Conservation Lands.**

- The Moab Field Office will continue to work with Utah Conservation Corps crews for restoration and protection projects on wilderness study areas boundaries close to Moab City.
- The Monticello Field Office will continue to work with Canyon Country Youth Corps crews for restoration and protection projects on wilderness study areas boundaries throughout San Juan County.
- The Fillmore Field Office will continue to work with the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and Juab County for restoration and protection projects of the wilderness study areas.

## **Wild and Scenic Rivers**

***Theme 1: Ensure the Conservation, Protection, and Restoration of National Conservation Lands Values***

**Goal 1A: Clearly communicate that the conservation, protection, and restoration of National Conservation Lands' values are the highest priority in the planning and management of the National Conservation Lands consistent with the designating legislation or presidential proclamation.**

- The St. George Field Office will complete the Comprehensive River Management Plan/Environmental Assessment for the approximately 19 miles of designated river segments of the Virgin River System that flow through BLM-managed public lands, in partnership with Zion National Park by 2013.

**Goal 1B: Expand understanding of the National Conservation Lands values through assessment, inventory, and monitoring.**

- The St. George Field Office will complete inventories of resource values along designated wild and scenic river segments.
- All Utah field offices with suitable wild and scenic river reaches will develop a monitoring plan for these reaches.

## National Historic Trails

### *Theme 1: Ensure the Conservation, Protection, and Restoration of National Conservation Lands Values*

**Goal 1A: Clearly communicate that the conservation, protection, and restoration of National Conservation Lands' values are the highest priority in the planning and management of the National Conservation Lands consistent with the designating legislation or presidential proclamation.**

- The St. George Field Office will develop management actions for the Old Spanish Trail National Historic Trail segments through the Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Area in the Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Area Resource Management Plan. The Plan will ensure that management actions conserve, protect, restore, and provide for the enjoyment and appreciation of the trail.
- Maintain route information, interpretive sites, and signing for visitors to the Pony Express and California National Historic Trails, both on the web and on-site.
- Add to state and field office Old Spanish Trail web pages the message that conservation, protection, and restoration of National Historic Trail resources, values, and associated settings are the highest priority in planning and management.
- Create interpretive displays at appropriate locations along the Old Spanish National Historic Trail.
- Once the Old Spanish Trail interpretive displays are in place, include the message; "conservation, protection, and restoration of National Historic Trail resources, values, and associated settings are the highest priority in planning and management."
- Coordinate consistent messaging about the Old Spanish Trail with field offices and other states along the Old Spanish Trail.

**Goal 1B: Expand understanding of the National Conservation Lands values through assessment, inventory, and monitoring.**

- Continue the inventory on the Old Spanish Trail to officially locate it on the ground.
- Continue National Historic Trail viewshed inventory and condition assessment on designated trail segments with a goal of completing inventory and condition assessment by 2015.
- Complete mapping, surveys, and historic context analysis for the California and Pony Express National Historic Trail.
- Continue to monitor the Pony Express and California National Historic Trail for resource impacts from dispersed visitor use and proposed activities.
- Once the Old Spanish Trail Comprehensive Plan is completed, create a management corridor in all management plans associated with the Trail.
- Coordinate with local community visitor centers and County Economic Development Departments to publicize the Old Spanish Trail's existence, management, and visitor etiquette.

**Goal 1E: Allow discretionary uses to those compatible with the conservation, protection, and restoration of the values for which National Conservation Lands were designated.**

- Identify and establish management corridors within each management plan associated with the National Historic Trail to ensure that discretionary uses and permits are compatible with each National Historic Trails.

- Review and identify Resource Management Plan decisions that could adversely impact National Historic Trail resources and values.

**Goal 1F: Manage facilities in a manner that conserves, protects, and restores National Conservation Lands values.**

- Install and maintain visitor information, signing, kiosks, and interpretive displays to promote and preserve National Historic Trail resources, qualities, values, and associated settings.

