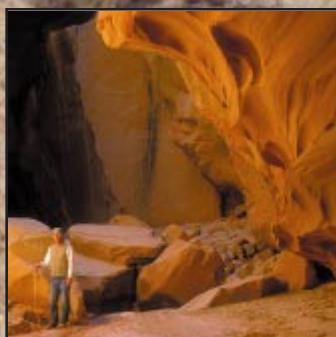
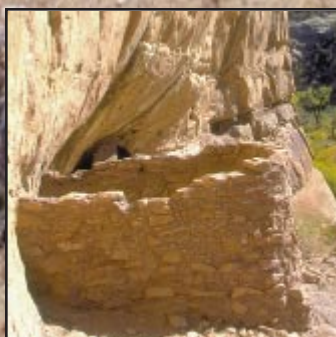
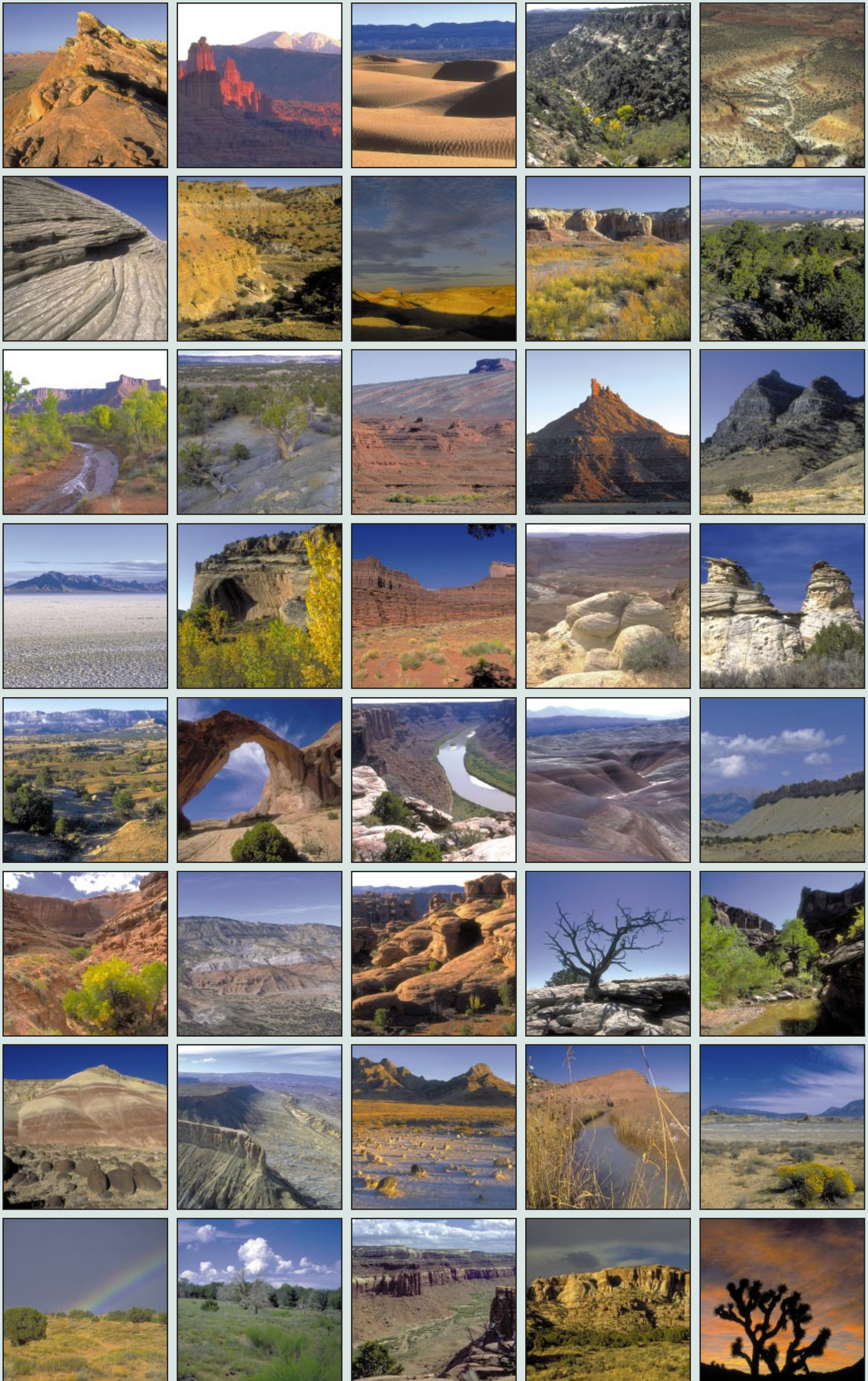

UTAH

Wilderness Inventory

1999





Front cover: BULLFROG CREEK–Bullfrog Creek Canyon; Mount Hillers and Mount Pennell in background.

Back cover: BULLFROG CREEK–Bullfrog Creek Canyon.

Front cover, insets and back cover by Jerry Sintz.

UTAH

Wilderness Inventory



1999

Letter of Transmittal

To: Secretary of the Interior

From: BLM State Director, Montana
BLM State Director, Nevada

Subject: 1999 Utah Wilderness Inventory Report

Following nearly two decades of continuing national controversy concerning the status of certain public lands in Utah, and the presence or absence of wilderness values on those lands, you directed the Bureau of Land Management in 1996 to undertake a professional, comprehensive, objective review of the conditions on the ground today and to report our findings back to you.

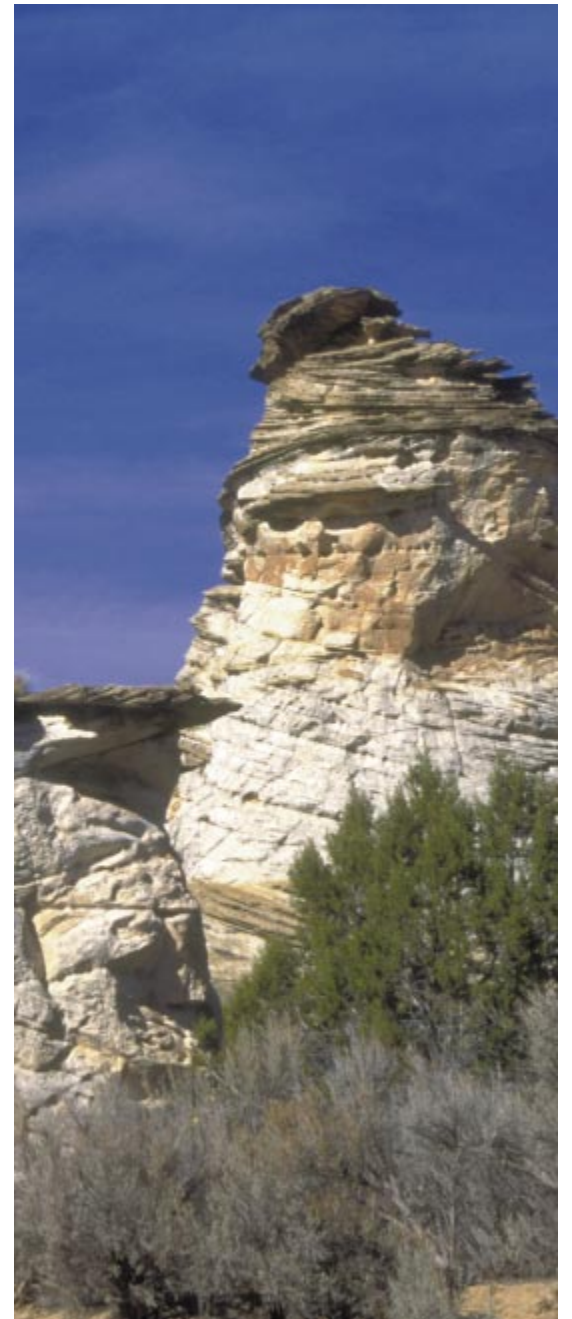
We set out to make an administrative determination regarding wilderness characteristics in areas identified by legislation before Congress, using a team of dedicated career professionals from Utah and throughout the Bureau. You instructed us to apply the same legal criteria and definitions that have been used in all such exercises in the Bureau's history, and to focus strictly on the facts concerning each area within the review.

The team undertook a comprehensive document review of the public record over the last 20 years, consulted with the State of Utah regarding its recent review of lands with wilderness potential, and conducted extensive field examinations to "ground-truth" all of the areas contained in this report.

This administrative inventory was performed under authority of Section 201 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. That authority was affirmed by the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit in 1998, which overturned a 1996 order from a District Court judge in Utah enjoining BLM from continuing the inventory process. These legal proceedings, while eventually affirming the process by which the inventory was conducted, effectively delayed the transmittal of this report for two years.

This report represents the considered judgment of career professionals with decades of experience in the management of public lands; they applied all legal criteria for this phase of the inventory process, addressing the condition of these lands at the present time. We make no judgments regarding suitability or manageability of these lands as potential wilderness areas and make no recommendations regarding the ultimate status of these lands.

We appreciate the confidence you have expressed by having us complete this inventory. Each of the participants remains fully cognizant of the importance of this inventory, and of doing it right. It is presented in a format that we believe you will find straightforward and easy to follow.



MUD SPRING CANYON—Juniper tree in the Mud Spring Canyon inventory unit, Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.



Jerry Sintz

*Rod "Skip" Schipper
1949-1997*

*Geologist, historian, wilderness specialist
Dedicated career professional land manager
21-year veteran, Bureau of Land Management*



*He worked with the land, loved the land,
and knew our responsibilities to care for the land.*

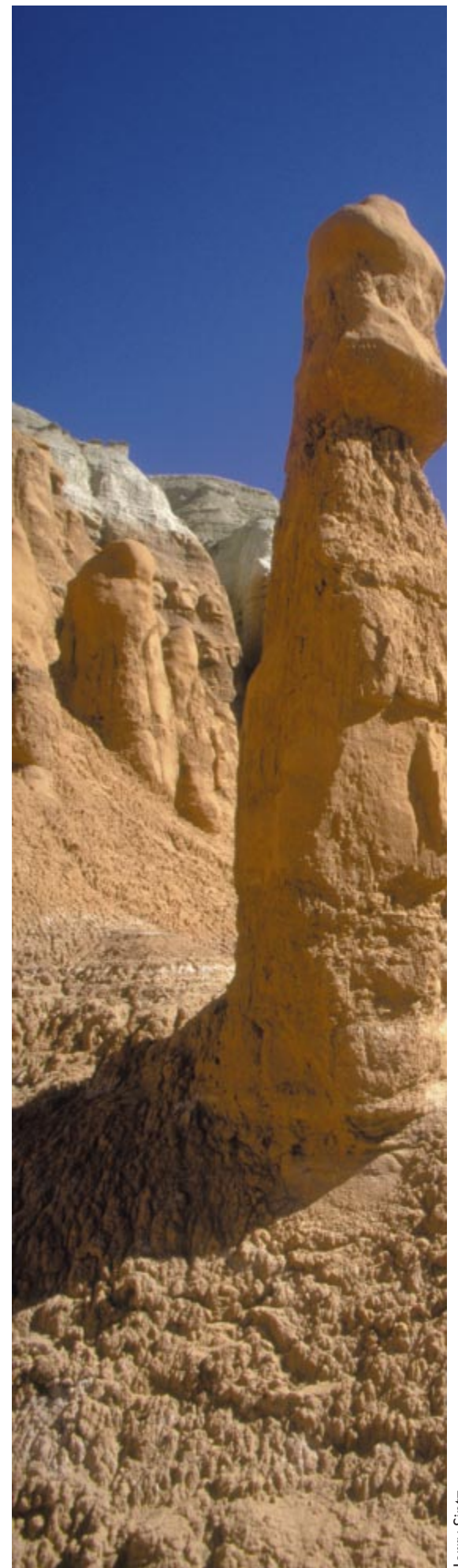


*Member, Utah Wilderness Inventory Team 1979-1980
Member, Utah Wilderness Inventory Team 1996-1997*

UTAH WILDERNESS INVENTORY

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WILD HORSE MESA—Entrada Sandstone with pinnacles and hoodoos just west of Goblin Valley.

Jerry Sintz



BLM photo

DARK CANYON—The inventory units provide the only trail access to scenic Fable Valley in the Dark Canyon WSA.



J. Levy

MEXICAN MOUNTAIN—A view of Unit 3, looking towards the Mexican Mountain WSA.

Introduction

History

For more than 20 years, debate has raged over the identification and management of certain public lands in the State of Utah, and whether some areas should have been designated for wilderness study as part of the original inventory process required by the 1976 Federal Land Policy and Management Policy Act (FLPMA).

FLPMA sets forth the basic principles and procedures the federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM) must follow in the management of public lands. Following its enactment, BLM initiated a westwide inventory of public lands to determine areas with wilderness characteristics, as defined by the 1964 Wilderness Act.

There were three stages in that process: an initial inventory to select lands for further consideration, the identification of lands with wilderness characteristics, and recommendations for Congressional designation or release based on “suitability” and “manageability”, as judged by BLM and the Administration at the time.

Charges that the BLM improperly omitted qualifying areas in the original inventory led to protests and appeals, hearings before Congress, legislative proposals to protect the disputed areas, and the most intractable controversy over any resource inventory since the passage of FLPMA.

During this time, Utah wilderness became the subject of national debate, with members of both parties attempting to pass legislation to resolve the issue. Despite many years and numerous efforts, none have yet succeeded. In a June 1996 letter to Representative James Hansen of Utah, Chairman of the Public Lands Subcommittee of the House Resources Committee, Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt observed that “an important reason for this stalemate is that the various interests involved are so far apart on the threshold, fundamental issue of how much BLM land has wilderness characteristics in the state”.

Accordingly, the Secretary directed that a six-month administrative field review of the lands in question be conducted to assess conditions on the ground two decades after the first inventories began. In the same letter to Representative Hansen, the Secretary reported that the team undertaking the review was “explicitly instructed to apply the same legal criteria that were used in the original inventory, and to consider each area on its own merits, solely to determine whether it has wilderness characteristics. The team will have no particular acreage target to meet; the chips will fall where they may.”

The inventory team began gathering information in July 1996, and field work was initiated in September 1996. In October 1996, the State of Utah, the Utah State Institutional Trust Lands Administration, and the Utah Association of Counties filed suit in federal district court in Utah, challenging the Secretary’s authority to conduct the re-inventory. In November 1996, the federal district court issued a temporary restraining order barring further work on the inventory. The United States complied with the injunction but appealed the decision to the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals. In March 1998, the Tenth Circuit reversed the district court on all counts relating to the inventory.

In deciding the case, the Court referred to the “plain language” of Section 201 of FLPMA, which says:

“The Secretary shall prepare and maintain on a continuing basis an inventory of all public lands and their resource and other values (including, but not limited to, outdoor recreation and scenic values), giving priority to areas of critical environmental concern. This inventory shall be kept current so as to reflect changes in conditions and to identify new and emerging resource and other values. The preparation and maintenance of such inventory or the identification of such areas shall not, of itself, change or prevent change of the management or use of public lands.”

On June 19, 1998, the injunction was lifted and the inventory team was asked to reassemble, finish the field work and write the following report.

Secretarial Direction

As Secretary Babbitt wrote to the Senate Appropriations Committee in 1996, “This is a narrowly focused exercise directed at a unique problem: the extraordinary 20-year-old Utah wilderness inventory controversy.” The Secretary’s instructions to the BLM were to “focus on the conditions on the disputed ground today, and to obtain the most professional, objective, and accurate report possible so we can put the inventory questions to rest and move on.” He asked the BLM to assemble a team of experienced, career professionals and directed them to apply the same legal criteria used in the earlier inventory and the same definition of wilderness contained in the 1964 Wilderness Act.

The Secretary asked the team to review the written public record on the subject of Utah wilderness, including information and materials generated by both the state and federal government during the past 20 years. The team was then to undertake a comprehensive “ground-truthing” field review, using proposed legislation before

Congress (HR 1500 and HR 1745) to identify the areas for examination. Conditions on the ground would determine whether the boundary lines of the inventory unit exactly followed those specified in the proposed legislation, or were adjusted based on the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics.

From the outset, the Secretary gave clear instruction that the process would be strictly limited to the administrative identification of lands with wilderness characteristics based on established legal definitions. The team would not make recommendations regarding legislative designations of wilderness areas or the creation of new wilderness study areas. Because FLPMA provides that only Congress can abolish existing wilderness study areas created as a result of the initial inventory nearly two decades ago, the team was also instructed not to review lands within wilderness study areas.

No public hearings or meetings were held during this phase. The BLM was directed to complete the administrative document and field review and to report the results to the Secretary. Secretary Babbitt said that after the report was made public, he would consider initiating a Legislative Environmental Impact Statement and/or a FLPMA Section 202 planning process that could lead to recommendations to Congress or to changes in the status of certain lands studied during the inventory process.

If those steps are taken, the Secretary promised the opportunity for public input in any resulting process. Until then, the BLM was explicitly instructed not to change the management of any lands within the inventory areas based on the results of this survey. The Court of Appeals noted this clear direction when it ruled that the BLM could proceed with an internal staff inventory prior to any public hearings held as part of a section 202 planning process.

Inventory Team

In keeping with the Secretary’s determination that the inventory be a professional exercise with no preordained outcome about its findings, the BLM assembled a team of career professionals to conduct the review. Bob Abbey (Colorado Associate State Director at that time) was asked by the Director of the BLM to head the inventory effort.

At the request of the state BLM office in Utah, the team leader sought to draw on expertise throughout the Bureau, with approximately half of the team staffed with Utah BLM personnel and the other half with BLM team from other states.

The mix of Utah and non-Utah personnel was designed to minimize the impact of the review project on ongoing workloads in local BLM offices while providing a fresh, objective examination of the areas whose wilderness characteristics were in question.

The exercise brought together a combination of BLM's most experienced wilderness professionals (many from outside Utah) with those having extensive field experience in Utah (primarily from existing Utah BLM staff). Many of the team members had participated in the earlier Utah inventory and/or in earlier wilderness inventories in other states. All told, the inventory team had many decades of experience in wilderness issues throughout the West. Team members and contributors to this report are listed in the Appendix (see pages A2 and A3).

While a number of BLM personnel worked on the project between 1996 and 1998, team did task-specific work, such as historical document review, aerial photography analysis, field study, review of findings, and writing, editing, and publishing of the report. All team members served on a part-time basis, as needed; the inventory exercise had no full-time staff.

The team ceased all work when the district court issued the injunction in November 1996. In June 1998, when the court injunction against proceeding with the inventory was lifted, the Director appointed Larry Hamilton, State BLM Director in Montana, to oversee the resumption and conclusion of the report to the Secretary. He and Bob Abbey, who had since become State BLM Director in Nevada, worked closely together to assure a seamless transition and assure that both State Directors had confidence in the inventory team and the report.

Methodology

The Wilderness Act defines wilderness as an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions, and which:

- (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable;
- (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation;
- (3) has at least five thousand acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and
- (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.

These criteria, commonly referred to as naturalness, outstanding opportunities, size, and supplemental values, directed this inventory as well as all previous BLM wilderness inventories. A more detailed description of these criteria is included in the Appendix (see page A1).

The BLM reviewed the 1978 wilderness inventory handbook and the three organic act directives that guided the earlier inventory, and combined them into a single guidance document. Because the purpose of this reinventory was limited simply to documenting on-the-ground conditions regarding the presence or absence of wilderness characteristics, it

was possible to eliminate several steps from the previous process.

For example, the earlier handbook included many planning steps, such as the public review and comment needed to amend land use plans. Because the reinventory did not determine whether any area should be recommended to Congress for wilderness designation, made into a wilderness study area, or subject to any other management regime, no procedures for these steps were needed and none were included.

Two other modifications to the earlier guidance were made, one of which tended to increase, and the other to decrease, the acreage inventoried. First, in the earlier inventory, boundaries were drawn to avoid state lands, which had the effect in some cases of eliminating intermingled public lands from wilderness inventory. Boundaries in the reinventory were not drawn to avoid state lands. This was done for several reasons, including the fact that recent Utah wilderness bills introduced by both parties have included state lands, and that the State of Utah has expressed its interest in exchanging any state lands included within designated wilderness. The decision to include, rather than avoid, state lands within the boundaries of inventory units had the effect of adding public land areas and acreage to the inventory units.

Second, the earlier inventory guidance allowed lands with a substantially noticeable human imprint to be identified as having wilderness characteristics where these imprints could be reduced either by natural processes or by hand labor to a level judged to be substantially unnoticeable. In this just-completed inventory, however, areas determined to have substantially noticeable human imprints were categorized as lacking wilderness characteristics, regardless of the potential



BULLFROG CREEK— Bullfrog Creek Canyon; Glen Canyon National Recreation Area in the background.

Jerry Sintz

for reducing that imprint in the future. This had the effect of removing areas and acreage from consideration. For example, where impacts might be rehabilitated but did not appear natural in their current condition, the area with the impacts was excluded from the boundary of the inventory unit.

Beyond the comprehensive historical document review, the specific steps taken to conduct the inventory included the following:

- The boundaries of the areas proposed for wilderness designation in legislation before Congress (H.R. 1500 and H.R. 1745) and the BLM WSA boundaries were first transferred to aerial photographs.
- Trained aerial photography interpreters reviewed each photograph and marked them to identify any and all potential surface disturbances.
- Potential surface-disturbance information was transferred from the aerial photographs to large-scale (7.5-minute) orthophoto and topographic maps.
- The aerial photographs and orthophoto and topographic maps generated in the first three steps were gathered into individual inventory case files and given to an inventory team.
- Available information on each inventory unit was gathered and reviewed.
- Each inventory unit was visited and surveyed on the ground. Field checks were made using helicopter flights, driving boundary roads and ways within the units, and hiking to remote locations. All surface disturbances were examined. The inventory team was equipped with Global Positioning System (GPS) units, which use satellite technology to determine precise locations on the ground. The GPS equipment, in concert with current maps and aerial photographs, allowed the team to quickly and accurately document the location of all surface disturbances, roads and ways, and photo points.
- The presence of roads or ways associated with each inventory unit was documented on field maps, road/way analysis forms, and photographs. This documentation was placed in each case file.
- The presence or absence of other surface disturbances was documented on field maps and photographed. This documentation was placed in the case file.
- Each case file was reviewed by the field team, the team leader, and in some cases the project leader, and a preliminary finding of the presence and/or absence of wilderness characteristics was made.
- A draft Wilderness Inventory Evaluation was written for each inventory unit and the Permanent Documentation File was completed.

- The project leader reviewed Wilderness Inventory Evaluations and made a final decision on findings.

Presentation of Findings

Inventory Products. This inventory produced two specific products: (1) this 1999 Utah Wilderness Inventory Report to the Secretary, and (2) a Permanent Documentation File for each inventory unit.

1. This Report to the Secretary contains overall results of the wilderness inventory and summaries of the data gathered for each inventory unit, including:

Inventory Unit Acres—Acreage totals for the area inventoried, acreage found to possess wilderness characteristics, and acreage found to lack wilderness characteristics. When an area contiguous to the inventory unit has wilderness characteristics (either an existing BLM Wilderness Study Area, other agency designated wilderness, or an area administratively endorsed for wilderness by another agency), this is noted on the acreage table.

Unit Description—A summary of the inventory unit, including its general location, major features, general topography and vegetation, and current and past uses.

Wilderness Characteristics—A general summary of the wilderness values found as defined by the Wilderness Act of 1964: size, naturalness, solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation, and supplemental values.

Inventory Unit Map—A map showing the inventoried area(s). Wilderness Study Areas that are contiguous or within the general area are identified and shown, as are lands managed by other agencies. Areas with or without wilderness characteristics within the inventory units are also shown.

Maps in this document represent inventory unit and WSA boundaries to the degree of accuracy available at a small scale. For detailed information, official maps at a larger scale are filed in each Permanent Documentation File.

2. The Permanent Documentation File is a case file established for each inventory unit. These case files contain the information gathered in the inventory, including a 7-30 page Wilderness Inventory Evaluation, road/way forms, various topographic maps, photographs and photo logs, aerial photographs, and miscellaneous information.

Organization of this Report. This report groups inventory units into seven geographic regions.

1. Northwest Region: includes the northern portion of Utah's West Desert.
2. West Central Region: includes the southern portion of Utah's West Desert.
3. Southwest Region: includes the vicinities of Zion National Park, Cedar City, and St. George.
4. South Central Region: includes the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument and areas west of Capitol Reef National Park.
5. East Central Region: includes the San Rafael Swell and Henry Mountains areas.
6. Southeast Region: includes the Canyonlands country.
7. Northeast Region: includes the Book Cliffs and Dinosaur National Monument areas.

The general location and extent of these regions in relation to the entire State of Utah are shown on the accompanying Regional Groups map. Individual inventory units within each region are listed in the Table of Contents and are also grouped within the document by regions.



STUDHORSE PEAKS—View of the inventory unit in the foreground to the rim of North Escalante Canyons ISA; Boulder Mountain on the far horizon.

List of Inventory Units

Inventory Area

Northwest Region

Little Goose Creek1
 Newfoundland Mountains2
 Silver Island Mountains3
 Cedar Mountains4
 North Stansbury Mountains5
 Big Hollow6
 Deep Creek Mountains7
 Fish Springs8
 Dugway Mountains9
 Rockwell10
 Oquirrh Mountains11
 Pilot Range12

West Central Region

Swasey Mountain13
 Notch Peak14
 Howell Peak15
 Conger Mountain16
 King Top17
 North Wah Wah Mountains18
 Central Wah Wah Mountains19
 Granite Peak20
 White Rock Range21

Southwest Region

Cougar Canyon22
 The Narrows23
 Joshua Tree24
 Beaver Dam Wash25
 Red Mountain26
 Orderville Canyon27
 Deep Creek28
 The Watchman29
 Goose Creek30
 Spring Creek Canyon31
 Black Ridge32
 Canaan Mountain33
 Parunuweap Canyon34
 Moquith Mountain35
 Upper Kanab Creek36

South Central Region

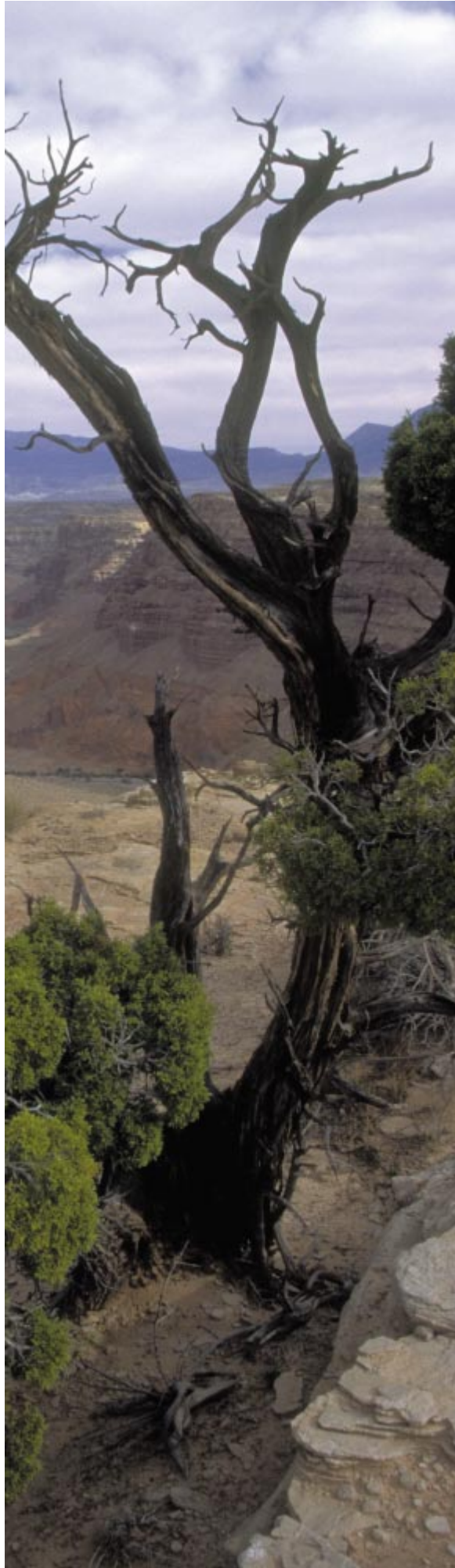
Paria-Hackberry37
 Horse Mountain38
 East of Bryce39
 Box Canyon40
 The Blues41
 Mud Spring Canyon42
 The Cockscomb43
 Wahweap-Death Ridge44
 Nipple Bench45
 Coyote Creek46
 Warm Creek47
 Squaw Canyon48
 Burning Hills49
 Fiftymile Mountain50
 Fiftymile Bench51
 Cave Point52
 Carcass Canyon53
 Horse Spring Canyon54
 Lampstand55
 North Escalante Canyons56
 Little Egypt57
 Scorpion58
 Hurricane Wash59
 Sunset Arch60
 Phipps-Death Hollow61
 Steep Creek62
 Studhorse Peaks63
 Colt Mesa64
 Fremont Gorge65

BULLFROG CREEK—Bullfrog Creek Canyon



Jerry Sintz

BULLFROG CREEK—Bullfrog Creek Canyon



Jerry Sintz

East Central Region

Notom Bench66
 Long Canyon67
 Dogwater Creek68
 Mount Ellen-Blue Hills69
 Bull Mountain70
 Ragged Mountain71
 Mount Pennell72
 Bullfrog Creek73
 Mount Hillers74
 Dirty Devil-French Spring75
 Little Rockies76
 Fiddler Butte77
 Horseshoe Canyon South78
 Labyrinth Canyon79
 Cedar Mountain80
 Devils Canyon81
 Hondu Country82
 Limestone Cliffs83
 Jones Bench84
 Mexican Mountain85
 Muddy Creek-Crack Canyon86
 Mussentuchit Badlands87
 San Rafael Reef88
 Sids Mountain89
 Upper Muddy Creek90
 Wild Horse Mesa91
 Red Desert92

Southeast Region

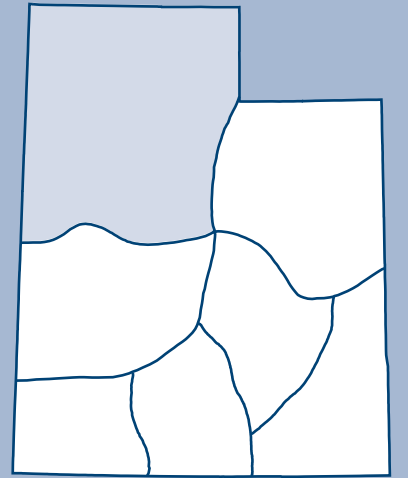
Cheesebox Canyon93
 Fort Klocker Canyon94
 Gravel and Long Canyons95
 Harmony Flat96
 Mancos Mesa97
 Nokai Dome98
 Grand Gulch99
 Fish and Owl Creeks100
 Road Canyon101
 San Juan River102
 Comb Ridge103
 Arch and Mule Canyons104
 Squaw and Papoose Canyon105
 Cross Canyon106
 Dark Canyon107
 Sheep Canyon108
 Shafer Canyon109
 Indian Creek110
 Harts Point111
 Bridger Jack Mesa112
 Butler Wash113
 Gooseneck114
 Goldbar115
 Behind the Rocks116
 Hatch Wash117
 Hunter Canyon118
 Beaver Creek119
 Fisher Towers120
 Granite Creek121
 Mill Creek Canyon122
 Negro Bill Canyon123
 Mary Jane Canyon124
 Westwater Canyon125
 Lost Spring Canyon126

Northeast Region

Desolation Canyon127
 Jack Canyon128
 Turtle Canyon129
 Floy Canyon130
 Coal Canyon131
 Spruce Canyon132
 Flume Canyon133
 Westwater Creek134
 Bull Canyon135
 Daniels Canyon136
 Diamond Breaks137
 Moonshine Draw138
 Cold Spring Mountain139
 White River140
 Wild Mountain141
 Cripple Cowboy142

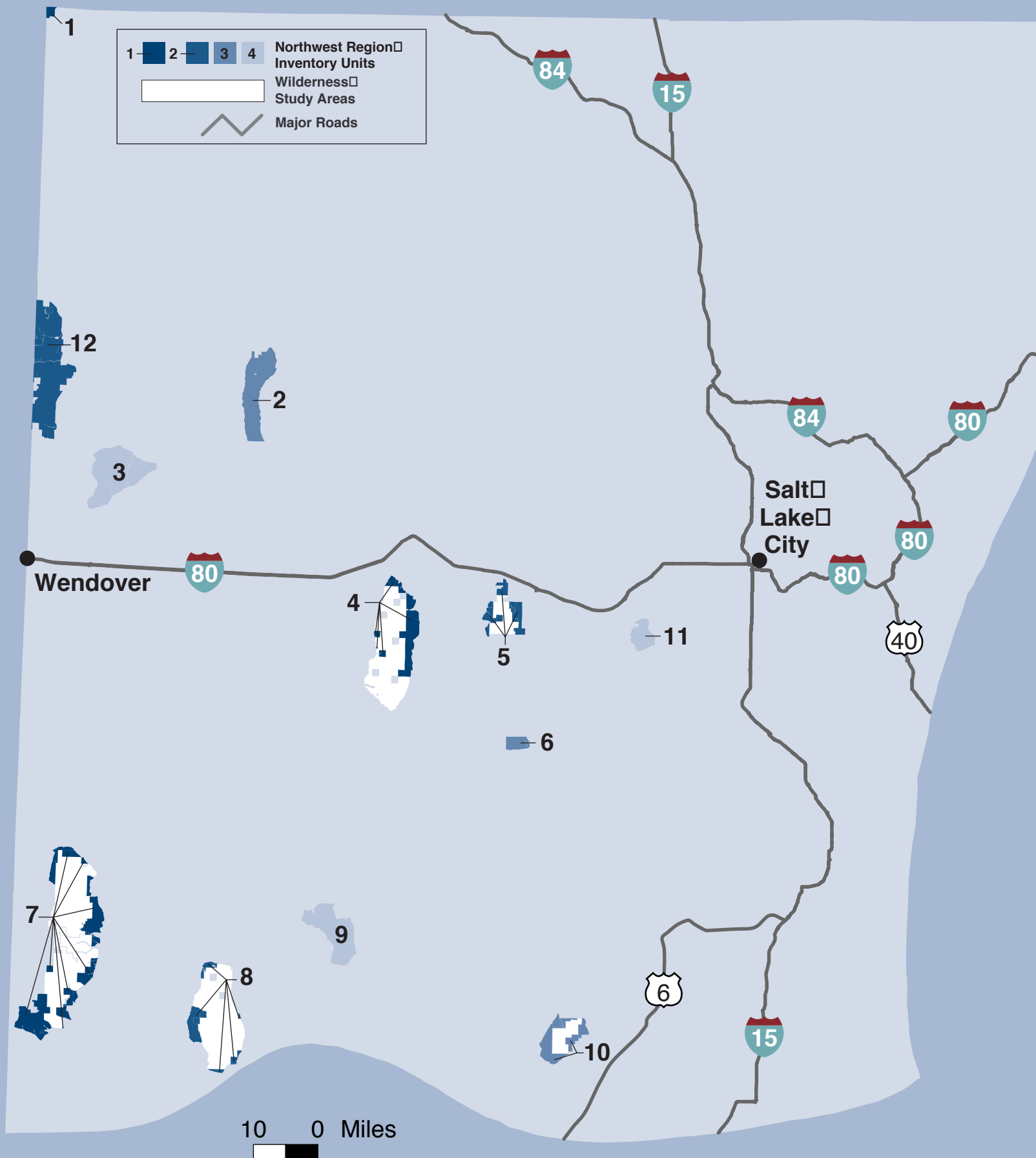
Northwest Region

Little Goose Creek1	Deep Creek Mountains7
Newfoundland Mountains2	Fish Springs8
Silver Island Mountains3	Dugway Mountains9
Cedar Mountains4	Rockwell10
North Stansbury Mountains5	Oquirrh Mountains11
Big Hollow6	Pilot Range12



SILVER ISLAND MOUNTAINS—
The south side of the "island" mountains, which are surrounded by the Great Salt Lake Desert.

Jerry Sintz



Little Goose Creek

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
1,300	0	1,300 (100%)
Inventory Unit Total		
1,300	0	1,300
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

None of the 1,300-acre Little Goose Creek inventory unit possesses the characteristics required for wilderness consideration because it is not at least 5,000 acres or of sufficient size to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition. Since the unit did not meet the basic size requirement, the naturalness and outstanding opportunities criteria were not evaluated.

Unit Description

The Little Goose Creek inventory unit is in Box Elder County in the extreme northwest corner of Utah, about 140 air miles northwest of Salt Lake City. It is all public land. Vegetation and topography include rolling desert hills, sagebrush flats, and small abrupt anticlines. Uses include recreational activities such as hiking, horseback riding, camping, hunting, and photography, as well as livestock grazing. Visitation is minimal because of the area's remoteness. The unit provides excellent habitat for wildlife and has some outstanding scenic vistas.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

An analysis of naturalness was not conducted on this unit because it does not meet the size criterion to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

An analysis of opportunities for solitude was not conducted on this unit because it does not meet the size criterion to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition.

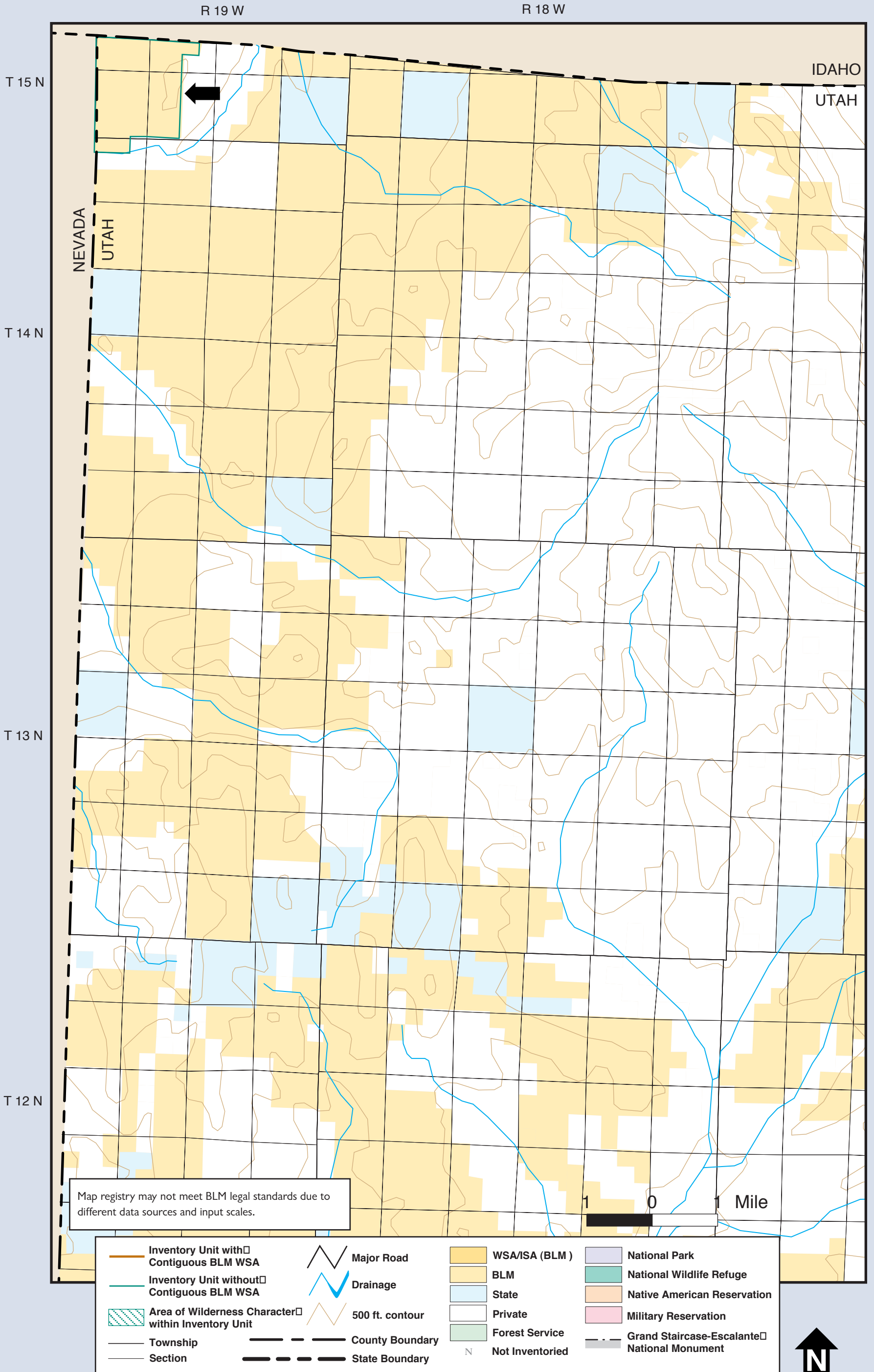
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

An analysis of opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation was not conducted on this unit because it does not meet the size criterion to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition.

Supplemental Values

No analysis of supplemental values was conducted on this unit because it does not meet the size criterion to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition.

Little Goose Creek



Newfoundland Mountains

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
23,000	3,000	26,000 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
23,000	3,000	26,000
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

The entire Newfoundland Mountains inventory unit (26,000 acres) possesses wilderness characteristics. While the north end of the inventory unit has some impacts from past mining and livestock grazing developments, the area as a whole is natural. The unit is dissected by numerous canyons and is large enough that the human imprints do not dominate the landscape. The southern portion of the inventory unit includes some stock ponds, but they are near the boundary road and thus do not impact the natural quality of the unit. The unit provides outstanding opportunities both for solitude and for primitive and unconfined types of recreation.

Unit Description

The Newfoundland Mountains inventory unit is located in Box Elder County about 80 air miles northwest of Salt Lake City. The inventory unit is composed of both public and state lands. A parcel of private land is cherry-stemmed from the unit.

The Newfoundland Mountains are typical of the Basin and Range Province. The unit is a long (about 15 miles) and narrow (about 3 to 4 miles wide) island in the Great Salt Lake Desert mud flats. This north-south trending range is steep and rugged, rising from an elevation of about 4,200 feet at the base to over 7,000 feet at Desert Peak. High vertical cliffs and green-white quartz monzonite outcrops create dramatic scenery in the northern end of the unit. Vegetation is somewhat sparse, although it is denser at the northern end than the south, and includes juniper along with associated shrubs and grasses. Common shrubs include sagebrush, rabbitbrush, and annual and perennial grasses.

NEWFOUNDLAND MOUNTAINS— Solitude and isolation can be found almost anywhere in this “island” mountain range totally surrounded by the Great Salt Lake Desert mud flats.

The inventory unit has been used principally for mining and livestock grazing. One peak is used by the military for a communication tracking site. Other uses include hunting and hiking.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

While the north end of the Newfoundland Mountains inventory unit has been impacted by past mineral development and livestock management facilities, the area as a whole retains its natural appearance. A few livestock water developments are present in the central and southern portions of the unit, as well as along the boundary road. The steep, rugged, and highly dissected nature of the landform localizes the impacts of these developments to the immediate environment surrounding them.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Several factors combine to provide outstanding opportunities for a visitor to find solitude. While the mountain range may appear narrow on the map, it is of sufficient width (3 - 4 miles) and length (about 15 miles) to create a large expanse of wild lands, providing plenty of land area in which to find solitude from the outside world and other visitors. Opportunities to get away from the sights and sounds of civilization are also afforded by the many canyons. From atop the peaks and main ridgeline, a visitor can see the Cedar Mountains and the Pilot Mountains, a distance of about 30 to 40 miles in either direction. This vastness creates a feeling of isolation. The Newfoundland Mountains, which are an island in the Great Salt Lake Desert mud

flats, appear to be only lightly visited. Past mining has stopped, livestock use is seasonal, and recreation use, while growing, is still light. Access to the area is not impossible, but it does take some effort, making the unit a good place to get away from people. All of these factors combine to create a truly outstanding opportunity for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

While the unit does not provide any one single outstanding primitive recreational activity, the combination of activities that are available are outstanding. These activities include day hiking, backpacking, horseback riding and packing, sightseeing, historical study, environmental study, photography, rockhounding, and hunting. The unit is large enough to provide for extended lengths of stay, and the isolated and natural setting further enhances these opportunities.

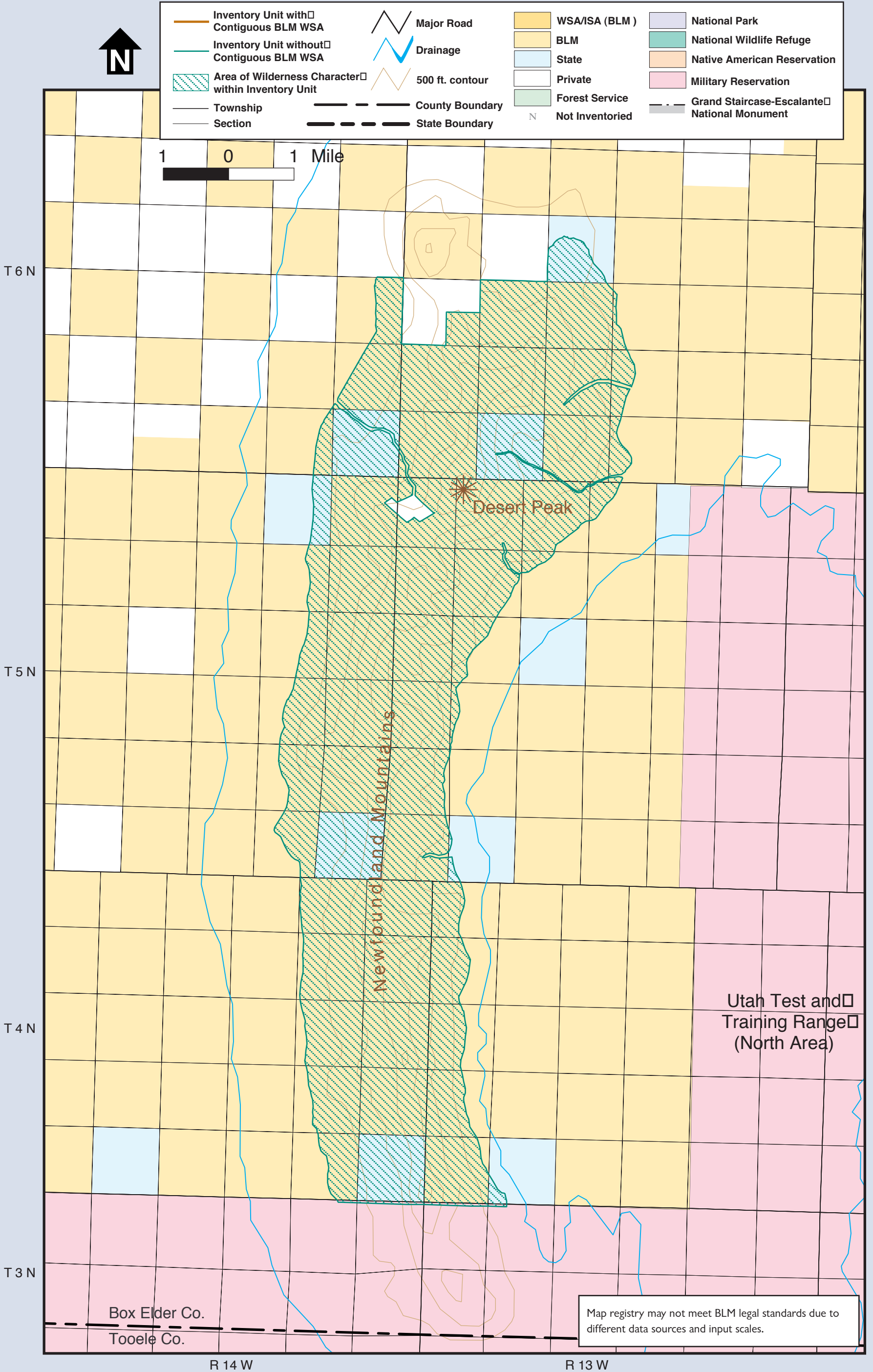
Supplemental Values

Steep, rugged, and near-vertical cliffs and quartz monzonite rock outcrops provide outstanding scenery, and long-distance views offer scenic vistas beyond the mountains. Historically, the unit has been explored for gold, silver, copper, and lead, and the Desert Flower Mine was a producing tungsten mine until the mid-1950s. From Desert Peak the visitor can envision the route of the Donner-Reed Trail stretching all the way from the Cedar Mountains to Donner Spring at the base of the Pilot Mountains. Ecologically, the Newfoundland Mountains are also quite interesting and somewhat unique. Numerous birds of prey and eyries are present in the cliff formations of the unit. The mountain range is a desert island surrounded by the Great Salt Lake Desert mud flats and is considered one of the most isolated tracts of public lands in northwestern Utah.