***Theme 2: Collaboratively Managing the National Conservation Lands as Part of the Larger Landscape***

**Goal 2A: Emphasize an ecosystem-based approach to manage the National Conservation Lands in the context of the surrounding landscape.**

- Manage visitor use and proposed activities along National Historic Trails to prevent adverse impacts to trail resources.

**Goal 2B: Adopt a cross-jurisdictional, community-based approach to landscape-level conservation planning and management.**

- Once signing and interpretation of the Old Spanish Trail commences, work with local tourism and economic development entities to market, interpret, and protect trail resources.
- Once signing and interpretation of the Old Spanish Trail commences, record an “infomercial” on local radio stations promoting the trail and explaining its significance.
- Schedule one or more appearances on KZMU’s “This week in Moab” radio broadcast to promote the Old Spanish Trail and explain its significance.

***Theme 3: Raise Awareness of the Value and Benefits of BLM’s National Conservation Lands***

**Goal 3A: Launch a long-term public awareness initiative about the BLM’s National Conservation Lands, including national, international, and local outreach, communications, and media plans.**

- Add to state and field office Old Spanish Trail web pages the message that conservation, protection, and restoration of National Historic Trail resources, values, and associated settings are the highest priority in planning and management.

**Goal 3B: Advance and strengthen partnerships to facilitate shared stewardship and to advance the relevance of the National Conservation Lands to place-based and interest-based communities.**

- Once signing and interpretation of the Old Spanish Trail commences, expand the cultural “site steward” program to include segments of the Trail.

**Goal 3C: Expand opportunities for volunteers within the National Conservation Lands.**

- Once signing and interpretation of the Old Spanish Trail commences, work with visiting volunteer groups and the Old Spanish Trail Association to assist in the protection of trail resources, qualities, values, and associated settings of the trail.

**Goal 3D: Engage the public in stewardship of the National Conservation Lands through education and interpretation.**

- Prepare interpretive exhibits that can be used at conventions and public meetings to educate the public about National Historic Trails.

**Goal 3E: Recruit, train, and mentor young people from diverse backgrounds so that they may engage professionally in recreation, education, and stewardship on National Conservation Lands.**

- Once signing and interpretation of the Old Spanish Trail commences, use youth conservation crews for signing and restoration work along trail segments. Continue to hire students to work with the Trail Administrator of priority projects.



*Pony Express National Historic Trail*

## Appendix - B: Applicable Legislative Summaries

### Antiquities Act

1906 American Antiquities Act of 1906:

<http://www.nps.gov/history/local-law/anti1906.htm>

The Antiquities Act provides the President with the authority to establish National Monuments to protect historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest.

### Federal Land Policy and Management Act

1976 Federal Land Policy and Management Act:

<http://www.blm.gov/flpma/>

This Act established the process by which Wilderness Study Areas were designated, and provides management direction for Wilderness Study Areas until Congressional action occurs. Section 603 of the Act directed the BLM to inventory “wilderness characteristics described in the Wilderness Act.” (See above Wilderness Act description). In November of 1980, Utah BLM sent their recommendations for Wilderness Study Areas to Congress. These recommended areas became Wilderness Study Areas awaiting Congress to either designate them as Wilderness Areas or release for multiple use management. Several additional Wilderness Study Areas were established through Federal Register Notices after this time.

### Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument

1996 Proclamation 6920: Establishment of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

<http://1.usa.gov/GSENMdesignation>

This Presidential Proclamation establishing the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Included in the proclamation are a variety of historic, archaeological, paleontological, biological, geological, and scenic objects and values which are to be protected within the Grand Staircase.

### National Historic Trails

1968 National Trails System Act:

<http://www.nps.gov/nts/legislation.html>

This Act provides Congress with the authority to designate National Historic Trails. National Historic Trails follow travel routes of national historic significance. The trail segments along routes had far reaching effects on broad patterns of American culture, and maintain significant potential for public recreational use or historical interest based on historic interpretation and appreciation.