BLM photo

Newfoundland Mountains



Silver Island Mountains

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
30,600	4,700	35,300 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
30,600	4,700	35,300
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

Both of the Silver Island Mountains inventory units (totaling 35,300 acres) possess wilderness characteristics. Unit 1 is 26,900 acres and Unit 2 encompasses 8,400 acres. While there are some developments, they are substantially unnoticeable in the units as a whole and do not dominate the landscape. The units still retain their apparent naturalness. Rugged topography, numerous canyons, remoteness, and a lack of visitor use all contribute to an outstanding opportunity for solitude. A combination of outstanding primitive recreation opportunities are available, including hiking, camping, rockhounding, photography, horseback riding, hunting, and sightseeing. Supplemental values include geologic, archaeologic, and recreational values.

Unit Description

The Silver Island Mountains inventory units are located in the northwest corner of Tooele County and the southwest corner of Box Elder County, about 15 miles northeast of Wendover, Utah. This range of mountains extends 32 miles into the Great Salt Lake Desert northeast from the Utah/Nevada border. Unit 1 includes the central axis of Silver Island and is located between the Silver Island Pass Road on the south, the Silver Island Canyon Road on the east, the Donner-Reed Pass on the north, and a jeep road on the west. Unit 2 is the northeast corner of Silver Island, separated from Unit 1 by the Silver Island Canyon Road. A 200-acre private inholding has been cherry-stemmed out of Unit 1.

The topography is a composite of gently sloping benches, including Lake Bonneville terraces; foothills; and steep, rugged mountains rising from 5,200 feet to the 7,563-foot summit of Graham Peak in Unit 1 and the 7,021-foot summit of Cobb Peak in Unit 2. The ridge line is rugged, and the forces of nature have chiseled gullies, washes, and canyons in the units. The remains of ancient Lake Bonneville include terraces, benches, and

outwash alluvium. There are no perennial streams. Rugged rocky outcrops cover much of the units and vegetation is sparse. Thin stands of juniper and associated shrubs and grasses occur in the upper reaches of the units, while shrubs and grasses uniformly, but sparsely, cover the lower elevations.

Human uses include hiking, hunting, camping, off-highway vehicle driving, the exploration of caves and historic sites, and some mining-related activities.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Human developments do not significantly impact the naturalness of the units. Although there is evidence of 13 vehicle ways (totaling 12.6 miles) in Unit 1, their impact is almost negligible. Seventy percent of the vehicle ways are naturally rehabilitating and are barely visible. Evidence of mining exploration exists on the southern portion of Unit 1. Other than a 0.2 mile vehicle way and some mining exploration along the Silver Island Canyon Road, Unit 2 is totally natural. Because of the ruggedness and remoteness of the area, the units receive little use, as evidenced by the natural revegetation that is occurring.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

In spite of the lack of vegetative screening, the rugged topography, including numerous canyons, provides outstanding

opportunities for solitude. This remote area is not a high priority destination for the population of Salt Lake City or surrounding communities, so the area receives little visitor use, adding to the opportunity to find solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation exist in the units. Recreational activities include hiking, camping, rockhounding, photography, horseback riding, hunting, and sightseeing. The units lack water, so activities are limited in duration. Ridge tops and upper reaches of the units provide panoramic vistas overlooking the expanse of the Great Salt Lake Desert and nearby mountain ranges.

Supplemental Values

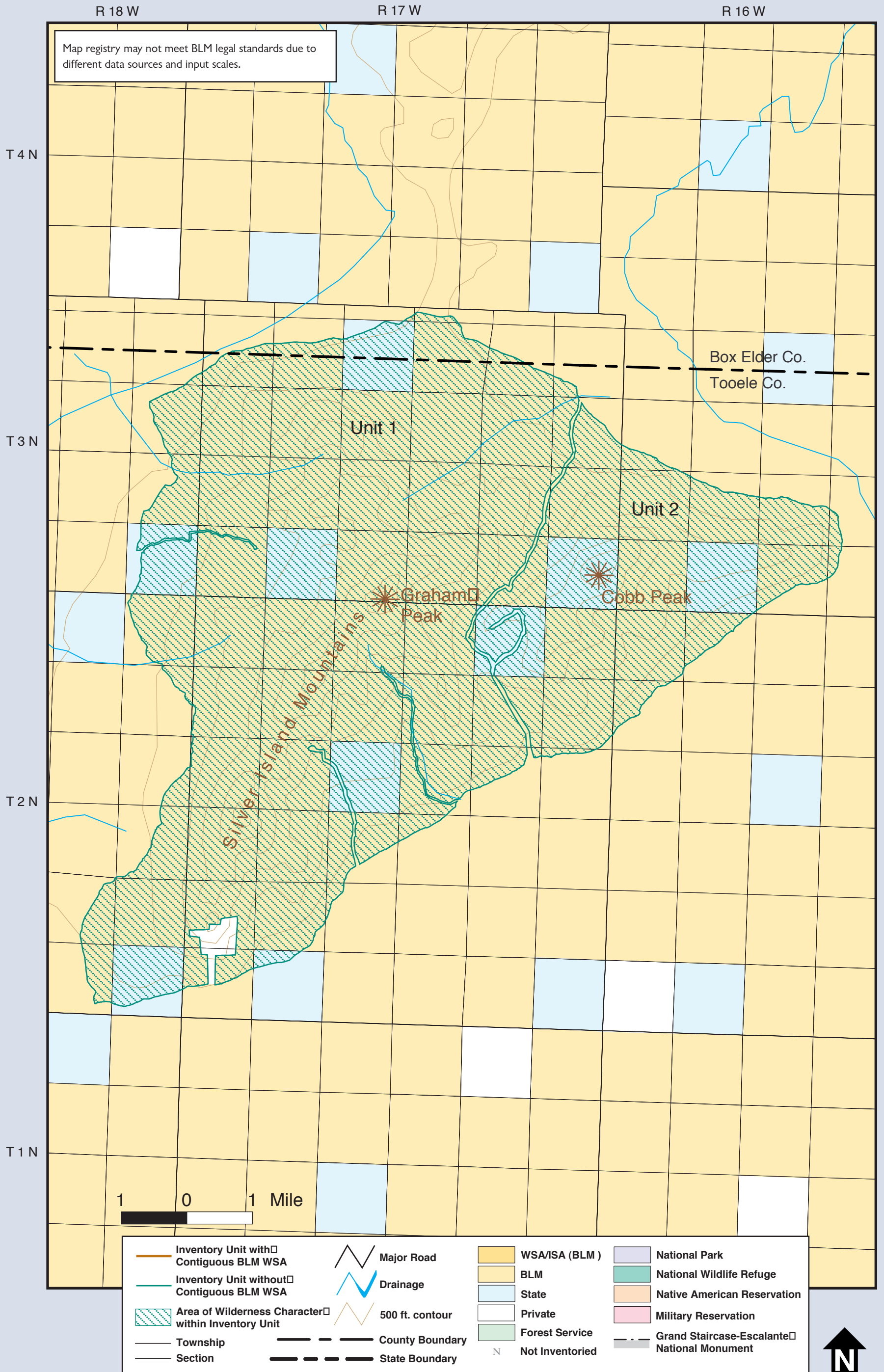
In the distant past, the Silver Island Mountains were washed by wave action from ancient Lake Bonneville. Now rockhounds are drawn to the prominent wave-cut terraces and the shoreline deposits of tufa. A veneer of Pleistocene sediments tell the area's geologic story. The units are rich in archaeological resources as well; several caves once served as habitation sites for prehistoric people. Silver Island also played a role in the more recent mining history of the region and stood as both barrier and sentinel to the pioneers who dared cross the inhospitable Salt Lake Desert. Donner Canyon in the northeast end of Unit 1 bears the name of the well-known Donner-Reed party that passed just north of the area on the historic Hastings Cutoff Trail on their way to California. The Silver Island Mountains National Back Country Byway encircles the units.



SILVER ISLAND MOUNTAINS—Surrounded by the Great Salt Lake Desert, these units provide ample opportunities to find solitude and seclusion from other visitors.

Jerry Sintz

Silver Island Mountains



NORTHWEST REGION—Silver Island Mountains

Cedar Mountains

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
15,540	0	15,540 (95%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
800	0	800 (5%)
Inventory Unit Total		
16,340	0	16,340
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Cedar Mountains WSA (UT-020-094)		50,500

These six units are extensions of the Cedar Mountains Wilderness Study Area (WSA). About 15,540 acres of the Cedar Mountains inventory units have wilderness characteristics. However, a portion of Unit 1 (800 acres) lacks naturalness because of noticeable disturbances from three mining areas. The boundary of Unit 6 has been drawn to exclude a substantially noticeable corral and water development, and roads and water developments at the ends of those roads have been cherry-stemmed from Units 3 and 4. The six units enhance the outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation found within the adjacent Cedar Mountains WSA. In addition, Unit 1 has supplemental values related to a historic trail.

Unit Description

The Cedar Mountains inventory units are in Tooele County about 50 air miles southwest of Salt Lake City. They are made up only of public lands; no state lands are included. There is a 40-acre private inholding near the northern boundary of Unit 3. The units are contiguous to the 50,500-acre Cedar Mountains WSA on the north, east, and west. Human uses include mining, livestock grazing, and hunting. There is some evidence of woodcutting on the west slope of the mountain range.

The six-unit area comprises the crest of the Cedar Mountains near Hastings Pass, the foothills on the east flank of the mountain range, a single section in the mountains near Quincy Spring, a 40-acre parcel on the west slope of the mountain range, and a single section on the lower slopes of the west flank of the mountain. The higher and more rugged portions of the Cedar Mountains Range are included in the existing WSA. Vegetation at the higher elevations is a continuation of the juniper forest common in the WSA, with

patchy juniper forest occurring on cooler and moister north slopes, along mountain drainages, and along ridges. Recent fires have thinned this forest in many locations. Sagebrush and other shrubs and grasses are found at lower elevations.

Wilderness Characteristics Naturalness

Most of the units appear natural. Portions of Units 1 and 6, however, are unnatural because of past mining activity and live-stock management facilities. Three areas of past mining activity have left a portion of Unit 1 unnatural. The boundary of Unit 6 has been drawn to exclude a substantially noticeable corral and the remnants of a water tank. Unit 2 has two vehicle ways, but they are substantially unnoticeable and do not impact the natural character of the unit. Unit 3 has nine vehicle ways, a cherry-stemmed road, three stock ponds, three troughs, and three fences. These features are not substantially noticeable and do not impact naturalness in Unit 3. The road and adjacent water developments have been cherry-stemmed from Unit 3. A cherry-stemmed road to Quincy Spring crosses the WSA into Unit 4. The road, buried pipeline, and spring development have all been cherry-stemmed from Unit 4. Unit 5 is natural.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The units are contiguous to the Cedar Mountains WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for solitude. From north to

south, the WSA extends about 20 miles and includes over 50,000 acres. The size of this WSA, coupled with mountainous topography and drainages, provides many places for the visitor to be free from the sights, sounds, and presence of other people.

The Cedar Mountains inventory units themselves generally include gently sloping topography covered primarily with shrubs and grasses. While the terrain of the units is open, the addition of these "lower slopes" enhances the existing opportunities for solitude found in the upper reaches of the mountain range within the WSA.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The units are contiguous to the Cedar Mountains WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including the opportunity to view wild horses. In addition, the WSA provides opportunities for deer and upland game hunting, hiking, backpacking, and horseback riding and packing. The variety and combination of these activities make the opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation outstanding. The addition of the six units' "lower slopes" enhances the outstanding opportunities found within the WSA.

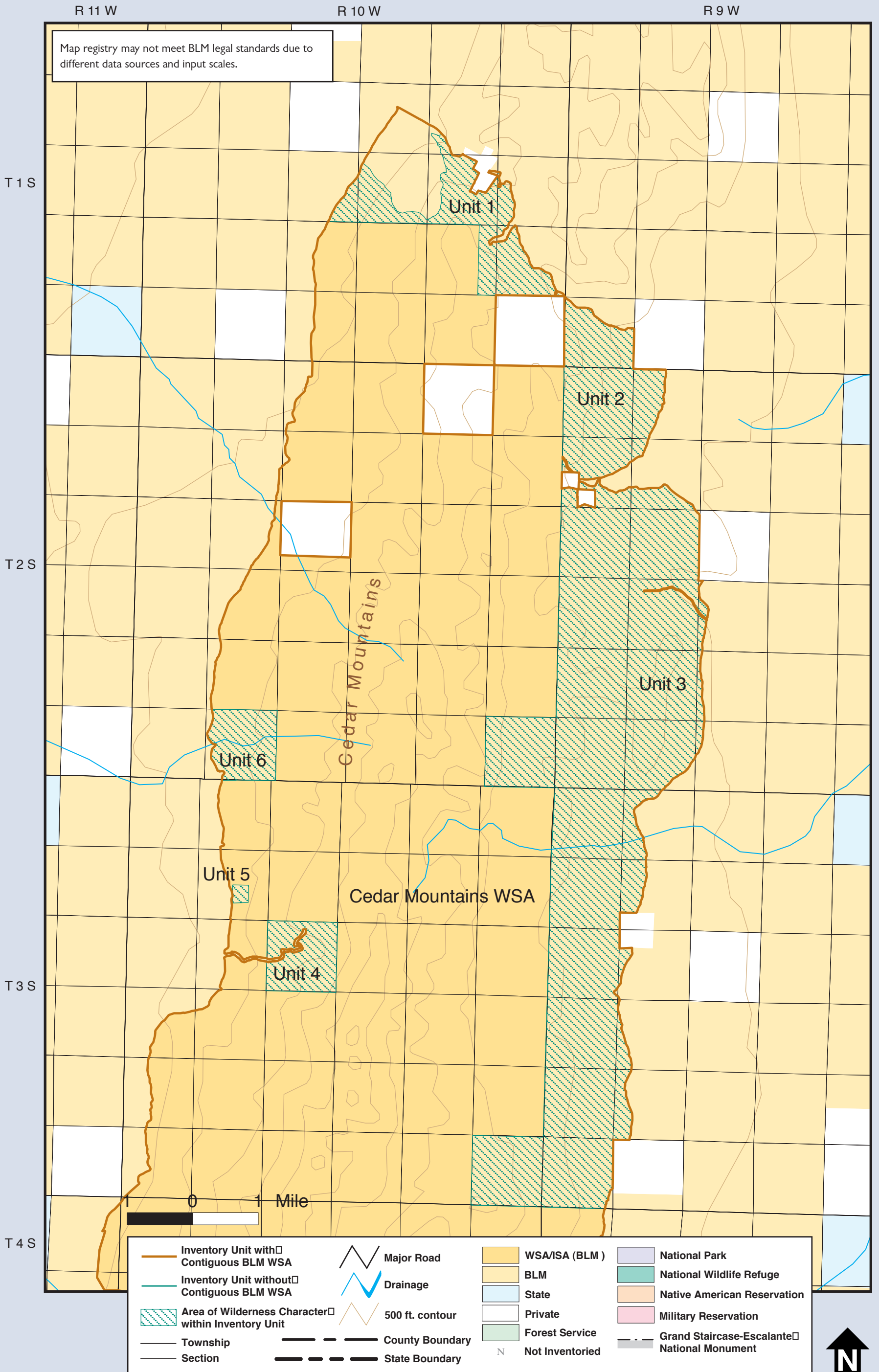
Supplemental Values

Hastings Cutoff through Hastings Pass at the northern end of Unit 1 was once the path taken by travelers using the historic California Trail. The Hastings Cutoff segment of the California Trail was the route taken by the Donner Party on their fateful journey to California. The California Trail is a designated National Historic Trail.

CEDAR MOUNTAINS—The lower slopes of the Cedar Mountains enhance the wilderness values found in the adjacent Cedar Mountains WSA.



Cedar Mountains



North Stansbury Mountains

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
6,800	1,240	8,040 (78%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
2,300	0	2,300 (22%)
Inventory Unit Total		
9,100	1,240	10,340
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
North Stansbury Mountains WSA (UT-020-089)		10,480

About 8,040 acres of the three North Stansbury Mountains inventory units have wilderness characteristics. Units 1 and 3 appear natural. They contain some vehicle ways, but these routes are returning to a natural condition and are substantially unnoticeable in the inventory unit as a whole. There is also some evidence of past mining and a cabin in Unit 3, but these features do not significantly detract from the natural character of the unit. However, only a portion of Unit 2 is natural; about 2,300 acres of Unit 2 do not have wilderness characteristics. The juniper forest in the northern portion of Unit 2 has been treated and seeded to grassland, and this part of the unit also contains numerous developments. All three units provide outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation in conjunction with the contiguous North Stansbury Mountains Wilderness Study Area (WSA).

Unit Description

The North Stansbury Mountains inventory units are in the northeastern quadrant of Tooele County about 40 miles west of Salt Lake City and 5 miles southeast of Timpie. They encompass the typical desert-locked, north-to-south trending mountain range that is so common in the Great Basin. The three units are all contiguous to the North Stansbury Mountains WSA. Unit 1 is contiguous to the north

end of the WSA, while Units 2 and 3 are contiguous to the WSA on the west and east, respectively. There is private land within the boundary of the inventory units that is accessed by a cherry-stemmed road. Elevations in the inventory unit range from 4,200 feet to 7,600 feet. The northern section is steep, rugged, and sparsely vegetated. Vegetation is predominantly juniper from the base of the mountains to the higher elevations, while grasslands and sagebrush occupy the gently sloping western foothills. The eastern side of the inventory units consists of steep juniper-covered hills, with grasslands on the gentler slopes. Douglas fir, spruce, pine, and aspen grow at the higher elevations of Miners Canyon in Unit 3.

Human uses of the units include outdoor recreation activities such as hunting, camping, and off-highway vehicle (OHV) driving; livestock grazing; removal of sand, gravel, and rock materials; woodcutting; and some mining assessment access to old mine claims.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Units 1 and 3 are natural in character, with the evidence of humans substantially unnoticeable. While Units 1 and 3 contain several vehicle ways, natural restoration is taking place and the routes are substantially unnoticeable. There is also some evidence of old mines and an old house in Unit 3, but these developments do not substantially detract from the natural character of the unit. Three of the five portions of Unit 2, however, are unnatural. Much of the juniper woodland in the northern three portions of the unit has been treated or burned by fire and seeded to grasslands. In addition, these parts of Unit 2 have noticeable intrusions, including a road,

eight vehicle ways, fences, power lines, stock tanks, wildlife guzzlers, water wells, borrow pits, and numerous OHV trails. The southernmost and eastern portions of Unit 2, however, do retain their natural character.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The North Stansbury Mountains WSA provides outstanding opportunities for solitude, given topography and vegetation that screen visitors from the sights and sounds of others and the outside world. Rugged canyons and heavily wooded north slopes provide an outstanding sense of isolation and seclusion. The topography and vegetation found in the WSA continue into the inventory units, enhancing opportunities for solitude throughout.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The combination of opportunities to hike, hunt, ride horses, photograph outdoor subjects, collect rocks and minerals, and camp provides outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation in the WSA. In conjunction with the WSA, the same combination of outstanding primitive recreation opportunities exists within the inventory units.

Supplemental Values

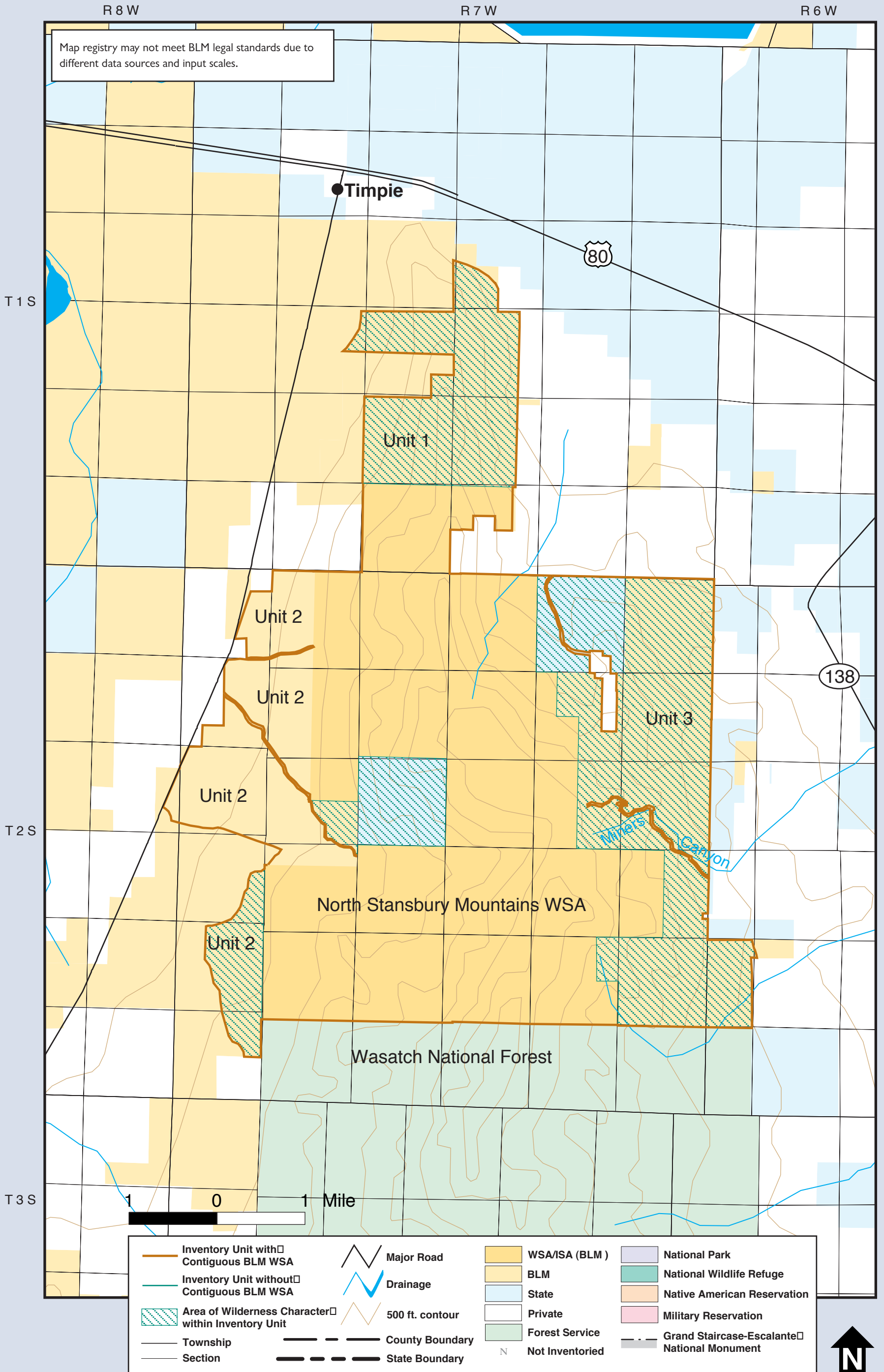
Unit 3 has evidence of old mines that may have historical significance. Ecological values are clearly displayed as the units rise through a spectrum of at least three vegetation life zones. Units 1 and 3 contain a number of scenic vistas of the surrounding valleys and the Great Salt Lake. Unit 2 is not likely to contain any supplemental values.



BLM photo

NORTH STANSBURY MOUNTAINS—
The inventory units contain a variety of ecological values, with the terrain rising through a spectrum of at least three vegetation life zones.

North Stansbury Mountains



NORTHWEST REGION—North Stansbury Mountains

Big Hollow

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
4,300	0	4,300 (100%)
Inventory Unit Total		
4,300	0	4,300
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

The Big Hollow inventory unit meets all the basic criteria required to have wilderness characteristics, except for size. While most of the acreage in the inventory unit is natural and provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation, the unit is only 4,300 acres in size and is no longer contiguous to other lands being considered for wilderness designation. Because the unit is less than 5,000 acres in size, it fails to meet the requirements for further consideration as wilderness.

Supplemental values exist, but they are not abundant. A cave in the unit might be of cultural value. Scenic vistas from the unit's upper boundary are pleasing; some might consider them spectacular. Naturalness is the unit's strongest value; it serves as a transition to the contiguous U.S. Forest Service (USFS) lands and to the nearby, but non-contiguous, USFS wilderness. There are outstanding qualities, but they are confined to the higher, well-screened canyons near the northern border of the unit and the national forest boundary.

Unit Description

The Big Hollow inventory unit is in east-central Tooele County about 57 miles southwest of Salt Lake City. There is a 40-acre parcel of private lands within the boundary of the unit that is accessed by a cherry-stemmed road. The terrain consists of a single ridge line (the south end of the Stansbury Mountains) descending from USFS land at 9,200 feet in elevation to the Johnson Pass Road 3,200 feet below. The backbone of the inventory unit trends north and south, with two twisting canyons and associated slopes dropping to the west, south, and east. Vegetation consists of a juniper woodland covering the lower one-third of the inventory unit that varies in density from a mottled or patchy appearance to a dense and continuous canopy. Above the juniper forest, a

transition zone of open slopes, mountain brush, and mixed grasses gives way to developing canyons where pockets of Douglas fir crowd the north and northwest aspects.

The primary uses are deer hunting and day hiking. Because there are so many other routes or trailheads into the Stansbury Mountains, use has been seasonal, light, and dispersed in the unit.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The Big Hollow inventory unit is basically an undeveloped natural area. While the unit is small (four miles by two miles), it is diverse and displays two life zones within 3,200 feet of elevation. There are no developed trails or trail systems, although there are a few fire rings on the boundary. Vickory and Rock Spring Canyons drop rapidly through Douglas fir, open or brushy slopes, and juniper forest. Walls of limestone are exposed in the canyons before becoming foothills along the Johnson Pass Road.

Most of the existing intrusions are found along the southern boundary and consist of vehicle ways, abandoned mining prospects, a cedar post cutting area, scattered trash, and fences along private land. Many of these developments are substantially unnoticeable and do not impact the unit's natural character. Two areas in the south and southeast, however, are unnatural because of an abundance of vehicle ways, cedar post cutting in Clover Cove, and paralleling cherry-stemmed and boundary roads in the Vickory Canyon and Big Hollow Canyon area.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

At many locations along the boundary, a visitor can walk 100 yards off the highway and feel isolation. Vegetative cover is plentiful, and when combined with rolling hills, winding canyons, rocky outcrops and extremes of relief, it results in solitude in varying degrees. Perhaps the lower foothills and the vehicle-way-impacted Clover Cove might be considered common and the solitude short of outstanding, but deep in Vickory Canyon and Rock Spring Canyon, outstanding opportunities are possible.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit could provide a natural trailhead to the national forest and the Desert Peak Wilderness. Within a few hundred yards of its boundary, the unit's terrain lends itself to outstanding opportunities for primitive types of recreation, including hunting, hiking, backpacking, and horse-back riding. Rock Spring Canyon and Vickory Canyon provide immediate access to the Wasatch National Forest boundary, Vickory Peak, and the 11,000-foot peaks further north. Also available are trail-free juniper woodlands, open slopes, and sylvan alpine settings, all offering potential for primitive and unconfined recreational experiences.

Supplemental Values

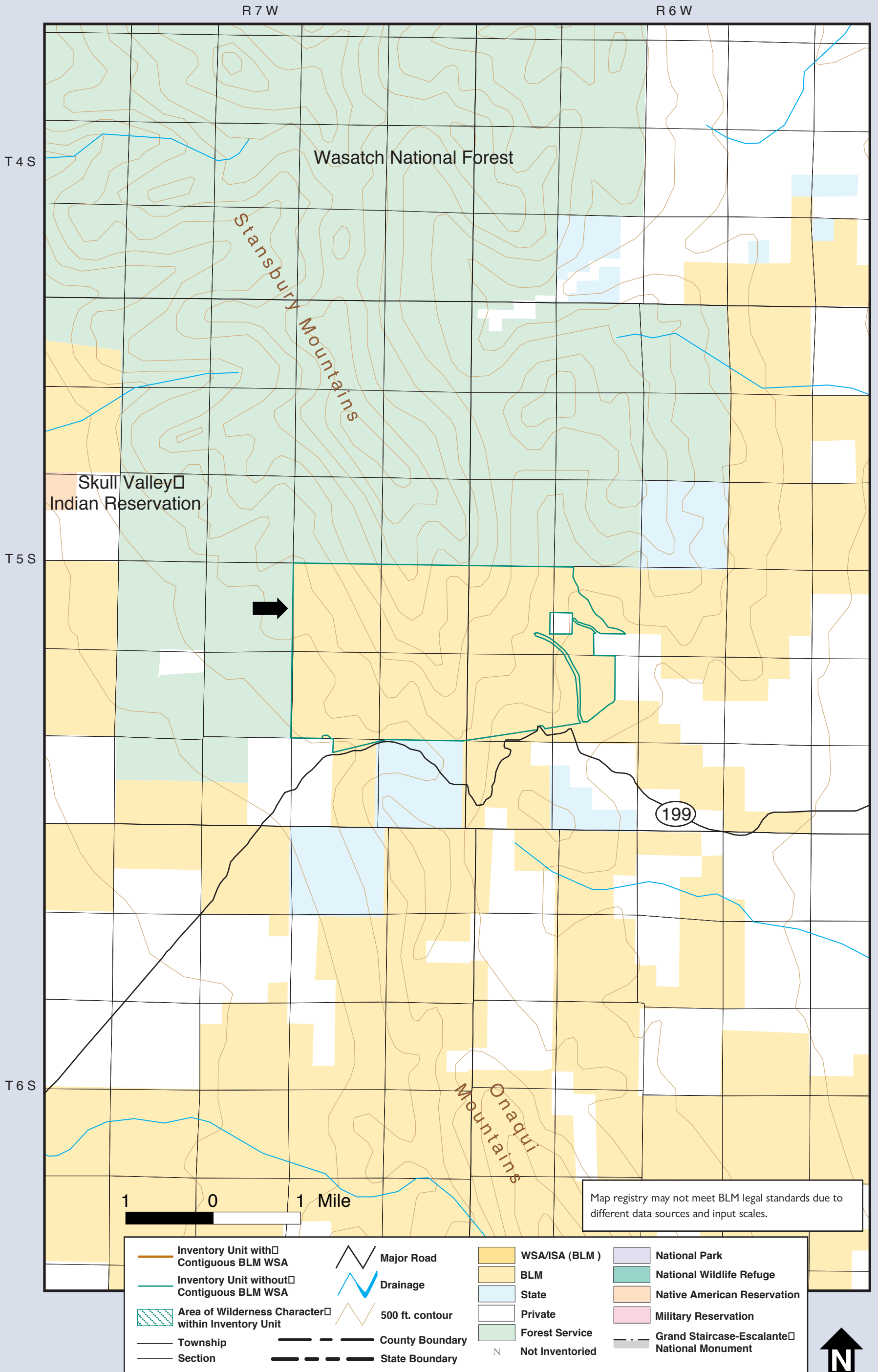
Geological, educational, and historical values may lie in a well-screened cave in the unit. Productive wildlife habitat exists for populations of mule deer, cougar, coyote, cottontail, birds of prey, and upland game birds.

BIG HOLLOW—Deep in Vickory Canyon (background), outstanding opportunities await those seeking solitude.



Maggie Kelsey

Big Hollow



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	

Deep Creek Mountains

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
22,800	11,320	34,120 (93%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
2,600	0	2,600 (7%)
Inventory Unit Total		
25,400	11,320	36,720
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Deep Creek Mountains WSA (UT-020-060)		68,910
Scott's Basin WSA (UT-050-020A)		6,990

About 34,120 acres of the eleven Deep Creek Mountains inventory units have wilderness characteristics. Most of the area is in a natural condition with little or no evidence of human presence. Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation are outstanding because of topographic and vegetative screening. However, 2,600 acres in parts of Units 2, 8, and 11 do not possess wilderness characteristics because of impacts from roads, vehicle ways, and mining activities. Supplemental features that enhance the area's wilderness characteristics include scenic, scientific, ecological, educational, and historical values. The units are contiguous to the Deep Creek Mountains Wilderness Study Area (WSA).

Unit Description

The Deep Creek Mountains inventory units are located in Tooele and Juab Counties, near the Nevada border, approximately 140 miles southwest of Salt Lake City. Rising over 8,000 feet above the valley floor to an elevation of 12,101 feet, the Deep Creek Range forms an "island ecosystem" in the Great Salt Lake Desert. Vegetation ranges from salt desert shrub to alpine tundra. The Deep Creek Mountains are also the only mountain range in the Great Basin with an abundance of water. Six live streams on the eastern slopes support fish, including a pure strain of cutthroat trout in two of the streams. A large block of state land is found at the south end

in Unit 11; individual state parcels are scattered throughout other units.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the Deep Creek Mountains inventory units retain their natural character. Intrusions that detract from the units' natural character are generally associated with mineral exploration in the southeastern portion and with roads and vehicle ways in the northern portion. Several vehicle ways identified during the BLM's previous wilderness inventory have not been used for many years, have been naturally reclaimed, and are substantially unnoticeable at this time.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Opportunities for solitude are outstanding throughout the inventory units when they are considered in conjunction with the contiguous WSA. The size and configuration of the units are important factors in achieving solitude. The best opportunities are in the higher, more remote locations, where rugged topography, rock outcrops, and dense vegetation canopies dominate the canyon valleys and steep walls.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory units' deep canyons, rocky ridges, sheer cliffs, and rolling hills offer

challenging and outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation activities, including hunting, hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, and sightseeing. The scenery is beautiful.

Supplemental Values

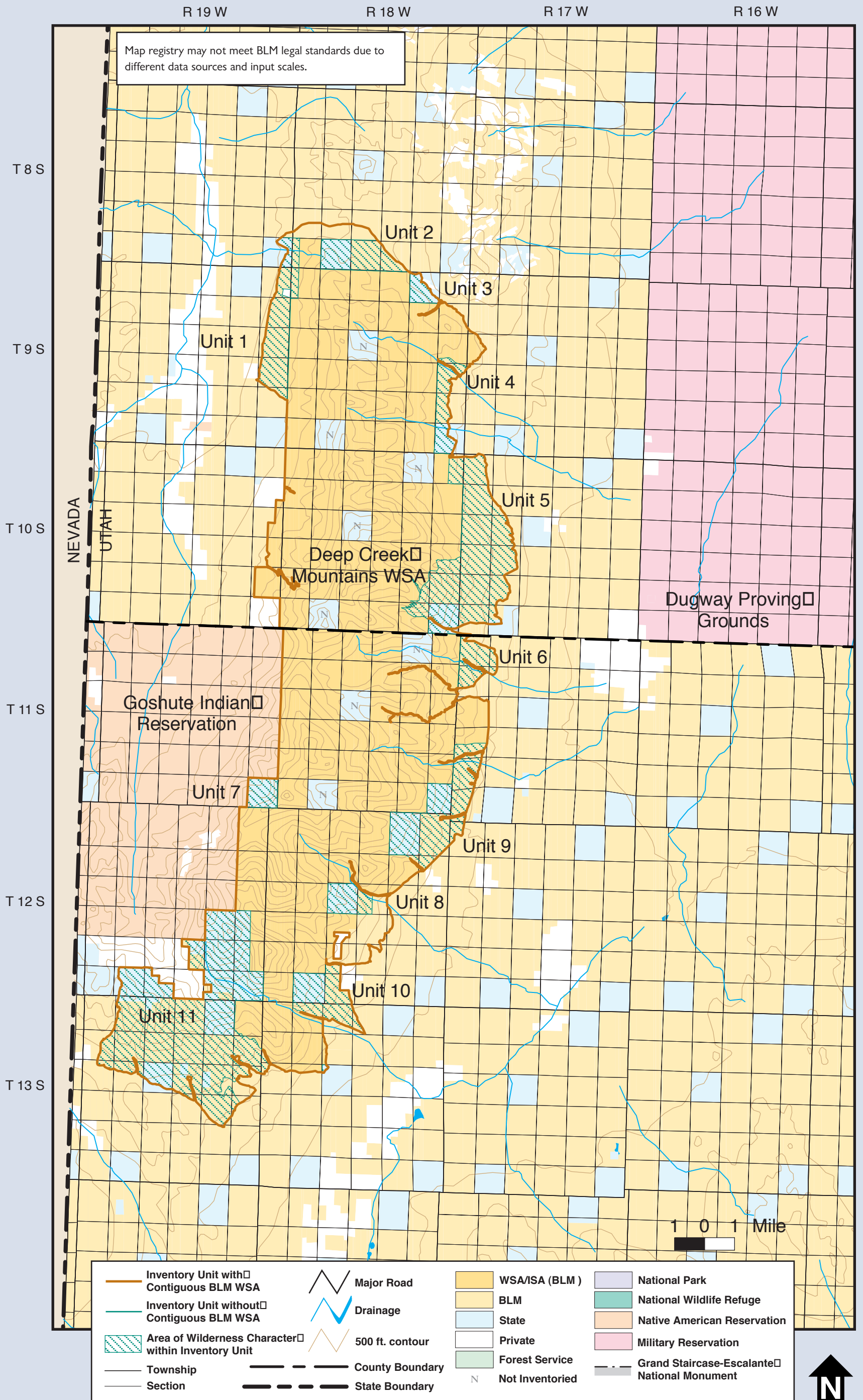
Supplemental values that enhance the wilderness characteristics of the Deep Creek Mountains inventory units include scenic, scientific, ecological, educational, and historical values. The Snake Valley cutthroat trout, the rare giant stonefly, grapefern, and stands of bristlecone pine are all of scientific interest. The Deep Creek Mountains have been called an "island ecosystem" isolated within the Great Salt Lake Desert. Their enormous vertical relief has created an ecological condition that fosters a biological diversity unmatched in Utah's desert mountains. Eight perennial streams flow from within the Deep Creek Mountains. The Bonneville cutthroat trout, an endangered species, occurs only within a couple of streams in the Deep Creek Mountains. Elk, deer, mountain lion, antelope, and numerous other animal species inhabit the area. About 185 species of birds, including the endangered bald eagle and peregrine falcon and a rare variety of blue grouse, live or migrate through the Deep Creek Mountains. Sixty plant families, including 431 species, are found here.

Numerous archaeological sites have been identified within the inventory units, representing the Archaic, Seiver, and Piute-Shoshoni cultures. Scenic values include steep-walled granite canyons, tumbling mountain streams, and snow-capped peaks.

DEEP CREEK MOUNTAINS—The canyon of Red Cedar Creek is one of many within this Great Salt Lake Desert "island ecosystem," which offers outstanding wilderness opportunities and supports a biological diversity unmatched in Utah's other desert mountains.



Deep Creek Mountains



NORTHWEST REGION—Deep Creek Mountains



Fish Springs

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
6,900	2,980	9,880 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
6,900	2,980	9,880
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Fish Springs WSA (UT-050-127)		52,500

All five of the Fish Springs inventory units (9,880 acres) have wilderness characteristics. The units are in a natural state, and because they are rugged and remote, they offer outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation only a short distance from boundary roads. The five units are contiguous to the Fish Springs Wilderness Study Area (WSA). They consist of benchlands covered with desert shrubs, along with a scattered piñon and juniper forest. Special features include wildlife and geologic values.

Unit Description

The Fish Springs inventory units are located in the Fish Springs Range in northwestern Juab County, 60 miles northwest of Delta. The steep and rugged Fish Springs Range is a north-south trending mountain range at the southern margin of the Great Salt Lake Desert that rises abruptly from 5,000 feet in elevation at its base to 8,500 feet at its crest. Vegetation is predominantly shrubs (e.g., sagebrush, rabbitbrush, greasewood, and saltbush) and associated grasses at lower elevations, with piñon and juniper woodlands at higher elevations. White fir trees grow in isolated pockets at higher elevations in the WSA. Historical uses include cattle and sheep grazing, hiking, and climbing.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

All of the Fish Springs inventory units retain their natural character and appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature. The numerous side canyons and benchlands are natural in appearance to the casual visitor. Several vehicle ways are in various stages of natural rehabilitation and remain substantially unnoticeable in the units as a whole.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The units provide outstanding opportunities for solitude because the area is remote and the surrounding boundary roads have only infrequent vehicle use. The open, sloping and rolling hills of these benchlands provide a sense of vastness or remoteness, with long viewing distances. Solitude is easily found just inside the boundary of all the units. The surrounding benchlands enhance the outstanding opportunities provided within the steep upper elevations of the Fish Springs WSA.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

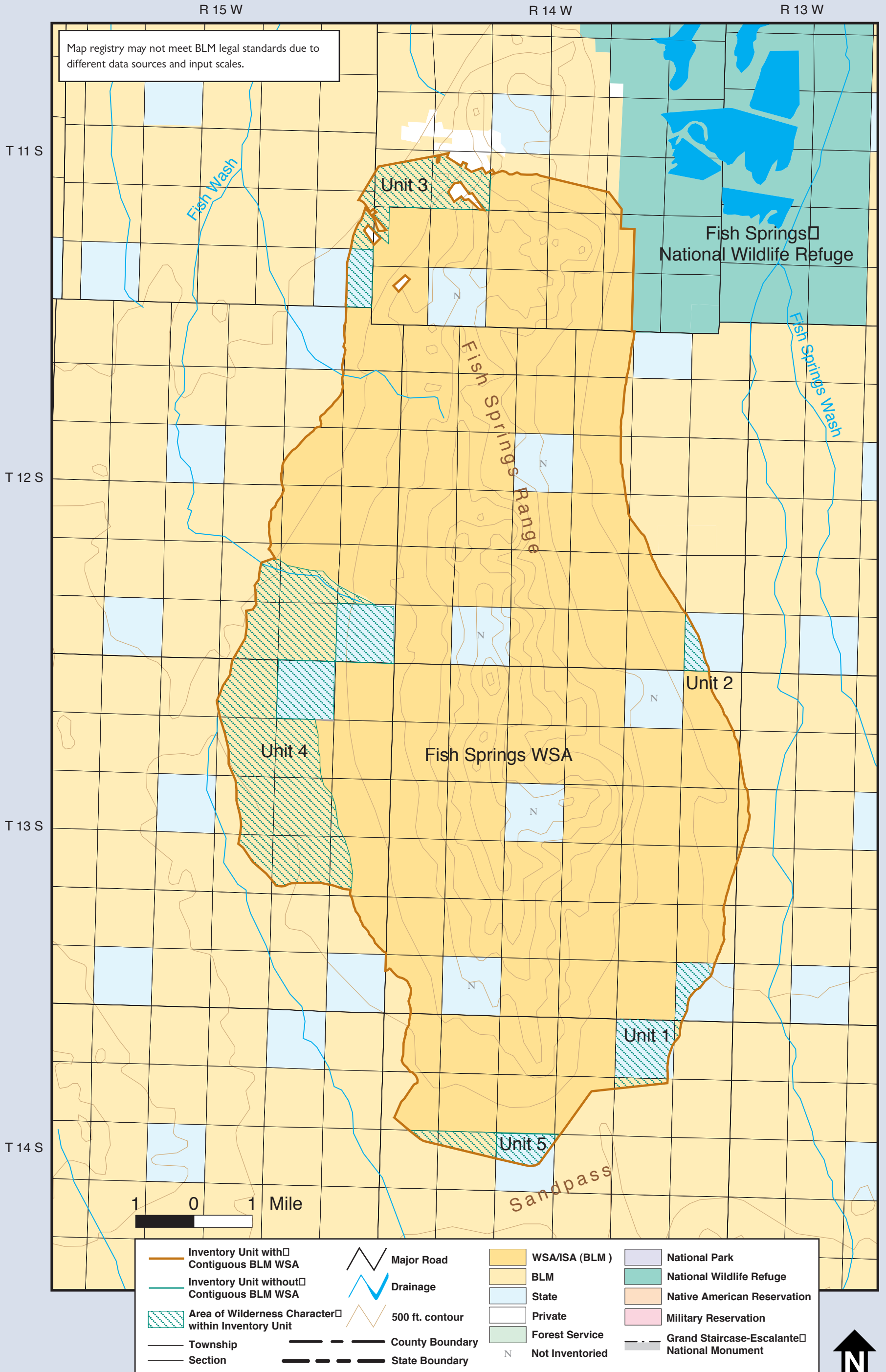
The units provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Opportunities for hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, camping, sightseeing, photography, and viewing of geologic formations exist within the units and the adjacent WSA. These opportunities are enhanced by the expansive views from the benchlands of the inventory units, as well as from the top of the Fish Springs Range in the WSA. Visitors gaze across the wide Snake Valley into the Deep Creek Range to the west and across Fish Springs Flat to the Thomas Range and Drum Mountains to the east. The opportunities within the units and the WSA are outstanding because of the diversity of terrain, scenic quality, and range of activities available.

Supplemental Values

The terrain of the units adds to the geologic values of the adjacent WSA. The Fish Springs Range is a tilted fault block of sedimentary rocks, with bedding plane faults visible in the central part of the WSA.

Bald eagles and peregrine falcons, both of which are endangered species, and golden eagles, a BLM sensitive species, inhabit the area. It is considered crucial year-round habitat for golden eagles. Candidate threatened or endangered species that may occur in the units include the ferruginous hawk, Swainson's hawk, long-billed curlew, western snowy plover, white-faced ibis, and Bonneville pocket gopher. The inventory units have been proposed for the reintroduction of desert bighorn sheep.

Fish Springs



Dugway Mountains

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
23,300	2,600	25,900 (99%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
200	90	290 (1%)
Inventory Unit Total		
23,500	2,690	26,190
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

About 25,900 acres of the Dugway Mountains inventory unit have wilderness characteristics. Most of the inventory unit appears natural and provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Although human intrusions exist, most are substantially unnoticeable and do not detract from the appearance of naturalness. About 290 acres in the northern portion of the unit are unnatural because of past mining activity.

Unit Description

The Dugway Mountains inventory unit is located in southern Tooele and northern Juab Counties about 50 air miles west of Tooele. The area includes both public and state land. Current uses within the unit

include cattle grazing, hunting, and sight-seeing. A portion of the unit has been affected by mining activity.

The terrain is mountainous, with numerous canyons and ridges. The mountain range is oriented north to south, with side canyons running to the east and west. The lack of flowing water in the canyons is typical of Great Basin mountain ranges, although a limited number of springs do exist in the Dugway Mountains. Topographic relief exceeds 2,000 feet from the desert floor to the summit of Castle Mountain and other high points in the range. Vegetation varies and includes salt-tolerant species at the base of the range. Shadscale, black sage, and grasses are found in foothill areas. Juniper occurs above 5,600 feet in elevation. Big sage and grasses are abundant in some canyon bottoms.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

There are few human developments in the unit. Nine vehicle ways and three wildlife guzzlers occur, but these are substantially unnoticeable. The guzzlers are designed to blend with the natural landscape. The vehicle ways are kept open by occasional vehicle use, although some are located in washes and are essentially eliminated after storm events. Only one small

area (290 acres) in the north appears unnatural because of disturbances from past mining activity.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit consists of rugged topography and is large enough to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. Numerous side canyons and varied vegetation provide screening. Opportunities for solitude are occasionally interrupted by low-level overflights of military aircraft.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Spectacular vistas, the unit's remoteness, and the varied topography of the Dugway Mountains provide outstanding opportunities for hiking, photography, camping, and horseback riding.

Supplemental Values

The nearby Pony Express National Historic Trail is of historic interest. The Dugway Mountains provide excellent vistas of the surrounding desert. Antelope are common on the flats surrounding the unit, and habitat exists for deer, bobcat, a variety of birds, small mammals, and reptiles.

DUGWAY MOUNTAINS—The vehicle route in the bottom of the drainage forms a portion of the northwestern boundary of the inventory unit; the unit is on the left of the route in this photo.