### National Landscape Conservation System

2009 Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, Public Law 111.11:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-111publ11/pdf/PLAW-111publ11.pdf>

The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, Title II, Subtitle A statutorily established the National

Landscape Conservation System, which includes all Wilderness, Wilderness Study Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, National Scenic and Historic Trails, National Monuments, and National Conservation Areas on BLM-administered public lands. The System was established to conserve, protect and restore nationally significant landscapes that have outstanding cultural, ecological, and scientific values.

It is therefore important to recognize that being a component of the NLCS does not provide these public lands with any additional protections beyond what the Congressional or Presidential designations have already provided. The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009's Title II, Subtitle A establishing the NLCS clearly states that "Nothing in this subtitle enhances, diminishes, or modifies any law or proclamation (including regulations relating to the law or proclamation) under which the components of the system described in subsection (b) were established or are managed." This means that when discussing the NLCS as a whole, it is very important to have an understanding of the specific laws and proclamations that do identify the protection of specific "values" on these public lands.

## **Red Cliffs and Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Areas**

2009 Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009,

Public Law 111.11:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-111publ11/pdf/PLAW-111publ11.pdf>

Subtitle O - Washington County, Utah of this Act designated two National Conservation Areas, 15 Wilderness Areas, and 19 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers in Washington County to be managed by the BLM St. George Field Office.

Section 1974 of the Act designated Red Cliffs National Conservation Area to conserve, protect, and enhance the ecological, scenic, wildlife, recreational, cultural, historical, natural, educational, and scientific resources on the National Conservation Area. Section 1975 of the Act designated Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Area to conserve, protect, and enhance the ecological, scenic, wildlife, recreational, cultural, historical, natural, educational, and scientific resources of the National Conservation Area.

## **Secretarial Order 3308:**

[http://www.blm.gov/or/news/files/NLCS\\_Order.pdf](http://www.blm.gov/or/news/files/NLCS_Order.pdf)

This Order directs the BLM to manage components of the National Landscape Conservation System to protect the values for which they were designated, prohibit uses that are in conflict with those values, and allow appropriate multiple uses where consistent with the applicable law and relevant designations. It further directs that National Conservation Lands be managed to maintain biodiversity and promote resilience to climate change, that science be integrated into management decisions, and that the lands be managed from an interdisciplinary perspective to serve as a place to sustain diverse communities of partners and volunteers, including youth, dedicated to conserving, protecting, restoring, and interpreting the nation's natural and cultural heritage.

## Wild and Scenic Rivers

1968 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act:

<http://www.rivers.gov/rivers/act.php>

This Act created the National Wild and Scenic River System to preserve rivers with outstanding natural, scenic, geological, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, recreational, or other similar values in a free-flowing condition. The Act provides Congress with the authority to designate Wild and Scenic Rivers and provides management direction for suitable rivers until Congressional action occurs.

## Wilderness

1964 Wilderness Act:

<http://www.wilderness.net/index.cfm?fuse=nwps&sec=legisact>

This Act provides Congress with the authority to designate wilderness areas. The Act established the National Wilderness Preservation System and designated the first Wilderness Areas. These areas of undeveloped federal land retain their primeval character without permanent improvement or human habitation and are managed to preserve their natural conditions. They offer outstanding opportunities for solitude and may contain ecological, geological or other scientific, scenic or historical values.



*Mt. Hillers, Wilderness Study Areas - Photo: Paul Boos*

## Appendix - C: Utah National Conservation Lands

### National Conservation Areas

Name	Acres
Beaver Dam Wash	63,478
Red Cliffs	44,825

**2 National Conservation Areas - 108,303 acres**

### National Historic Trails

Name	Miles
California	111
Old Spanish	326
Pony Express	146

**3 National Historic Trails 583 miles**

### National Monuments

Name	Acres
Grand Staircase-Escalante	Approximately 1.9 million

**1 National Monument Approximately  
1.9 million acres**

### Wild and Scenic Rivers

Name	Miles
Beartrap Canyon	0.10
Deep Creek	4.85
Goose Creek	0.41
Kolob Creek	2.03
La Verkin Creek	7.62
Middle Fork - Taylor Creek	0.10
North Fork Virgin River	0.50
Oak Creek	1.01
Shunes Creek	0.78
Smith Creek	1.28
Willis Creek	0.29