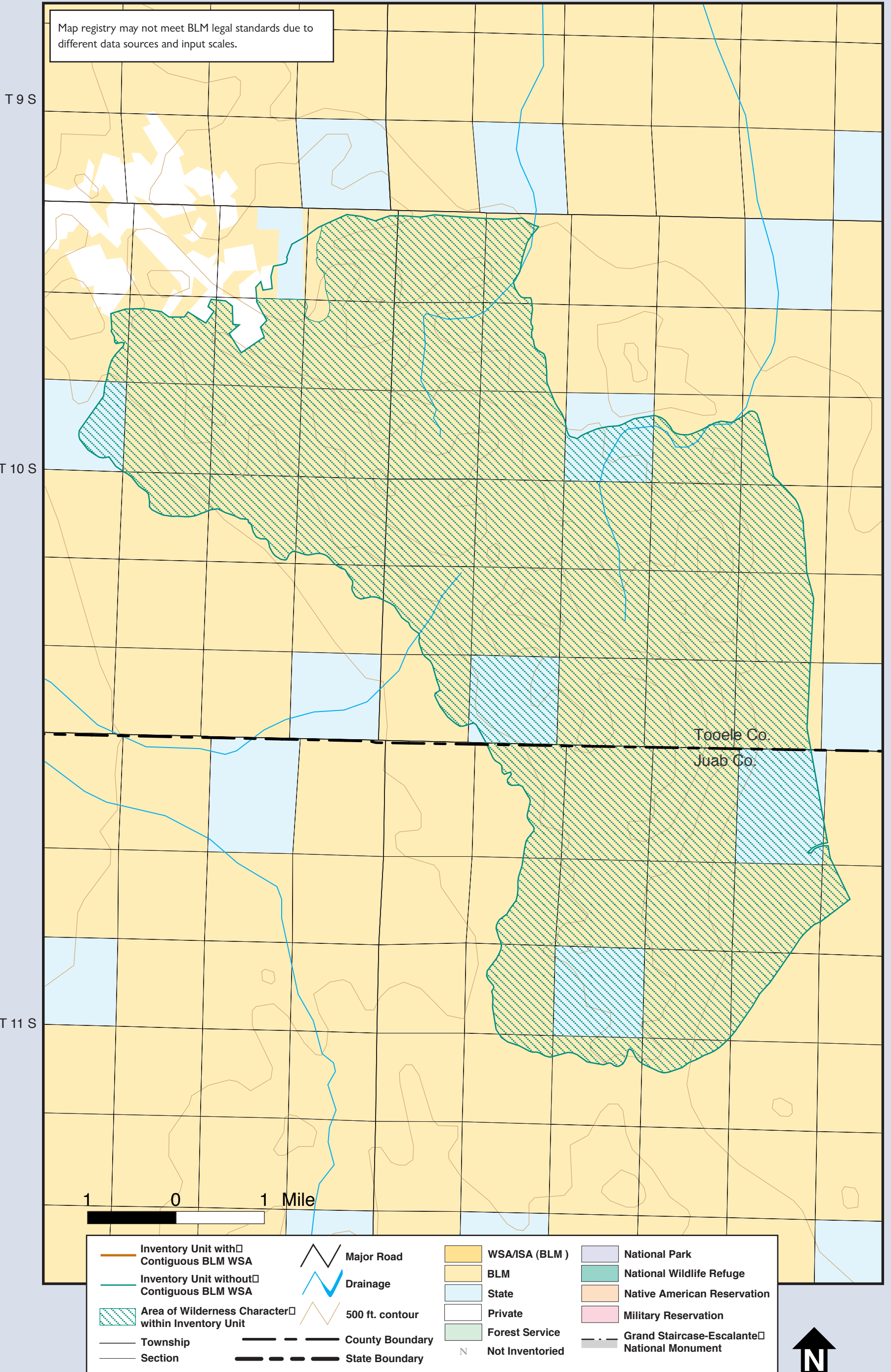


BLM photo

Dugway Mountains

R 12 W

R 11 W



Rockwell

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
7,120	1,340	8,460 (65%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
3,200	1,300	4,500 (35%)
Inventory Unit Total		
10,320	2,640	12,960
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Rockwell WSA (UT-050-186)		9,150

About 8,460 acres of the four Rockwell inventory units have wilderness characteristics. However, portions of Units 1, 3, and 4 (4,500 acres) are being used extensively for off-highway vehicle (OHV) recreation use and lack wilderness characteristics. Numerous OHV and motorcycle routes wind their way between the junipers and sandy hummocks, although in the active dunes of Unit 3 on the east side of the area, trails are ephemeral and disappear when the wind blows. Unit 2 appears natural. As an extension of and in association with the contiguous Rockwell Wilderness Study Area (WSA), the units provide outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation. Wildlife habitat for many different mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians (including endangered and sensitive species), supplements the wilderness characteristics of the area. A unique form of fourwing saltbush also grows here.

ROCKWELL—A panoramic view of the south end of the inventory units.



BLM photo

Unit Description

The Rockwell inventory units are located in the center of Juab County about 26 miles west of the community of Nephi. The units are bounded on the west by a road, and on the north, east, and south by areas used extensively by OHVs for year-round recreation. The units are a small portion of a 124 square-mile system of giant, free-moving sand dunes consisting primarily of Quaternary lake bed sediments and unconsolidated silicious sands. Piñon-juniper woodlands in the rolling hills, and sagebrush, various grasses, and annuals cover a little more than half of the area. The eastern portion is an active dune system that is devoid of vegetation. The topography varies little more than a few hundred feet throughout the units. Uses include OHV play, camping, photography, and scientific studies of the area's plants and animals.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Much of the Rockwell inventory units west and south of the existing WSA retain their natural character. Portions of Units 1, 3, and 4, and all of Unit 2, appear natural. However, much of Units 1, 3, and 4 are no longer natural because of OHV trails, campsites, and roads. A large portion of the active dune system within Unit 3,

however, remains natural and reasonably unaffected by OHV travel.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory units have outstanding opportunities for solitude when considered in conjunction with the contiguous WSA. However, opportunities for solitude within portions of all units are negatively affected by the sights and sounds of intense OHV use.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

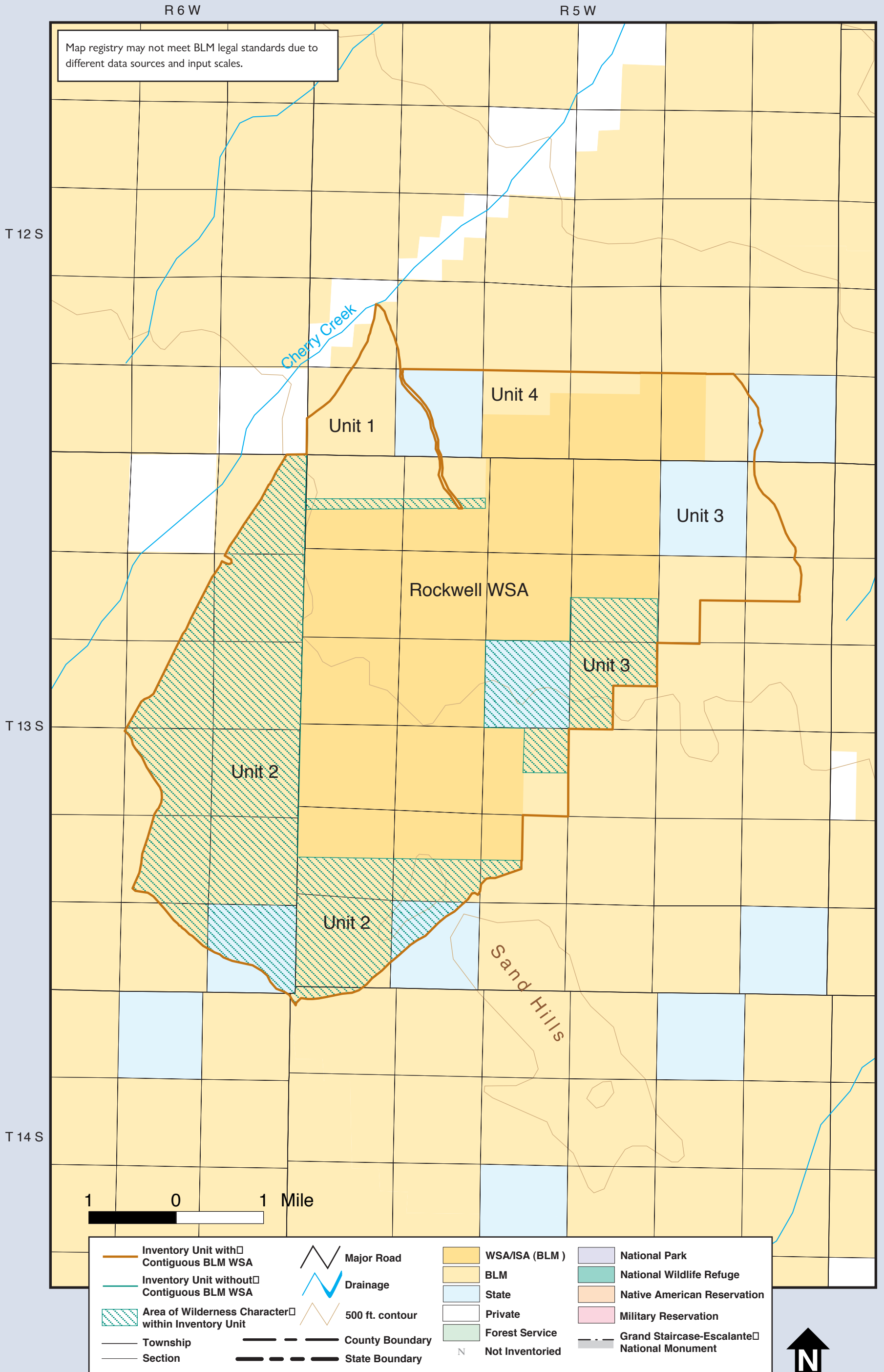
Opportunities for horseback riding, hiking, camping, sightseeing, photography, and other forms of primitive or unconfined recreation are outstanding within the contiguous Rockwell WSA. In conjunction with the WSA, the inventory units also provide such opportunities.

Supplemental Values

The Rockwell inventory units provide habitat for 48 species of mammals, 115 species of birds, the desert whipsnake, 14 species of reptiles, and one amphibian species. The bald eagle, an endangered species, and golden eagle, a sensitive species, are both within the area. Additionally, five Category 2 candidate species may occur. The last remaining habitat for an endemic species of fourwing saltbush (*Atriplex canescens* var. *gigantea*) is in the area. This unique form of fourwing saltbush attains heights of up to 12 feet.

Most of the units are located within BLM's Little Sahara National Recreation Area. Contiguous to the units is the 9,150-acre Rockwell Outstanding Natural Area/Area of Critical Environmental Concern, established to protect endemic plants and scenic values within the unique sand dune ecosystem.

Rockwell



Oquirrh Mountains

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
8,300	0	8,300 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
8,300	0	8,300
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

The entire 8,300-acre Oquirrh Mountains inventory unit possesses wilderness characteristics. While the boundary of the unit was drawn to exclude disturbed canyon bottoms, many other canyons, mountain slopes, and ridge tops still retain their apparent naturalness, with the imprint of human developments being substantially unnoticeable. There are outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. Deeply incised canyons and heavily wooded mountain slopes contribute to the opportunity for solitude. A variety of primitive recreation opportunities are available, including hunting, hiking, backpacking, wildlife viewing, and nature study.

Unit Description

The Oquirrh Mountains inventory unit is in Tooele County about 25 air miles southwest of Salt Lake City. Two parcels of private land have been cherry-stemmed from the unit, along with their access roads.

Following an exchange with Kennecott Utah Copper Corporation and other parties, the BLM acquired ownership of a large block of public lands on the west slope of the Oquirrh Mountains. To facilitate an interdisciplinary land-use planning effort, these lands were inventoried to determine whether or not wilderness characteristics is present.

The unit includes the west slope of the Oquirrh Mountains from the crest of the mountain range westward to the foothills. The Oquirrhs are steep, rugged, and highly dissected with numerous canyons. Elevation varies from about 5,000 feet for the lower slopes on the western boundary to over 9,300 feet at Nelson Peak. Vegetation includes sagebrush and grasses on the lower elevation foothills, oak shrub on the warmer and drier southern and western slopes, Douglas fir and aspen on the cooler and wetter northern and eastern slopes, and Gambel's oak and big tooth maple in the canyon bottoms.

Uses include hiking, backcountry driving, hunting, and livestock grazing. Communication sites and domestic water developments are also present.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Given the steepness of the mountain, nearly all human development has occurred in the major canyons. Despite human impacts on the natural condition of portions of the unit, most of the area still retains its natural condition, with human impacts throughout the unit remaining substantially unnoticeable in the area as a whole. A cherry-stemmed road in Murray Canyon provides access to the town of Lincoln's water system. While it could be argued that the route in Bates Canyon is not a road, the combination of the route and considerable human development (cabins, water developments, fences, and an all-terrain vehicle trail) has left this canyon bottom significantly impacted, so it has been cherry-stemmed from the unit. Like Bates Canyon, Pole Canyon has also been significantly impacted by a vehicle route and associated development (a school bus, campers, and water developments), so this disturbance has also been cherry-stemmed from the unit. There are few human imprints in the remainder of the area. Because of the steep rugged topography, dense vegetation, and size of the unit, the landscape still retains its overall naturalness.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Portions of the mountain range provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. Despite all of the activity and use occurring on adjacent lands, the Oquirrh Mountains inventory unit provides outstanding opportunities to find solitude. The terrain and vegetation provide screening. The mountain range is incised by many deep

canyons that twist and turn their way down the mountain. Canyon bottoms are densely forested with oak shrubs, Gambel's oak, big tooth maple, quaking aspen, and Douglas fir. The north and east-facing slopes and side canyons are also densely forested with Douglas fir, white fir, and quaking aspen. South and west-facing slopes, while more open, are covered with thick oak shrub. The upper ends of Pass and Flood Canyons in the south and other side canyons offer opportunities to be alone. While main ridge tops expose the visitor to long, distant views of developments outside the unit, they also provide opportunities to experience solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The Oquirrh Mountains separate the West Desert of Utah from the extensive development of the Wasatch Front. The unit provides a unique setting for a variety of primitive recreation uses within one hour's driving time of the metropolitan areas of the Wasatch Front, and within a few minutes of the small but growing communities in Tooele Valley. The proximity of this natural setting to such a large population, coupled with the wide variety of primitive recreational activities available in the unit, provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Within the unit, visitors can participate in such activities as hiking, backpacking, wildlife viewing, hunting, horseback riding, photography, and nature study.

Supplemental Values

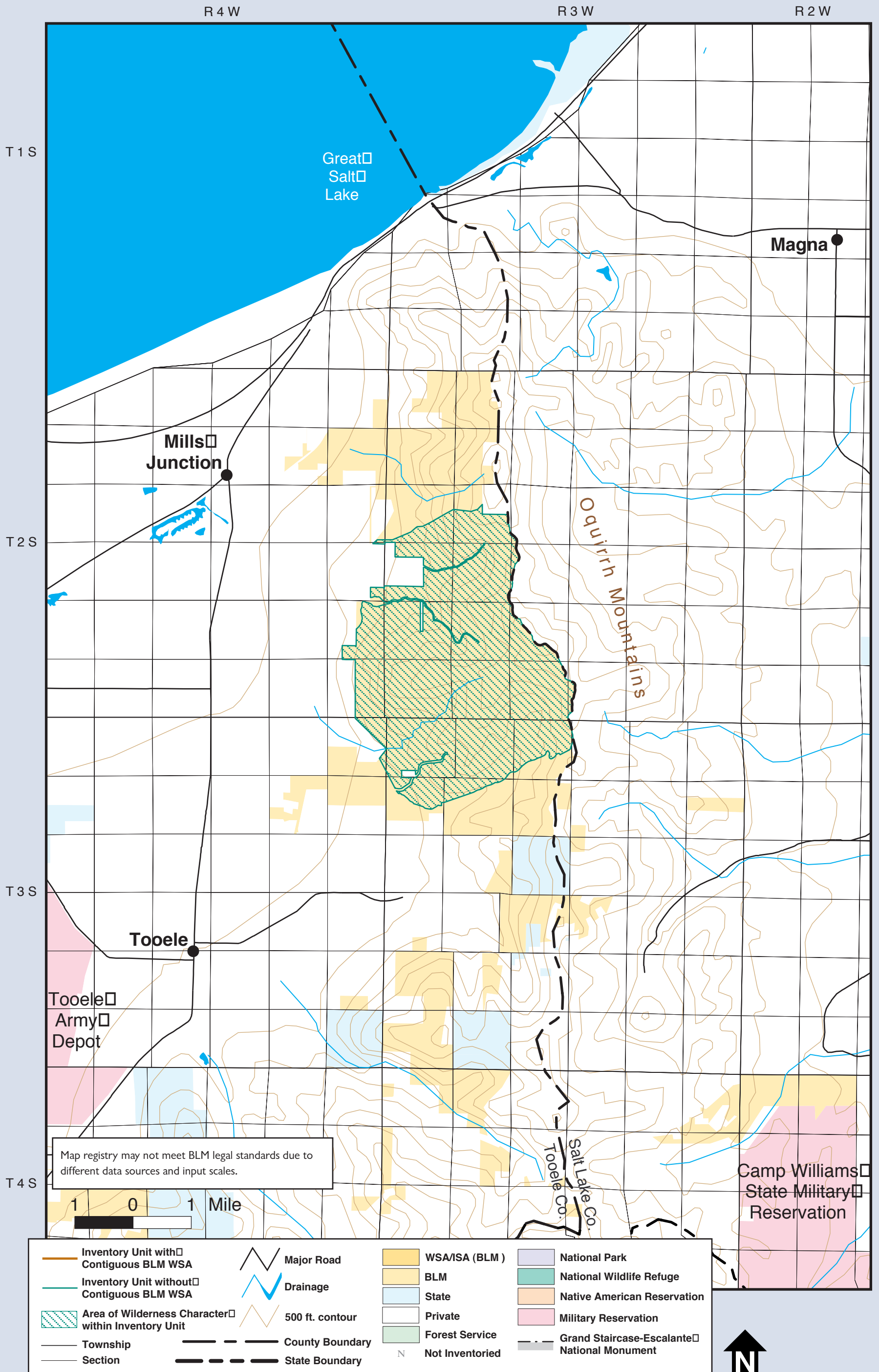
The Oquirrh Mountains inventory unit contains botanical and archaeological values. Within the range of elevations are three representative life zones: Upper Sonoran, Transition, and Canadian. A hybrid oak species, a cross between turbinella oak and Gambel's oak, may occur in the unit. In the past, the Oquirrh Mountains supported one of the oldest mining districts in Utah. While there is little evidence of past mining, the minor disturbances do add historic interest.

OQUIRRH MOUNTAINS—The upper end of Pass Canyon, one of several canyons in the Oquirrh Mountains inventory unit that provide outstanding primitive recreational opportunities.



Steve Knox

Oquirrh Mountains



Pilot Range

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
34,400	3,100	37,500 (73%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
11,100	2,600	13,700 (27%)
Inventory Unit Total		
45,500	5,700	51,200
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

About 37,500 acres of the Pilot Range inventory unit have wilderness characteristics. Much of the unit is natural and most of the human intrusions are substantially unnoticeable. About 13,700 acres lack wilderness characteristics because of substantially noticeable impacts from communication facilities and mining. The inventory unit's size and diverse topography provide visitors with outstanding opportunities to find solitude, and a variety of recreation opportunities exist within the rugged and natural setting. Several vehicle routes have been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

Unit Description

The Pilot Range inventory unit is located in western Box Elder County about 30 air miles north of Wendover. The Pilot Range runs north to south and varies in elevation from about 5,000 feet at its base to 8,000 feet on the mountain summits. Canyons generally run east or west. East of the Pilot Range is a large alkali flat, while the west side features a broad valley that extends into Nevada. Views from the range are spectacular. Several springs exist, but the occurrence of streams or free-flowing water is limited because of water developments and uses. Bettridge Creek in the south, the largest stream in the area, supports the threatened Lahotan cutthroat trout.

Vegetation at higher elevations and on north-facing slopes is dominated by piñon and juniper forests, mountain mahogany, and mixed mountain brush communities. South-facing slopes and ridge tops are dominated by sagebrush, grass, and mixed mountain brush communities. Rabbitbrush,

PILOT RANGE—The Patterson Pass vehicle route has been cherry-stemmed from the inventory unit, separating this rugged and spectacular mountain range into two adjoining parcels.

grass, and greasewood are common in drainage bottoms and at lower elevations. Bettridge Creek contains excellent riparian vegetation, but extensive water development in other areas limits the presence of additional riparian habitat.

Mining and cattle grazing are the dominant uses, with hunting being a seasonal use. Three communication sites are located at the north end of the range.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The Pilot Range inventory unit is crossed east to west by two vehicle routes: the Copper Mountain Road and the Patterson Pass vehicle way. Although the area north of the Copper Mountain Road is unnatural, the remainder of the inventory unit is essentially natural even though it is dissected into two sections by the Patterson Pass vehicle way.

North of the Copper Mountain Road, the unit contains several roads and radio/microwave towers. These features are visible from numerous locations within the northern portion of the unit, as well as from the outside. The telecommunication features are substantially noticeable and significantly detract from the unit's naturalness. In addition, significant mining activity has occurred, especially in the vicinity of the Copper Mountain Road.

Most of the inventory unit south of Copper Mountain Road is natural, with evidence of human development being substantially unnoticeable. Even though this portion contains several developments, the individual and cumulative impact on the natural character is minor. Most developments are related to mining and

livestock grazing. Overall, this portion of the unit is rugged, with steep slopes and deep canyons. The dramatic topography and varied vegetation hide any developments, making them unnoticeable.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory unit's size and rugged terrain ensure outstanding opportunities for solitude. Many vehicle ways are so seldom used that they are close to returning to a natural condition. Ridges and valley bottoms, as well as numerous side canyons, provide outstanding opportunities to be alone and apart from other people and the outside world. In addition, the diverse vegetation complements the topography by providing screening from human activity.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory unit's rugged terrain and size ensure the availability of outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Opportunities for camping, hiking, and photography are outstanding. Opportunities for horseback riding or pack trips are abundant, given the unit's size and the presence of side canyons with outstanding beauty.

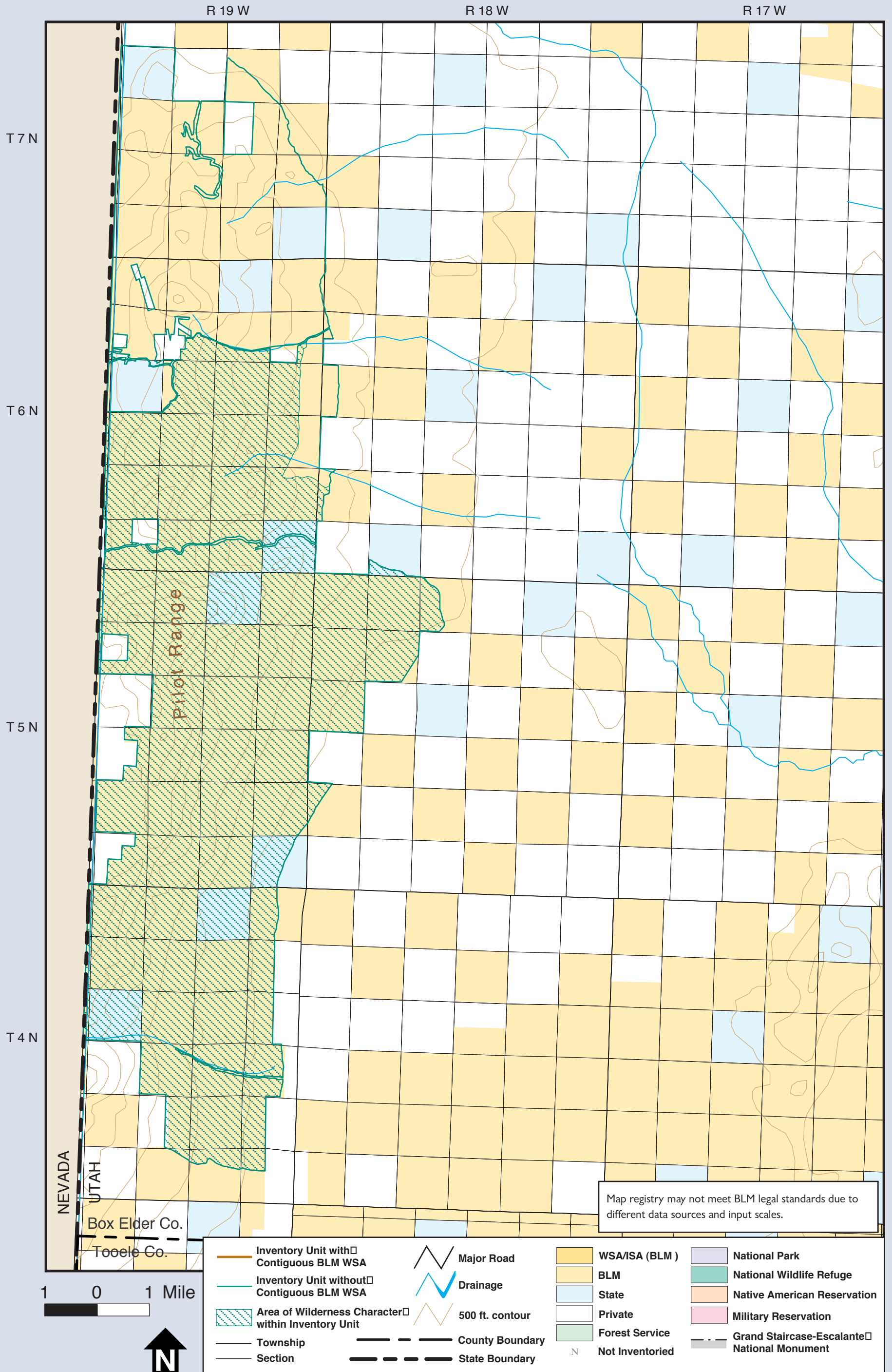
Supplemental Values

The inventory unit possesses exceptional scenery, both within itself and when looking into the adjacent valleys to the east and west. Elk and deer habitat exists, as well as habitat for the threatened Lahotan cutthroat trout. Mining and cattle grazing have left an interesting historical mark on the unit.