**11 River Segments 19 miles**

### Wilderness Areas

Name	Acres
Beartrap Canyon	40
Beaver Dam Mountains (Utah Portion)	3,667
Black Ridge Canyons (Utah portion)	5,099
Blackridge	13,107
Canaan Mountain	44,447
Cedar Mountain	99,428
Cottonwood Canyon	11,667
Cougar Canyon	10,648
Deep Creek	3,291
Deep Creek North	4,478
Doc's Pass	18,216
Goose Creek	93
Laverkin Creek	453
Paria Canyon/Vermillion Cliffs	21,416
Red Butte	1,535
Red Mountain	18,689
Slaughter Creek	4,047
Taylor Creek	35

**18 Wilderness Areas - 260,356 acres**

### Wilderness Study Areas

Name	Acres
Behind the Rocks	13,065
Black Ridge Canyon West	52
Book Cliffs Mountain Browse	399
Bridger Jack Mesa	6,333
Bull Canyon	599
Bull Mountain	13,138
Burning Hills	65,710
Butler Wash	24,277
Canaan Mountain	4,985
Carcass Canyon	48,628
Cheesebox Canyon	14,831
Coal Canyon	60,755
Conger Mountain	20,161



Crack Canyon	26,303	Negro Bill Canyon	7,560
Cross Canyon	949	North Escalante Canyon/The Gulch	127,459
Daniels Canyon	2,516	North Fork Virgin River	1,080
Dark Canyon	67,825	North Standsbury Mountains	10,786
Death Ridge	66,286	Notch Peak	57,296
Deep Creek Mountains	79,144	Orderville Canyon	1,952
Desolation Canyon	294,581	Paria-Hackberry	402
Devils Canyon	9,142	Paria-Hackberry	145,828
Devil's Garden	633	Parunuweap Canyon	30,907
Diamond Breaks	3,926	Phipps Death Hollow	45,328
Dirty Devil	71,883	Road Canyon	52,404
Escalante Canyon Tract 1	364	Rockwell	9,342
Escalante Canyon Tract 5	761	San Rafael Reef	59,051
Fiddler Butte	73,360	Scorpion	37,319
Fifty Mile Mountain	160,833	Scott's Basin	8,265
Fish Creek Canyon	46,102	Sids Cabin	439
Fish Springs	57,609	Sids Mountain	75,216
Floy Canyon	72,282	South Needles	160
Flume Canyon	50,628	Spring Creek Canyon	4,333
Fremont Gorge	2,843	Spruce Canyon	20,353
French Spring-Happy Canyon	24,306	Squaw/Papoose Canyon	6,560
Grand Gulch	105,213	Steep Creek	23,978
Horseshoe Canyon (North)	13,502	Swasey Mountain	59,006
Horseshoe Canyon (South)	39,842	The Blues	19,416
Howell Peak	27,545	The Cockscomb	9,921
Indian Creek	6,554	Turtle Canyon	33,379
Jack Canyon	7,203	Wah Wah Mountains	49,429
King Top	92,847	Wahweap	144,268
Link Flats	882	West Cold Spring	3,283
Little Rockies	40,733	Westwater Canyon	30,066
Lost Spring Canyon	1,625	White Rock Range	3,767
Mancos Mesa	50,889	Winter Ridge	43,322
Mexican Mountain	58,326		
Mill Creek Canyon	9,866		
Moquith Mountain	15,249		
Mount Ellen-Blue Hills	81,363		
Mount Hillers	19,277		
Mount Pennell	77,137		
Mud Spring Canyon	40,573		
Muddy Creek	30,521		
Mule Canyon	6,171		
		<b>86 Wilderness Study Areas - 3,232,402 acres</b>	