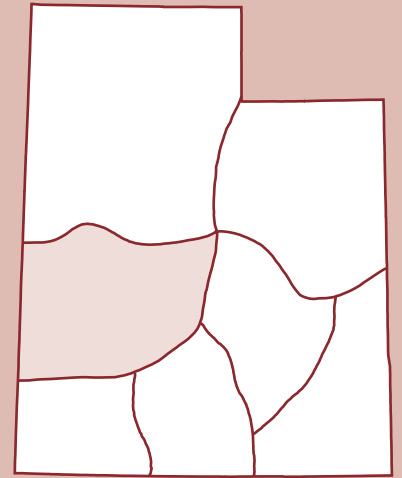
BLM photo

Pilot Range



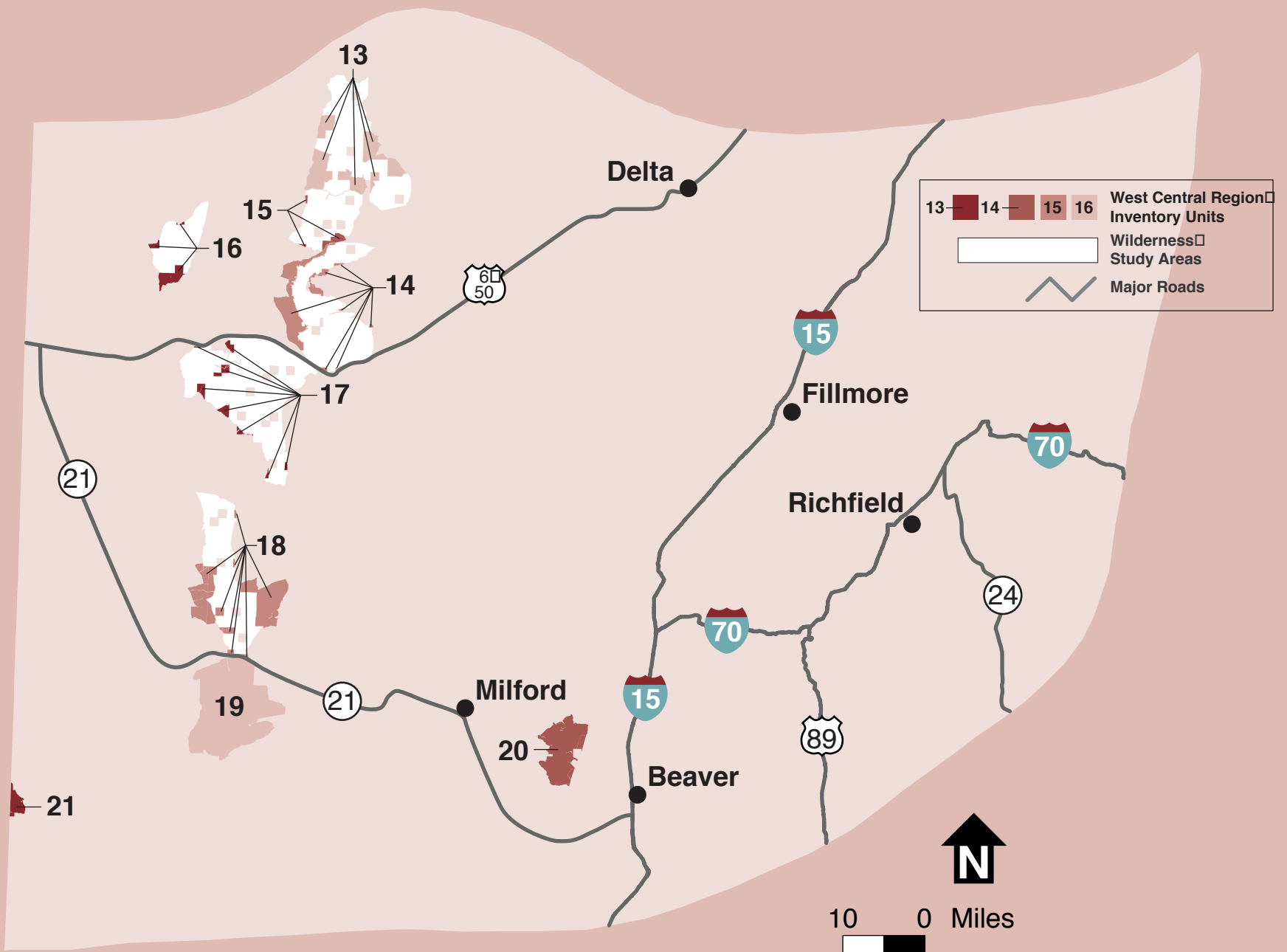
West Central Region

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Jerry Sintz

NOTCH PEAK—Antelope are one of the many wildlife species adding to the richness and variety of habitats found in the inventory units in this region of Utah.



Swasey Mountain

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
13,800	5,520	19,320 (97%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
350	300	650 (3%)
Inventory Unit Total		
14,150	5,820	19,970
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Swasey Mountain WSA (UT-050-061)		49,500

About 19,320 acres of the six Swasey Mountain inventory units have wilderness characteristics. Most of the units are in a natural condition, with little or no evidence of human presence. However, about 650 acres in Units 3 and 4 are unnatural and lack wilderness characteristics because of camping impacts, historical developments, a buried waterline, corrals, and commercial mining of fossils. Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation are outstanding throughout the area. Remoteness, rugged terrain, and vegetation all combine to provide outstanding opportunities to be isolated from others. The inventory units have outstanding opportunities for a variety of primitive and unconfined types of recreation, including hiking, climbing, hunting, camping, and sightseeing, with interesting scenery, geology, caves, and wildlife all contributing to the experience. The units' scenic and geologic features supplement their wilderness values.

Unit Description

The Swasey Mountain inventory units are located in northwestern Millard County in western Utah about 35 miles west of the community of Delta. The contiguous Swasey Mountain Wilderness Study Area (WSA) is approximately 17 miles long north to south and 12 miles wide east to west. The inventory units border the WSA on the west, south, and east sides. Vegetation consists of sagebrush and associated species on the lower slopes, but a dense piñon and juniper woodland covers most of the inventory units. At higher elevations there is white pine, Douglas fir, limber pine, ponderosa pine, aspen, and bristlecone pine. Land uses include cattle grazing, caving, hunting, camping, hiking, and other primitive forms of recreation. Opportunities for fossil collection in the Antelope Springs Trilobite Area are outstanding.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the Swasey Mountain inventory units retain their natural character. Vehicle tracks, vehicle ways, and campsites associated with hunting are present but are substantially unnoticeable. Portions of Units 3 and 4 are unnatural in character because of surface disturbances created by camping, historical developments, a buried waterline, corrals, and the commercial mining of fossils.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory units provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. Steep, rugged terrain, the many canyons, and the dense piñon and juniper woodland all provide screening to separate visitors from each other. The scenic views from many high points in the area enhance feelings of isolation. Remoteness, terrain, and vegetation all contribute to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory units have outstanding opportunities for a variety of primitive and unconfined types of recreation. There are opportunities for hiking, climbing, hunting, camping, and sightseeing, given the area's scenery, geology, caves, and wildlife. The panoramic vistas further enhance these opportunities.

Supplemental Values

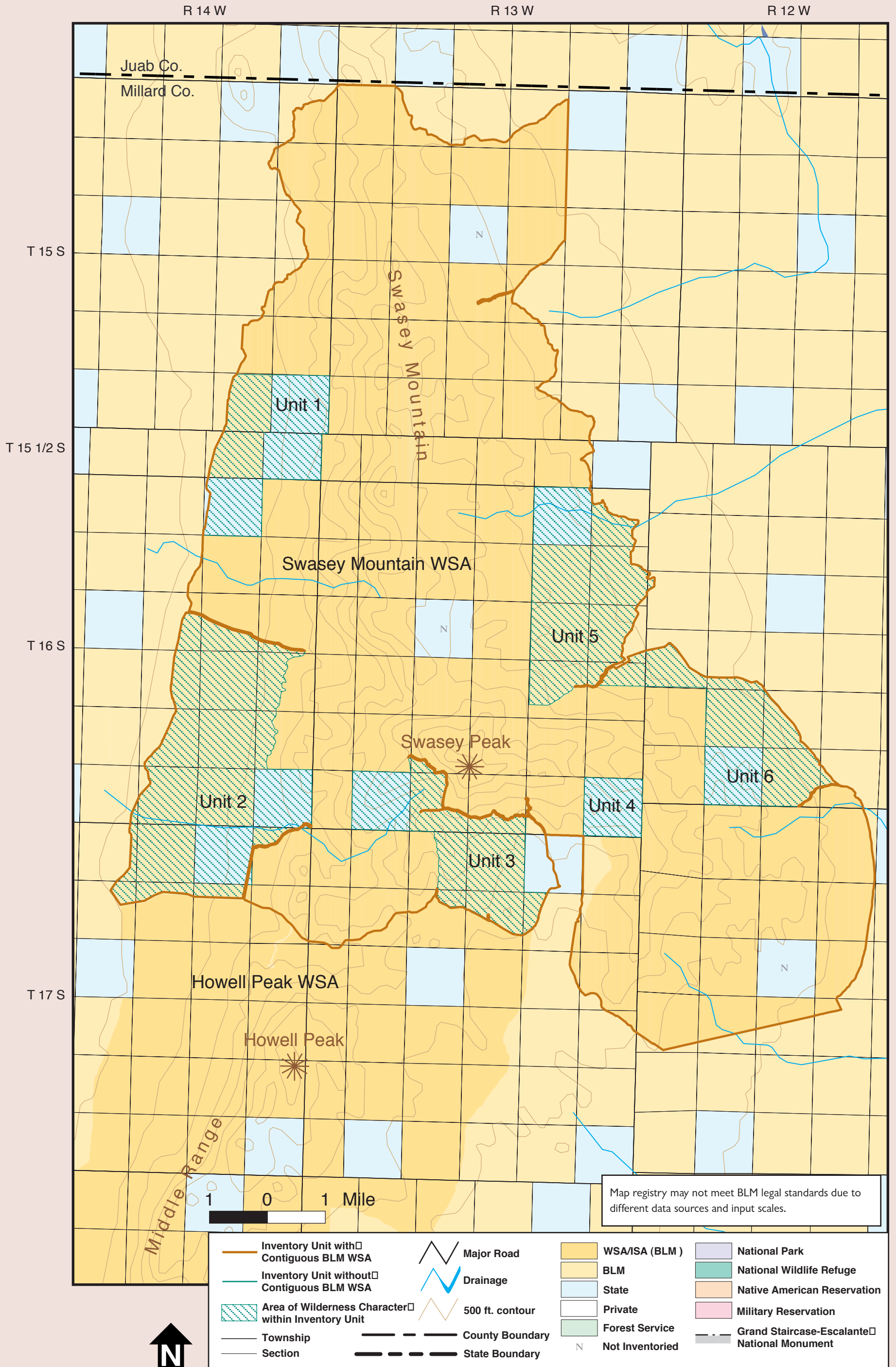
The inventory units contain outstanding scenery and geologic features. From the area's high points, visitors are treated to panoramic vistas of the surrounding desert lands. There are seven known limestone caves within the area, and many more may exist. According to a Smithsonian Institution report, the Antelope Springs Trilobite Beds in the southern portion of the inventory units are "the most outstanding field for gathering fossils of the Cambrian geologic era in Utah and one of the most outstanding fields in the United States."

SWASEY MOUNTAIN—A general view of the inventory units with the Swasey Mountain WSA in the background.



BLM photo

Swasey Mountain



WEST CENTRAL REGION—Swasey Mountain

Notch Peak

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
11,660	2,060	13,720 (98%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
210	100	310 (2%)
Inventory Unit Total		
11,870	2,160	14,030
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Notch Peak WSA (UT-050-078)		51,130

About 13,720 acres of the ten Notch Peak inventory units have wilderness characteristics. These units are contiguous to and form an extension of the Notch Peak Wilderness Study Area (WSA). With the exception of three small areas, the units are natural, with the few human impacts not being noticeable in the area as a whole. However, about 310 acres in Units 4, 8, and 10 are unnatural and do not possess wilderness characteristics because of a flood-control dike and mining disturbances. Outstanding opportunities for both solitude and recreation are present in association with the contiguous WSA. The large benches on the west side especially complement and enhance the opportunities found within the WSA. The units also possess geologic, botanic, and wildlife habitat values that supplement their wilderness characteristics.

Unit Description

The Notch Peak inventory units are located in Millard County about 45 miles southwest of Delta in the southern portion of the House Range. The inventory area features an impressive collection of land forms. The enormous west face of Notch Peak has been called “the desert equivalent of Yosemite’s El Capitan”; its rise of nearly 4,450 feet makes it one of the highest cliffs in North America. The bulk of the units consist of the western alluvial fans between the House Range and Tule Valley. While much of the Notch Peak inventory units are dominated by piñon-juniper or sagebrush-shadscale communities, impressive stands of large aspen and conifers grow at higher elevations. The

highest ridges and peaks support a healthy population of ancient bristlecone pine. Sagebrush, shadscale, Mormon tea, and various annual and perennial grasses cover the undulating western slopes.

While mining exploration historically took place at the base of these slopes, the predominant current use appears to be sheep grazing in the winter. Camping, hunting, rockhounding, and hiking also occur. The western alluvial fans offer tremendous views of the spectacular limestone escarpment on Notch Peak itself. And views from Notch Peak and Bald Mountain offer unparalleled panoramas of valleys and mountains for a hundred miles in any direction. One can even see the Bonneville Salt Flats 120 miles to the north.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The Notch Peak inventory units generally retain their natural character. They are enhanced by and are logical extensions of the contiguous Notch Peak WSA. Human developments found in the units are substantially unnoticeable in the area as a whole. However, three portions of the inventory area in Units 4, 8, and 10 were found to be unnatural because of a large flood-control dike and mining disturbances.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The Notch Peak inventory units have outstanding opportunities for solitude when considered as an extension of the Notch Peak WSA. Units 2 and 3 combined are

large enough to offer outstanding opportunities for solitude on their own. These open brush- and tree-covered western benches of the House Range have a subtle but complex topography that offers solitude. Tall stands of trees and the narrow, deep canyon bottom offer outstanding opportunities for solitude. The remainder of the units possess outstanding opportunities for solitude only in association with the contiguous WSA.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The Notch Peak inventory units have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation when considered as an extension of the Notch Peak WSA. All the units possess opportunities for recreation, but these opportunities are outstanding only in the context of the contiguous WSA.

Supplemental Values

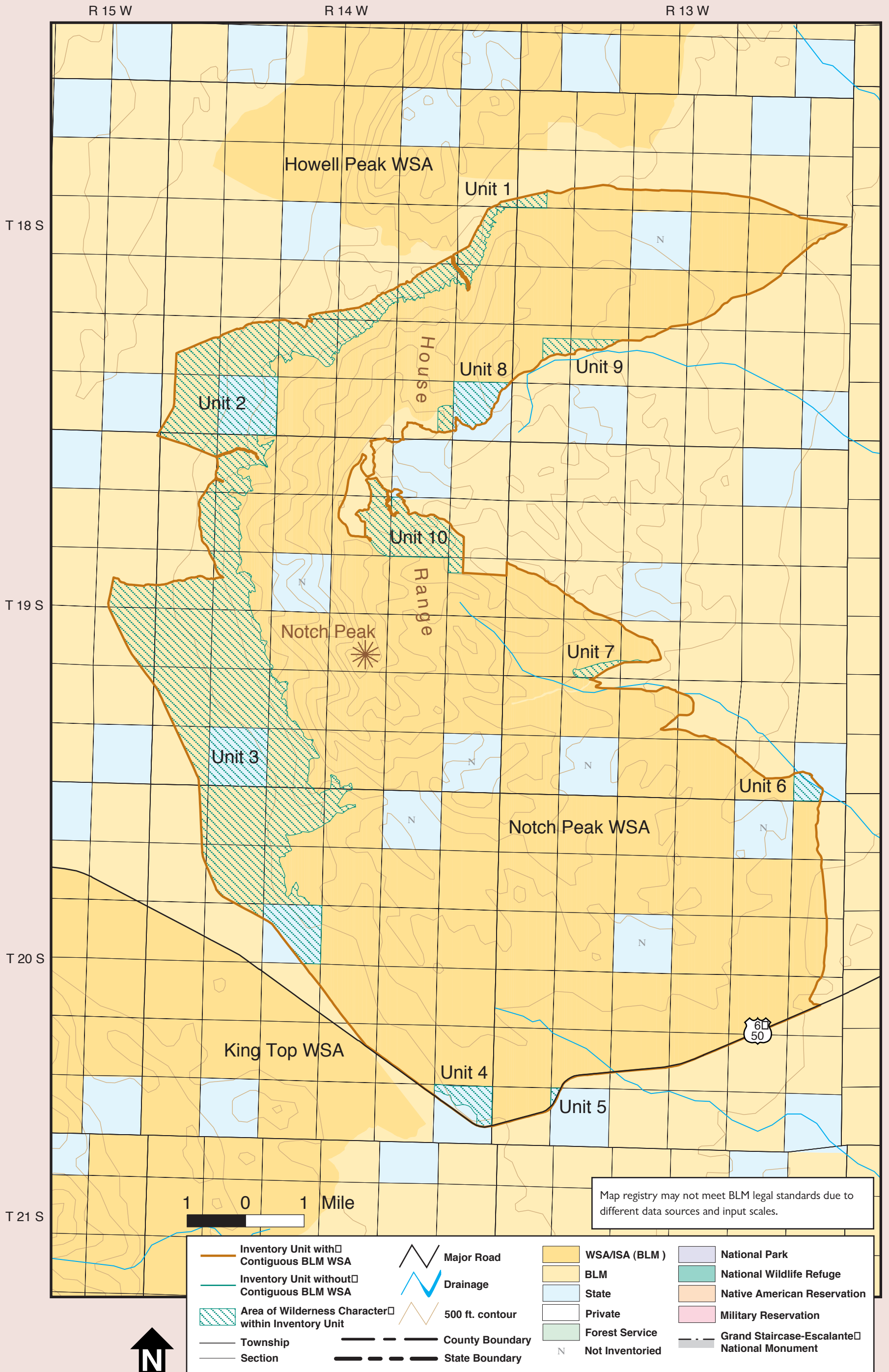
The western flanks of the House Range in Unit 3 have several good examples of ancient lake terraces. The units include an impressive variety of landforms and vegetative communities, with the highest ridges and peaks supporting a healthy population of ancient bristlecone pine. Three sensitive plant species occur in the area: two species of wild buckwheat, *Erigonum ammophilum* and *Erigonum nummulare*, and a milkvetch, *Astragalus callithrix*, all of which are candidates for listing as threatened or endangered plants. A rare plant known as *Primula domensis* is also found. Mule deer, antelope, coyote, cougar, badger, and a variety of raptors call the Notch Peak area their home. The units are crucial habitat for golden eagles, as well as the endangered bald eagle and peregrine falcon.



NOTCH PEAK—A view of one of the inventory units in the middle distance, with the contiguous Notch Peak WSA in the background.

BLM photo

Notch Peak



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	

Howell Peak

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
1,300	200	1,500 (98%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
30	0	30 (2%)
Inventory Unit Total		
1,330	200	1,530
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Howell Peak WSA (UT-050-077)		24,800

About 1,500 acres of the three-unit Howell Peak inventory unit have wilderness characteristics. The units meet the size requirement of 5,000 contiguous acres as a roadless extension of the Howell Peak Wilderness Study Area (WSA). They are generally natural in character, with human imprints being substantially unnoticeable. One small area near the southern boundary of Unit 3 (about 30 acres) was found to be unnatural because of the presence of a reservoir, a vehicle way, a hunting camp, and an all-terrain vehicle (ATV) play area. The inventory unit itself possesses opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation, but these opportunities are outstanding only in association with the contiguous Howell Peak WSA.

Unit Description

The Howell Peak inventory unit is located in Millard County about 45 miles west of Delta in the central portion of the House Range. It is composed primarily of public land, with the exception of portions of two state sections located on the west and south borders of the Howell Peak WSA.

Two of the three inventory units consist of lower western slopes of the Middle Range that are dominated by grasses and brush. Partially forested foothills in the southern portion of the Middle Range characterize Unit 3, the largest unit, where elevations range from about 6,000 to 6,500 feet. Human uses in the three units include sheep ranching, hunting, hiking, and camping.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the Howell Peak inventory units retain their natural character. They are a logical extension of the contiguous Howell Peak WSA. There are a few unnatural features, including a 2-1/4 mile-long vehicle way and evidence of hunting and livestock camps. However, these minor imprints do not affect the overall naturalness of the units. One small area near the southern boundary of Unit 3 is unnatural due to the presence of a reservoir, a vehicle way, a hunting camp, and an ATV play area.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory units are contiguous to and an extension of the Howell Peak WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for solitude. Given their small size and sparse vegetation, Units 1 and 2 provide outstanding opportunities for solitude only in association with the WSA. Even Unit 3, with its larger size, broken topography, and denser vegetation, provides outstanding opportunities for solitude only in association with the contiguous WSA.

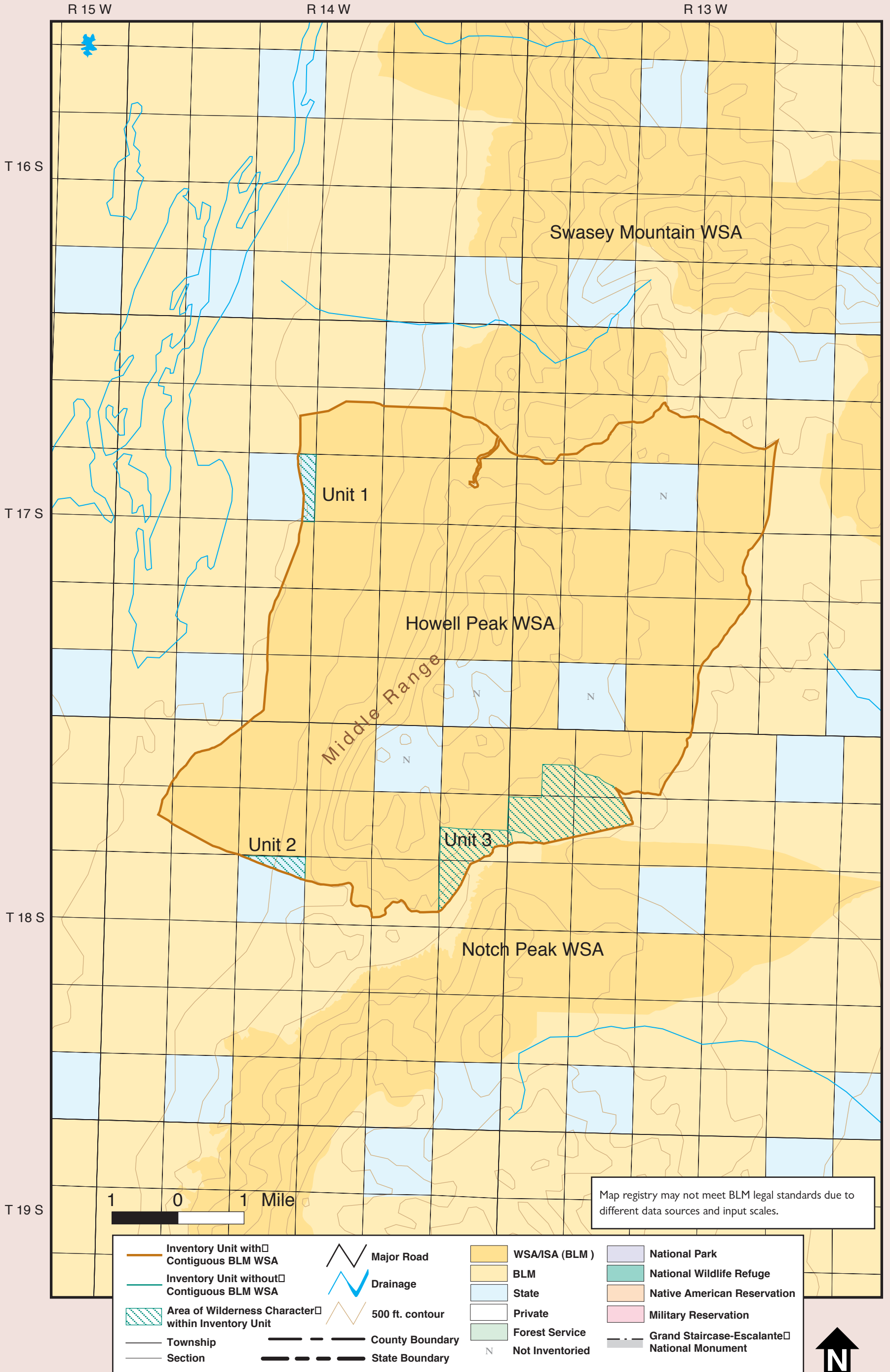
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The Howell Peak inventory unit is contiguous to and an extension of the Howell Peak WSA. Given their size, the three units possess outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation only in association with the contiguous WSA.