## Appendix - D: Utah National Conservation Lands Enabling Legislation

National Conservation Lands Unit(s)	Year	Legislation
Beaver Dam Mountains Wilderness, Paria Canyon-Vermillion Cliffs Wilderness <a href="http://bit.ly/arizonawildernessact">http://bit.ly/arizonawildernessact</a>	1984	Arizona Wilderness Act of 1984
Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument <a href="http://1.usa.gov/GSENMdesignation">http://1.usa.gov/GSENMdesignation</a>	1996	Proclamation 6920: Establishment of Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness <a href="http://bit.ly/CCBRCW">http://bit.ly/CCBRCW</a>	2000	Colorado Canyons National Conservation Area and Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness Act of 2000
Cedar Mountain Wilderness <a href="http://bit.ly/NDAA2006">http://bit.ly/NDAA2006</a>	2006	National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2006 (PUBLIC LAW 109-163)
Beaver Dam Wash and Red Cliffs National Conservation Area, Wild and Scenic Rivers, Designated Wilderness in Washington County <a href="http://on.doi.gov/omnibusplm">http://on.doi.gov/omnibusplm</a>	2009	Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (the Act), P.L.111-11.



*Beaver Dam Wash National Conservation Area*

# Appendix - E: The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009

## TITLE II—BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT AUTHORIZATIONS

### Subtitle A—National Landscape Conservation System

#### SEC. 2001. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

- (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.
- (2) SYSTEM.—The term “system” means the National Landscape Conservation System established by section 2002(a).

PUBLIC LAW 111–11—MAR. 30, 2009 123 STAT. 1095

#### SEC. 2002. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION SYSTEM.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—In order to conserve, protect, and restore nationally significant landscapes that have outstanding cultural, ecological, and scientific values for the benefit of current and future generations, there is established in the Bureau of Land Management the National Landscape Conservation System.

(b) **COMPONENTS.**—The system shall include each of the following areas administered by the Bureau of Land Management:

(1) Each area that is designated as—

- (A) a national monument;
- (B) a national conservation area;
- (C) a wilderness study area;
- (D) a national scenic trail or national historic trail designated as a component of the National Trails System;
- (E) a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; or
- (F) a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

(2) Any area designated by Congress to be administered for conservation purposes, including—

- (A) the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area;
- (B) the Headwaters Forest Reserve;
- (C) the Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area;

(D) public land within the California Desert Conservation

Area administered by the Bureau of Land Management for conservation purposes; and

(E) any additional area designated by Congress for inclusion in the system.

(c) **MANAGEMENT.**—The Secretary shall manage the system—

(1) in accordance with any applicable law (including regulations) relating to any component of the system included under subsection (b); and

(2) in a manner that protects the values for which the components of the system were designated.

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(d) **EFFECT.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Nothing in this subtitle enhances, diminishes, or modifies any law or proclamation (including regulations relating to the law or proclamation) under which the components of the system described in subsection (b) were established or are managed, including—

(A) the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.);

(B) the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.);

(C) the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.);

(D) the National Trails System Act (16 U.S.C. 1241 et seq.); and

(E) the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.).

(2) **FISH AND WILDLIFE.**—Nothing in this subtitle shall be construed as affecting the authority, jurisdiction, or responsibility of the several States to manage, control, or regulate fish and resident wildlife under State law or regulations, including the regulation of hunting, fishing, trapping and recreational shooting on public land managed by the Bureau of Land Management. Nothing in this subtitle shall be construed as limiting access for hunting, fishing, trapping, or recreational shooting.

**SEC. 2003. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this subtitle.

/s/ President Barack Obama, The Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009, 3/30/2009

## Appendix - F: Secretarial Order No. 3308

### THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR Washington

ORDER NO. 3308

SIGNATURE DATE: November 15, 2010

Subject: Management of the National Landscape Conservation System

**Sec. 1 Purpose.** This Secretary's Order (Order) seeks to further the purposes of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Act), which established the National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS) under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in order to conserve, protect, and restore nationally significant landscapes that have outstanding cultural, ecological, and scientific values for the benefit of current and future generations, and the President's initiative on America's Great Outdoors.