Supplemental Values

No supplemental values have been identified.

Howell Peak



WEST CENTRAL REGION—Howell Peak

Conger Mountain

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
1,800	1,800	3,600 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
1,800	1,800	3,600
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Conger Mountain WSA (UT-050-035)		20,400

All 3,600 acres of the three Conger Mountain inventory units have wilderness characteristics. The three units are contiguous to the Conger Mountain Wilderness Study Area (WSA). Developments include vehicle ways, a sheep pen and corral, and a spring box and buried pipeline, but their impact on the naturalness of the units is minimal. The three units enhance the outstanding opportunities for solitude found in the adjacent WSA but do not themselves provide outstanding opportunities for primitive types of recreation. A wild horse herd that has been sighted in the units represents a supplemental value.

Unit Description

The Conger Mountain inventory units are located in the Confusion Range, approximately 65 air miles northwest of Fillmore. The mountain range is typical of the Basin and Range Province: large north-south trending mountain ranges separated by expansive valleys. There are no private inholdings.

Unit 1 includes the foothills at the south end of Conger Mountain, where the elevation rises over 1,000 feet in less than one mile.

Long, narrow, rocky ridges are separated by long, broad valleys. Vegetation is piñon and juniper forest at higher elevations, giving way to mostly juniper at the lower elevations. The vegetative understory includes rabbitbrush, greasewood, and other shrubs and grasses. Unit 2 includes westward-sloping foothills of Conger Mountain. Vegetation is principally shrubs and grasses with a few scattered junipers. Unit 3 includes northward-sloping foothills that are cut by drainages. Vegetation includes juniper and the usual shrubs and grasses: sagebrush, shadscale, ephedra, rabbitbrush, and perennial and annual grasses.

Human uses include sheep and cattle grazing, as well as outdoor recreation activities such as back-country driving and hunting. There may be some hiking and camping taking place as well.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The three units appear natural, with human developments being substantially unnoticeable. There are eight vehicle ways in the three units, but evidence of these routes is simply two tracks through the vegetation. Vegetation is growing over on most of the ways, so they are not a significant impact. A spring development, sheep pen, and sheep corral are also present. Since the ways and other developments are relatively small in scale and are spread throughout the three inventory units, they are not apparent in the landscape and do not dominate the scene.

A road to Conger Spring has been cherry-stemmed from Unit 1 on the south end of the WSA. Two springs developed for wild horses, wildlife, and livestock have also been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The Conger Mountain inventory units enhance the outstanding opportunities for solitude found in the adjacent Conger Mountain WSA. The variety of landforms and vegetation, along with the large size and relative isolation of the mountain range, combine to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. Screening is provided by the WSA's many canyons. Piñon and juniper forest, found in both the WSA and the three inventory units, provides vegetative screening, further enhancing opportunities for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

No primitive recreation activities were found to be outstanding in the Conger Mountain WSA or in the inventory units themselves.

Supplemental Values

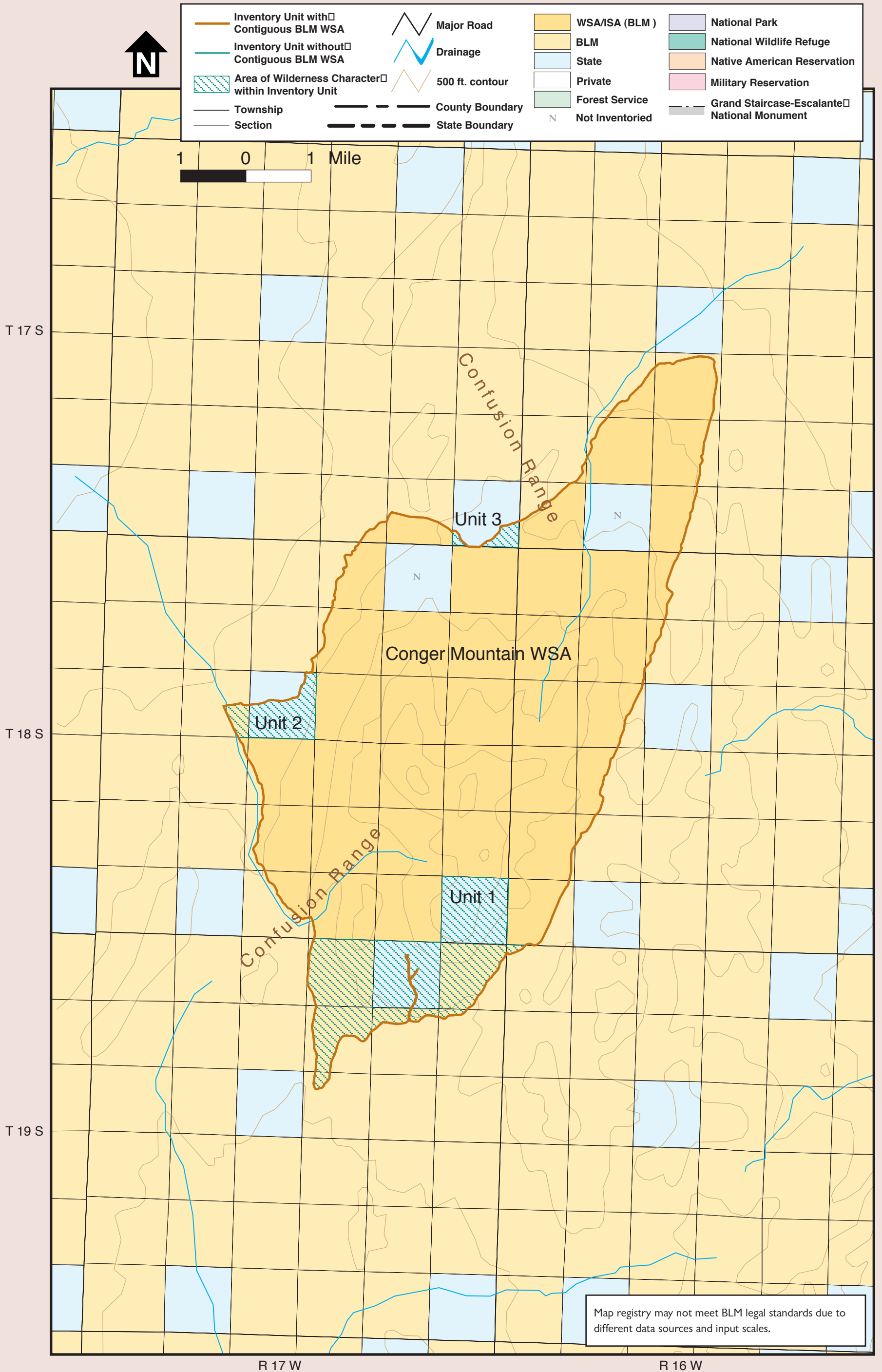
A herd of wild horses is present in the Conger Range and has been sighted in the inventory units. While wild horses are present throughout many western states, sightings by the casual visitor are not common. The adjacent Conger Mountain WSA is home to the bald eagle and peregrine falcon, both listed as endangered species; these may be found within the inventory units as well.

CONGER MOUNTAIN—This scene from Unit 1 shows the landscape typical of all three units, enhancing the values and opportunities found in the larger adjacent Conger Mountain WSA.



BLM photo

Conger Mountain



King Top

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
1,400	2,120	3,520 (90%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	400	400 (10%)
Inventory Unit Total		
1,400	2,520	3,920
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
King Top WSA (UT-050-070)		84,770

About 3,520 acres of the five King Top inventory units appear natural and have wilderness characteristics. Several vehicle ways and a fence are present but do not dominate the landscape; natural landforms prevail. However, about 400 acres in Unit 3 in the southwestern part of the inventory area do not have wilderness characteristics because of the presence of mining exploration roads. The units enhance existing outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation found in the contiguous King Top Wilderness Study Area (WSA), opportunities that extend to the units themselves. Their wilderness characteristics is enhanced by the presence of threatened, endangered, or candidate plant and animal species, Ordovician fossils, and a small wild horse herd.

Unit Description

The King Top inventory units are located in the Confusion Range of southwestern Millard County about 50 miles southwest of Delta. The Confusion Range is typical of the Intermountain Sagebrush Province. The inventory units are contiguous to the King Top WSA, about 19 miles from

north to south and 17 miles at its widest point from east to west. Like most other mountain ranges in the Great Basin, the Confusion Range rises abruptly above the surrounding desert valleys. The range differs from other Great Basin ranges, however, in that the summit is almost a plateau, a hilly upland with the steepest slopes on the eastern side of the range. Elevations vary from 5,000 feet at the edges of the units to more than 8,000 feet in the WSA. Desert shrubs predominate at the lower elevations, while a piñon-juniper woodland is dominant on the King Top plateau.

Historically, the area has been used principally for mining exploration, personal woodcutting, and livestock grazing. It is also within the King Top Wild Horse Management Area. Other uses include hunting, photography, back-country driving, fossil hunting, and hiking.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the inventory units are essentially undisturbed, with natural landforms dominating the scene. Only minimal evidence of human development exists, including vehicle ways and fencelines, and these are substantially unnoticeable in the units as a whole. However, the western portion of Unit 3 is unnatural because of mining exploration roads. Four cherry-stemmed roads and adjacent developments have been excluded from Units 1, 3, and 4.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The units are contiguous to and form an extension of the King Top WSA. The WSA

possesses outstanding opportunities for solitude. The inventory units provide a logical extension of these outstanding opportunities because of their general remoteness, their vegetative and topographical screening, and the overall size of the inventory area. There are many places to be alone within the canyons and piñon-juniper forests.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The units provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Although the area has little water, opportunities for backpacking, horseback riding, hiking, camping, wild horse viewing, fossil hunting, and photography exist. The lower-elevation country provides expanded areas in which to pursue these recreational activities. The adjacent King Top WSA, one of the more important localities for Ordovician fossils, is frequented by both paleontologists and amateur collectors.

Supplemental Values

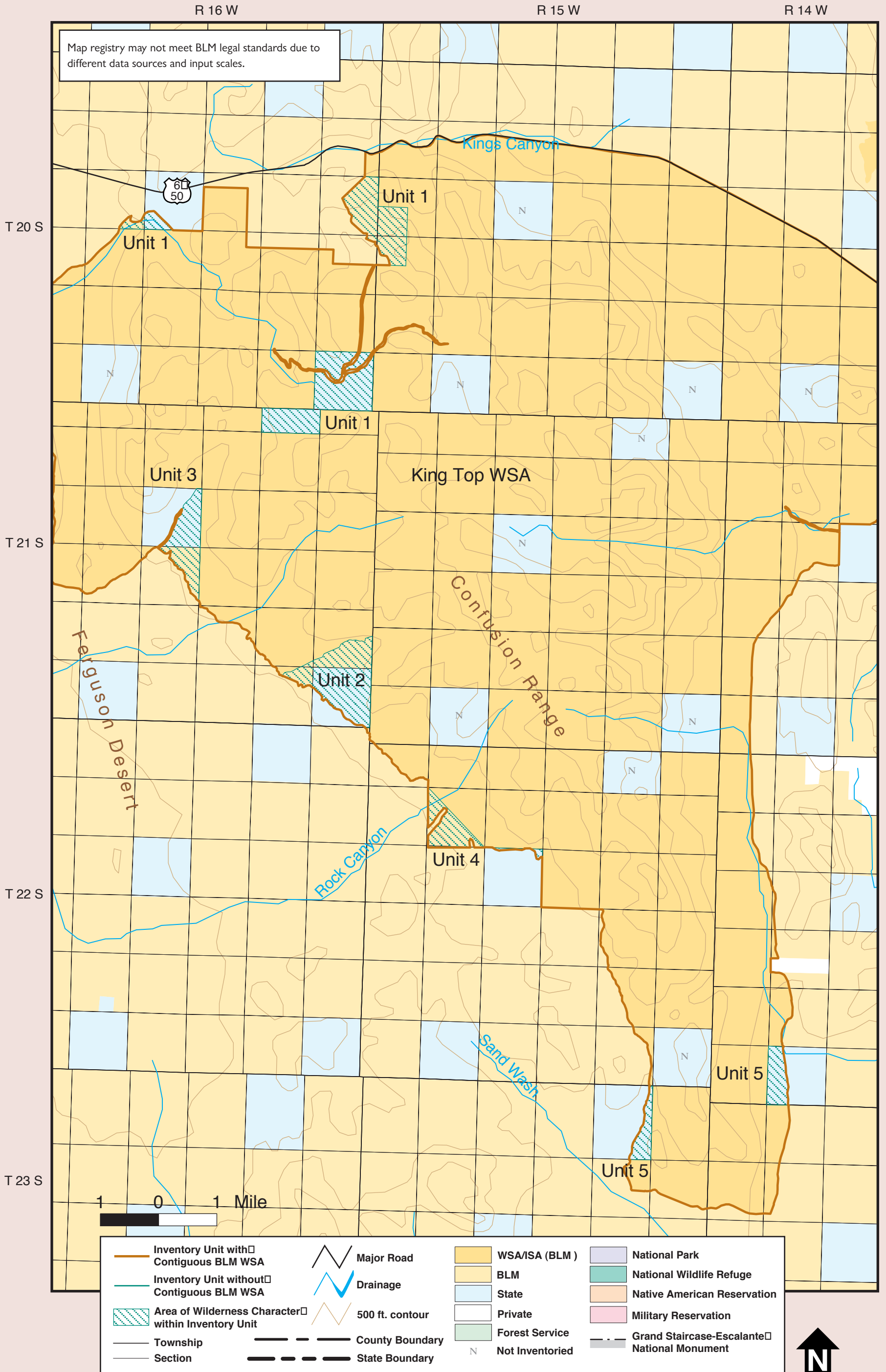
Bald eagles and peregrine falcons, both listed as endangered species, inhabit the units. Several candidate species that may also inhabit the units are ferruginous hawk, Swainson's hawk, long-billed curlew, western snowy plover, and white-faced ibis. Fossil Mountain yields some of the best examples of early Ordovician fossils. A small herd of wild horses roams the units, offering visitors a chance to view these animals in a remote wildland setting.

KING TOP—This powerline forms a portion of Unit 1's boundary at the north end of the King Top inventory unit.



BLM photo

King Top



WEST CENTRAL REGION—King Top

North Wah Wah Mountains

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
13,010	4,200	17,210 (72%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
6,300	400	6,700 (28%)
Inventory Unit Total		
19,310	4,600	23,910
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Wah Wah Mountains WSA (UT-050-073/UT-040-205)		41,140

About 17,210 acres within the four North Wah Wah Mountains inventory units retain their wilderness characteristics, with Units 1 and 2 appearing natural. However, about 6,700 acres within portions of Units 3 and 4 are unnatural and lack wilderness characteristics because of the cumulative effects of livestock developments, wildlife improvements, and bladed access roads. The inventory units extend the outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation found within the contiguous Wah Wah Mountains Wilderness Study Area (WSA). The WSA's values include Crystal Peak, a mountain of white volcanic tuff visible for 50 miles; bristlecone pine, which grows in the higher portions of the WSA; and endangered, threatened, or candidate animal species.

Unit Description

The inventory units are mostly on the lower slopes of the Wah Wah Mountains, which are located in southwestern Millard County and northwestern Beaver County about 30 miles west of Milford. The inventory units are mostly public land, with scattered parcels of state land; there are no private inholdings. The Wah Wah Mountains are typical of the Intermountain

Sagebrush Province. Like most other mountain ranges in the Great Basin, the Wah Wah Mountains rise abruptly above the surrounding desert valleys, with elevations ranging from 5,600 feet at the edges of the units to almost 9,000 feet at the peaks. Crystal Peak, in the adjacent WSA, dominates the northern portion of the area; its white volcanic tuff is visible up to 50 miles away. The bulk of the units are on the east and west sides of the Wah Wah Mountain Range and are contiguous to the WSA. A small portion of the inventory units is on the south end of the WSA near Wah Wah Summit and Highway 21. Piñon-juniper woodland is the dominant vegetative type.

The units are within the U.S. Air Force Utah Test and Training Range (UTTR), one of the nation's busiest military air spaces. However, both the WSA and the inventory units are in the southern portion of the UTTR, where air traffic is less frequent. Uses include hunting, woodcutting, livestock grazing, photography, backcountry driving, fossil hunting, and hiking in conjunction with wildlife viewing and geological sightseeing.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the inventory units are substantially undisturbed and retain their natural appearance. The Wah Wah Mountains are one of the most remote and untouched mountain ranges in the west desert. Overall, the natural landforms still dominate the scene. However, livestock and wildlife developments and their attendant roads and vehicle ways, when considered cumulatively, do impact naturalness in the western portion of Unit 4 and the southwestern portion of Unit 3. Bladed roads, bright metal guzzlers, and a pipeline route impact these units. When combined with the general flatness of the terrain and low vegetative cover, these intrusions are noticeable.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory units are contiguous to and are an extension of the Wah Wah Mountains WSA. They provide outstanding opportunities for solitude, given their general remoteness, the vegetative and topographical screening, and the size of the area. There are many places to be alone within the canyons and piñon-juniper forests. Impressive views from the ridgelines give one a sense of the region's vastness and of the desert's profound solitude.

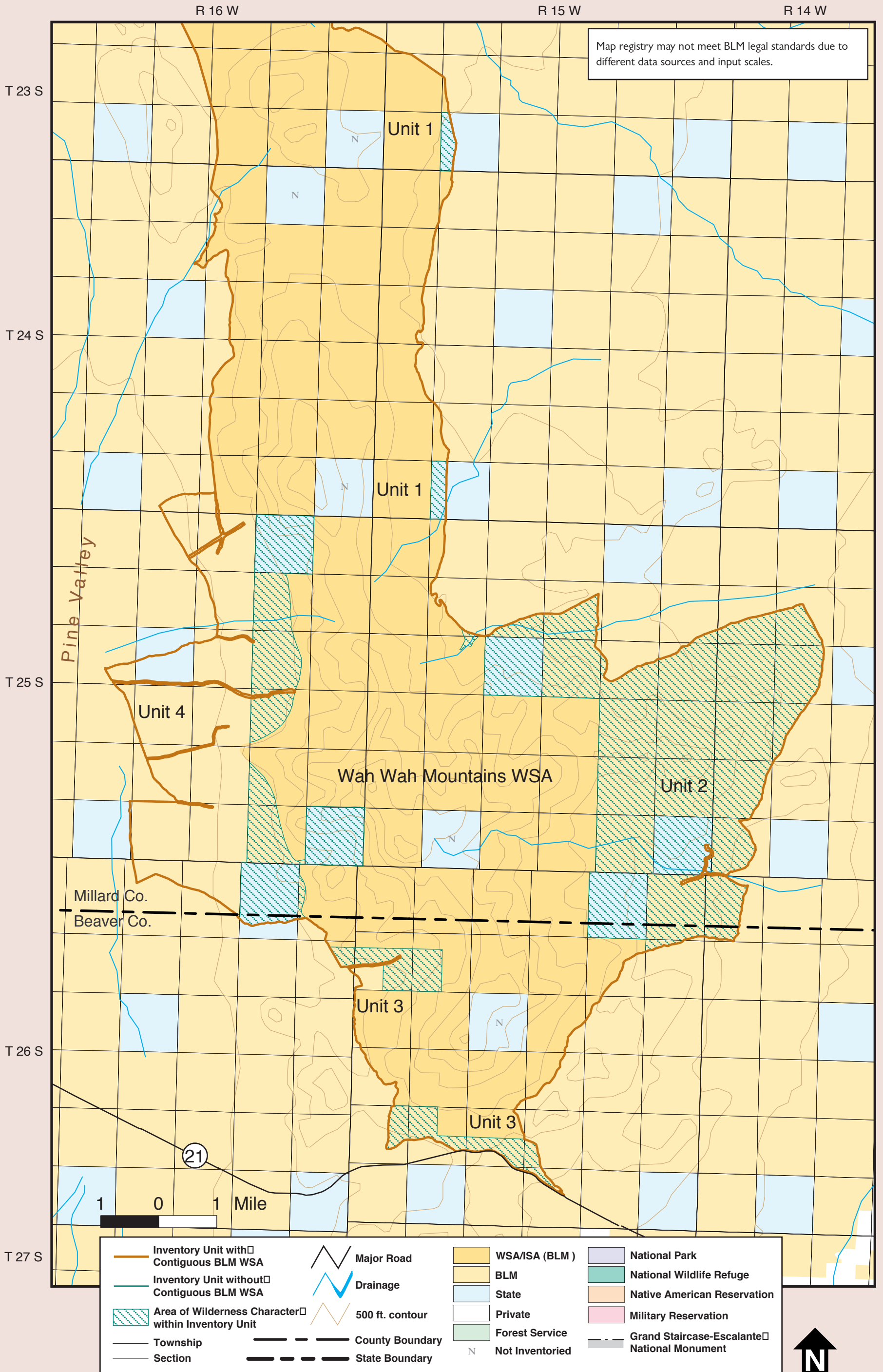
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory units provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation when considered in conjunction with the contiguous WSA. Opportunities for backpacking, horseback riding, hiking, camping, fossil hunting, and photography exist. The contiguous Wah Wah Mountains WSA provides outstanding opportunities for viewing wildlife and plant species and geological formations. Bristlecone and ponderosa pines, endangered species such as the bald eagle and peregrine falcon, and the sheer limestone cliffs and volcanic tuff of Crystal Peak all await the visitor.

Supplemental Values

Supplemental values of the WSA include Crystal Peak, a mountain of white volcanic tuff; bristlecone pine; and some endangered, threatened, or candidate animal species. Bald eagles and peregrine falcons, both listed as endangered species, inhabit the area. Several candidate species that may inhabit the area include the ferruginous hawk, Swainson's hawk, long-billed curlew, western snowy plover, and white-faced ibis. Portions of the adjacent WSA have been identified as a Research Natural Area or Outstanding Natural Area/Area of Critical Environmental Concern.

North Wah Wah Mountains



Central Wah Wah Mountains

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
52,100	6,300	58,400 (99%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
400	400	800 (1%)
Inventory Unit Total		
52,500	6,700	59,200
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

About 58,400 acres of the Central Wah Wah Mountains inventory unit have wilderness characteristics. This area appears natural and provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Although human intrusions exist, they are substantially unnoticeable in the unit as a whole and do not detract from the appearance of naturalness. Beautiful scenery, varied and interesting vegetation changes, and wildlife habitat supplement the wilderness values. A small area in the eastern portion (800 acres) is unnatural and lacks wilderness characteristics because of livestock grazing developments.

Unit Description

The Central Wah Wah Mountains inventory unit is located in Beaver County about 26 air miles west of Milford. The area is predominantly public land, along with several parcels of state land. There is an isolated 40-acre private parcel located in the southeast portion. The terrain is mountainous, with the main ridge running approximately 10 miles in a north-to-south direction. Numerous side canyons run east and west of the central ridge. The west side of the range consists of rugged terrain and large rock faces, while the east side has less rugged topography and is more densely covered with piñon and juniper forests. Valley bottom elevations average just under 5,500 feet, with the central ridge line of the mountain range exceeding 9,300 feet at the south. Wah Wah Peak at the north end of the unit rises to an elevation of 8,695 feet.

The lack of flowing water in the inventory unit is typical of Great Basin mountain ranges. However, a limited number of springs exist within the range, with the larger springs being located on the east side. Wah Wah Springs and Kiln Spring are in private ownership. Vegetation in the area varies, with desert vegetation dominating the lower elevation valley bottoms. As elevation increases, various plant communities typical of the Great Basin are encountered. Ponderosa pine is present in the southwestern corner, while piñon and juniper are common above 6,000 feet in elevation. Numerous grass species are present, with large, productive grass areas located around Sewing Machine Pass.