**Sec. 2 Background.** The BLM is the steward of many great American landscapes. As the population in the West continues to grow, there is an ever increasing need to conserve the open spaces that are a unique and price-less part of America's heritage. America's evolving land use needs resulted in the bipartisan passage of the Act. The Act permanently established the NLCS as an integral part of the BLM. The NLCS contains many of our Nation's most treasured landscapes, including scientific, historic and cultural resources, wilderness and wilderness study areas, wild and scenic rivers, national monuments, national conservation areas, and scenic and historic trails, among others.

The BLM has the challenging mission of balancing the myriad competing land and resource uses, and remains committed to making the public lands and resources available for a wide variety of uses. This Order recognizes that conservation of this Nation's rich natural and cultural heritage is an equally important land management objective, and an integral part of the BLM's multiple-use mission. Conservation is a long-term investment that provides quality of life and economic benefits for current and future generations.

**Sec. 3 Authority.** This Order is issued in accordance with the authorities contained in: Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1950, as amended, 5 U.S.C. § 301, 43 U.S.C. §§ 1451, 1453; Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, 43 U.S.C. § 1701 et seq.; and the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009.

**Sec. 4 Policy.**

- a. The BLM shall ensure that the components of the NLCS are managed to protect the values for which they were designated, including, where appropriate, prohibiting uses that are in conflict with those values. If consistent with such protection, appropriate multiple uses may be allowed, consistent with the applicable law and the relevant designations under which the components were established.
- b. The NLCS components shall be managed as an integral part of the larger landscape, in collaboration with the neighboring land owners and surrounding communities, to maintain

biodiversity, and promote ecological connectivity and resilience in the face of climate change.

c. Components of the NLCS shall be managed to offer visitors the adventure of experiencing natural, cultural and historic landscapes through self-directed discovery.

d. Science shall be integrated into management decisions concerning NLCS components in order to enhance land and resource stewardship and promote greater understanding of lands and resources through research and education.

e. The NLCS shall serve as a place to build and sustain diverse communities of partners and volunteers dedicated to conserving, protecting, restoring, and interpreting our natural and cultural heritage.

f. The NLCS shall recognize the importance of a diversity of viewpoints when considering management options. Accordingly, the NLCS shall be managed from an interdisciplinary perspective. In so doing, the NLCS shall draw upon the expertise of specialists throughout the BLM, in coordination with the tribes, other Federal, state, and local government agencies, interested local landowners, adjacent communities, and other public and private interests. When seeking these viewpoints, the NLCS must consider the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, and any other applicable laws and regulations.

g. The NLCS shall endeavor to inspire the next generation of natural resource and public land stewards by engaging youth through education, interpretation, partnerships, and job opportunities.

**Sec. 5 Organizational Changes.** The BLM shall establish a new directorate, called the National Landscape Conservation System and Community Partnerships, to replace the Office of the National Landscape Conservation System and Community Partnerships. The BLM shall initiate the process to establish this directorate within 120 days of the date of this Order.

**Sec. 6 Implementation.** The Director of the BLM is responsible for ensuring implementation of this Order.

**Sec. 7 Expiration Date.** This Order is effective immediately and will remain in effect until its provisions are converted to the Departmental Manual or until it is amended, superseded, or revoked, whichever occurs first.

/s/ Ken Salazar, Secretary of the Interior SO#3308 11/15/10



**“The Bureau of Land Management plays a special role in protecting America’s great outdoors for the benefit of all Americans – for it is the national conservation lands that contain the forests and canyons that families love to explore, the backcountry where children learn to hunt and fish, and the places that tell the story of our history and our cultures. Each of these places within the National Landscape Conservation System holds special meaning to the American people and is an engine for jobs and economic growth in local communities.”**

**Ken Salazar, former Secretary of the Interior**



# **NATIONAL CONSERVATION LANDS**

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT - UTAH  
5-YEAR STRATEGY 2014 - 2019**

For additional National Conservation Lands information and maps,  
please visit the website at: <http://www.blm.gov/nlcs>

Additional copies of this publication are available from:

**Bureau of Land Management  
440 West 200 South, Suite 500  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101**