Current uses include livestock grazing, hunting, camping, all-terrain vehicle use, and sightseeing. The southern portion is adjacent to historical mining activity.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the inventory unit appears natural, although several developments do exist. There are 18 vehicle ways totaling about 37 miles and over 10 miles of fence, although these vehicle ways and fences are substantially unnoticeable in the area as a whole. About half of the fences are in poor condition and incapable of containing livestock. Most of the vehicle ways were not constructed, and none appear to have been maintained. Many are kept open only by occasional vehicle use, but none appear to receive regular and continuous use; they have not left a noticeable impact on the land. The most significant feature is 2.5 miles of reclaimed road to a reclaimed drill location. For the most part, the reclamation has been successful, so the road and site are substantially

unnoticeable from the ground. A small area in the eastern part of the unit is unnatural because of a substantially noticeable fence and two stock ponds.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit consists of variable and often rugged topography and is of sufficient size to ensure outstanding opportunities for solitude. Drainages provide opportunities to be apart from other people. As elevation increases, vegetation size and density increase along with topographic relief, further enhancing opportunities for solitude in this remote area.

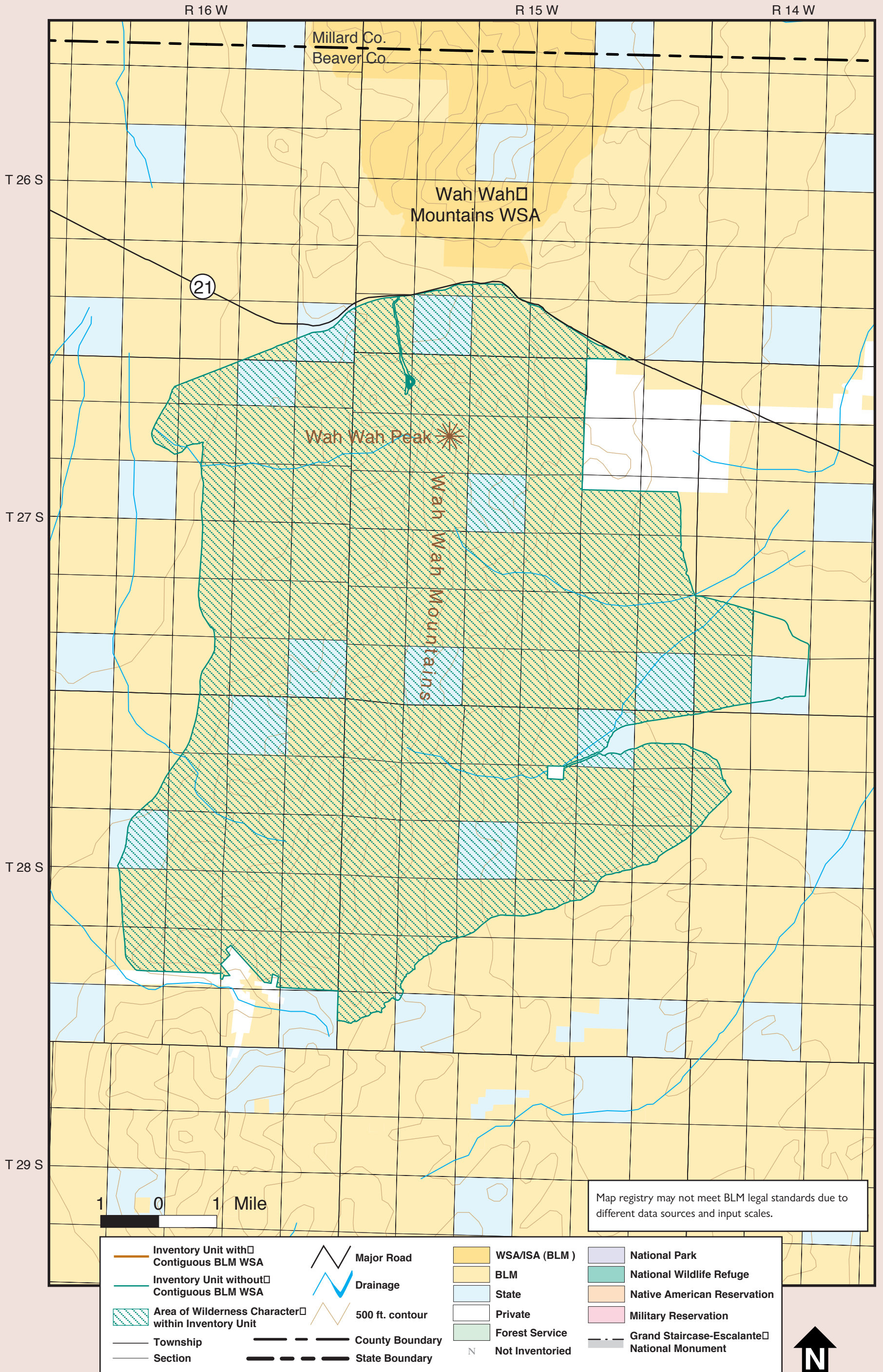
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The remoteness, varied topography and vegetation types, and overall size of the Central Wah Wah Mountains inventory unit ensure outstanding opportunities for hiking, photography, camping, and horse-back riding. This variety of activities, coupled with the setting, is outstanding.

Supplemental Values

The Central Wah Wah Mountains provide beautiful views of rugged mountain topography. There are spectacular scenic vistas in all directions from the higher elevations. Vegetation types transition from cold desert vegetation to ponderosa pine forests. This varied vegetation provides habitat for pronghorn antelope, mule deer, a variety of birds, small mammals, and reptiles.

Central Wah Wah Mountains



WEST CENTRAL REGION—Central Wah Wah Mountains

Granite Peak

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
15,900	2,400	18,300 (94%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
1,000	200	1,200 (6%)
Inventory Unit Total		
16,900	2,600	19,500
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

About 18,300 acres of the Granite Peak inventory unit have wilderness characteristics. The unit is natural and of sufficient size to provide visitors outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Most intrusions are not substantially noticeable. About 1,200 acres in five areas around the perimeter of the unit lack wilderness characteristics because of impacts from roads, mining activity, and livestock developments.

Unit Description

The Granite Peak inventory unit is located in Beaver County about 15 air miles west of Beaver and is part of the Mineral Mountains. The Mineral Mountains run north to south, with mountain peaks exceeding 8,000 feet in elevation; Granite Peak itself rises to 9,771 feet above sea level. Canyons generally run to the east and west. The west side of the unit is characterized by dramatic granite slabs and enormous standing rocks, while the east side is less dramatic and heavily vegetated by piñon and juniper forests. Views into the range from the west are spectacular, as are views from the range into the valleys to the east and west.

Vegetation at higher elevations and on north-facing slopes is mostly coniferous forests. Piñon and juniper forests are dominant throughout the range, with oak and mountain mahogany abundant on the west side. Mixed mountain brush communities, which include manzanita, provide variety in many areas. Sagebrush, rabbitbrush, and grass are common on ridge tops, in some drainages, and on exposed south slopes. Drainages with flowing water support cottonwood, quaking aspen, and white fir stands, along with typical riparian vegetation.

Mining and cattle grazing are the dominant uses, while hunting is a seasonal use.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the unit appears natural, with human imprints being substantially unnoticeable. The natural portion contains several developments related to mining and livestock grazing, but both their individual and cumulative impact on the unit's natural character is minor. Developments consist of old mines and associated travel routes, water projects, fences, and vehicle ways kept open mostly by hunters and four-wheel drive vehicle use. Overall, the inventory unit is rugged, with steep slopes and deep canyons. The dramatic topography and varied and diverse vegetation cause existing human imprints to be substantially unnoticeable. There are, however, five areas on the unit's boundary that appear unnatural because of roads, mining activities, and livestock facilities. Six roads have been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit's ample size and rugged terrain ensure outstanding opportunities for solitude. Ridges, valley bottoms, numerous canyons, and large rock outcroppings all provide outstanding opportunities to be alone. The diverse vegetation works in combination with the topography to screen visitors from others and their activities. The cherry-stemmed roads are seldom used.

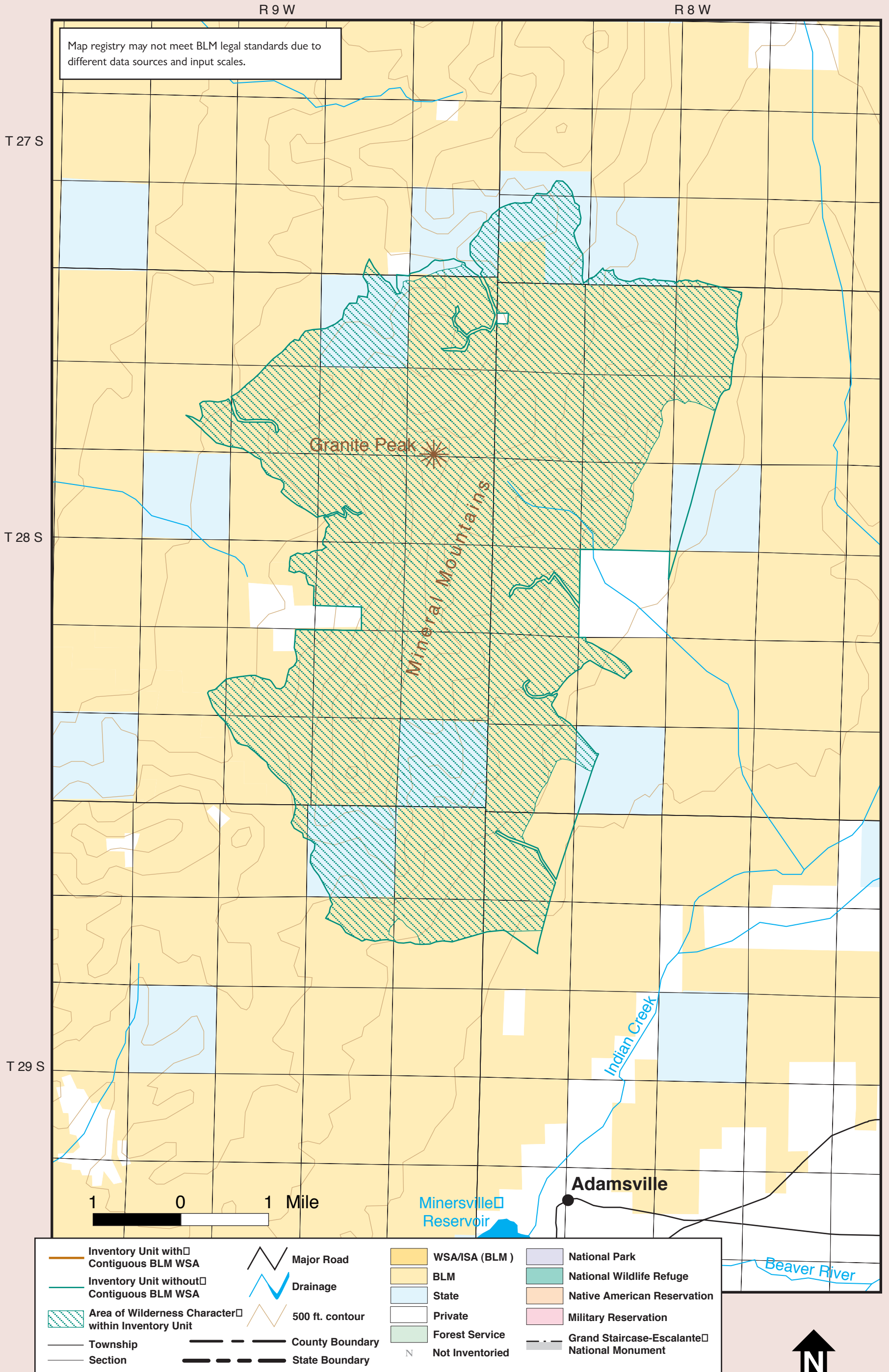
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

This is an area of rugged terrain, with spectacular granite formations and stunning scenery. The unit provides outstanding opportunities for a variety of primitive recreation activities including camping, hiking, photography, rockclimbing, and horseback riding.

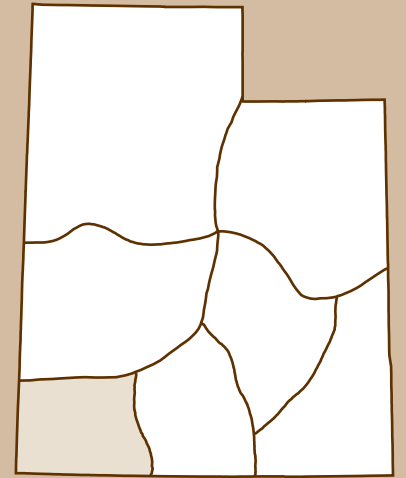
Supplemental Values

The unit possesses exceptional scenery and panoramic views of valleys to the east and west. The granite walls and spires are spectacular. Deer and blue grouse provide hunting opportunities, and habitat exists for a variety of birds and small mammals. There are obsidian quarries that were used by Native Americans and early settlers. The combination of piñon and juniper forests growing in conjunction with mountain mahogany, oak, and manzanita is not common in the Great Basin.

Granite Peak



Southwest Region

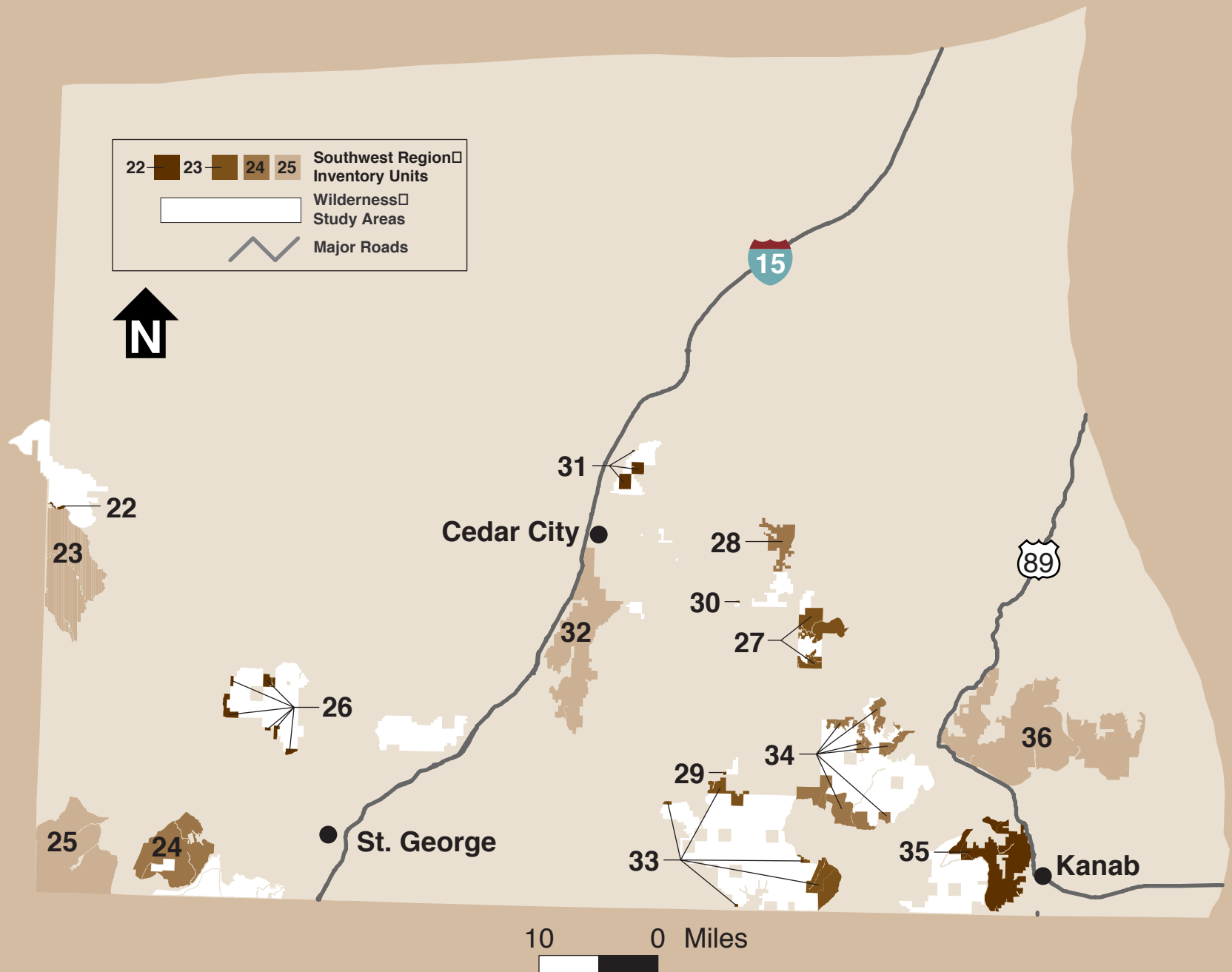


Cougar Canyon	22	Goose Creek	30
The Narrows	23	Spring Creek Canyon	31
Joshua Tree	24	Black Ridge	32
Beaver Dam Wash	25	Canaan Mountain	33
Red Mountain	26	Parunuweap Canyon	34
Orderville Canyon	27	Moquith Mountain	35
Deep Creek	28	Upper Kanab Creek	36
The Watchman	29		



BLM Photo

MOQUITH MOUNTAIN—The inventory unit offers hikers and backpackers opportunities for wildlife viewing and excellent scenery.



White Rock Range

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
0	200	200 (7%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
2,000	600	2,600 (93%)
Inventory Unit Total		
2,000	800	2,800
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
White Rock Range WSA (UT-040-216/NV-04-202)		24,065

Only a small part of State Section 2 (200 acres) south of the White Rock Cabin Springs Road has wilderness characteristics. This portion of the White Rock Range inventory unit is in a natural condition with little or no evidence of human presence. Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation are outstanding in this portion when considered in conjunction with the contiguous White Rock Range Wilderness Study Area (WSA).

The portion of the inventory unit north of the White Rock Cabin Springs Road, about 2,600 acres, does not have wilderness characteristics. It is separated from the White Rock Range WSA by the road and does not meet the size criteria. The area north of the White Rock Cabin Springs Road does not provide outstanding opportunities for either solitude or primitive recreation. Several abandoned house trailers, abandoned vehicles, scattered trash, large stock tanks, and chainlink-fenced springs have significantly reduced the natural character of an area around Ripgut Creek, east of Ripgut Spring.

Unit Description

The White Rock Range inventory unit is on the eastern slope of the White Rock Mountains in Beaver County. It is on the Nevada-Utah border about 54 miles west of Cedar City. Elevations range from 6,440 feet to 8,325 feet. The area is contiguous to the north end of the White Rock Range WSA, most of which is in Nevada. It is bounded on the west by the Nevada-Utah state line, on the north by private land and a road, on the east by the Reeds Cabin Summit Road, and on the south by the WSA. Several springs and small streams are within the inventory unit. The largest, White Rock Cabin Springs, is in State Section 2. Vegetation includes piñon-juniper woodland, with aspen on some slopes and valley bottoms. There is an historic log cabin at White Rock Cabin Springs. Many names and dates have been carved into the large, hand-hewn logs used to construct the cabin; the oldest inscription is more than 90 years old, dating back to 1907.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the White Rock Range inventory unit retains its natural character, except for that portion of the area near Ripgut Creek and Spring, where naturalness is lost in the confusion of the abandoned vehicles, mobile homes, stock tanks, chain-link fence, and junk scattered throughout the trees and in the meadows.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Opportunities for solitude are outstanding in that portion of the unit south of the White Rock Cabin Springs Road when considered in conjunction with the contiguous WSA. However, the remainder of the area north of the White Rock Cabin Springs Road does not provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. Opportunities for solitude are available north of the road (except for the unnatural area around Ripgut Creek and Spring) because of thick piñon-juniper woodland cover, but these opportunities are not outstanding.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

That portion of the White Rock Range inventory unit south of the White Rock Cabin Springs Road and contiguous to the WSA provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation in combination with, and as a logical extension of, the WSA. However, the area north of the White Rock Cabin Springs Road does not possess these outstanding opportunities.

Supplemental Values

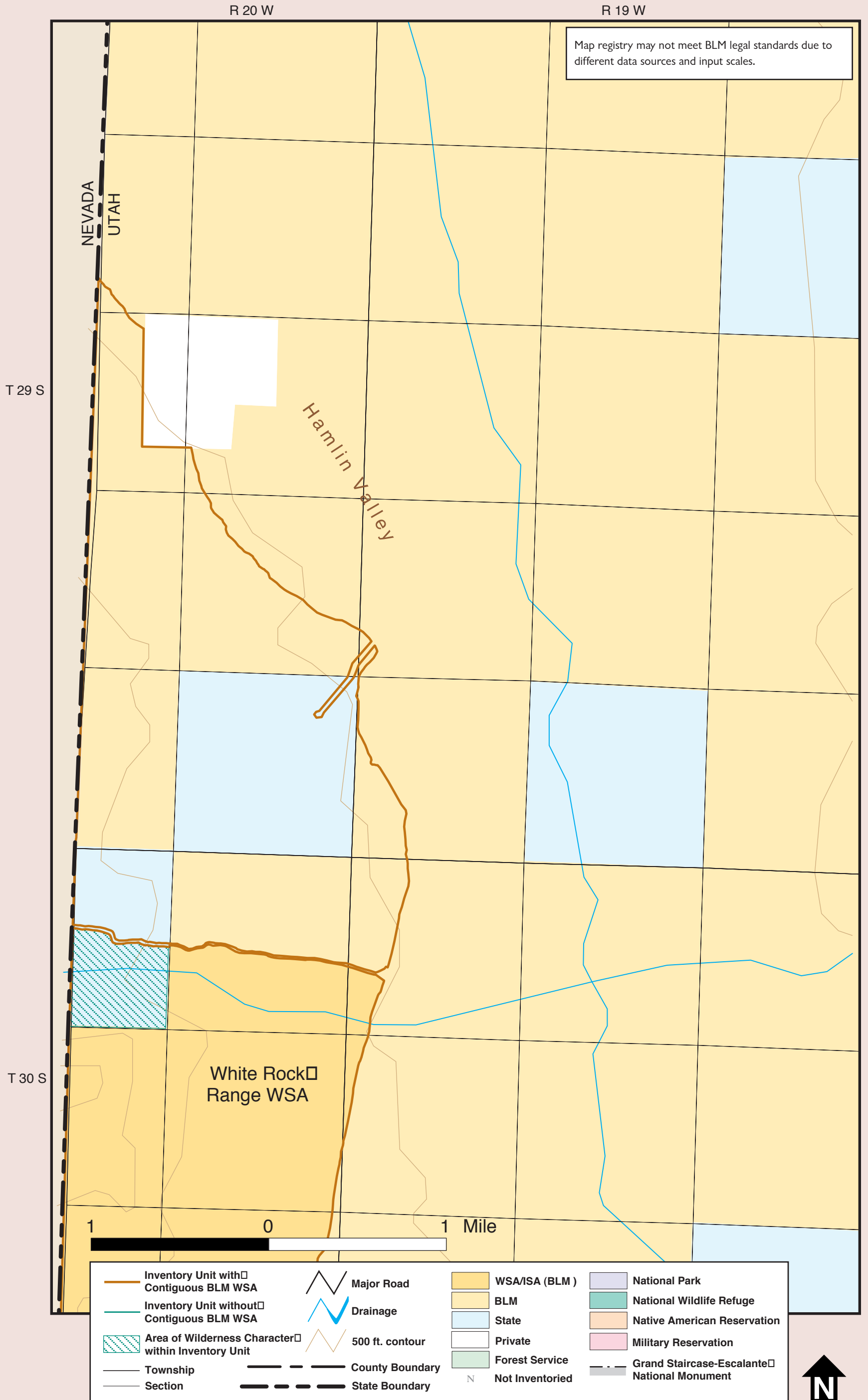
An historic log cabin at White Rock Cabin Springs dates back to the turn of the century. The large wetlands and numerous springs in the area are habitat for a wide variety of animals and plants. Stands of aspen and fir ramble across the slopes south of the spring.

WHITE ROCK RANGE—A log cabin at White Rock Cabin Springs dates back to the turn of the century, adding a historical element of interest to the inventory unit.



Bob Taylor

White Rock Range



Cougar Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
200	0	200 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
200	0	200
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Cougar Canyon WSA (UT-040-123)	10,568	
(NV-050-166)	5,400	

The Cougar Canyon inventory unit is located along the southwestern boundary of the Cougar Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA). All 200 acres retain their wilderness characteristics. The inventory unit has the same outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation that are present within the contiguous WSA. Three short vehicle ways and some mineral prospects exist, but these features are all substantially unnoticeable.

Unit Description

The Cougar Canyon inventory unit is located about 40 miles west of St. George near the Utah/Nevada state line. The unit is contiguous to a portion of the Cougar Canyon WSA, and is above the northern edge of Beaver Dam Wash. Vegetation is primarily piñon and juniper woodland, interspersed with sagebrush.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The unit appears natural. Three vehicle ways, totaling 0.9 mile, and two small mining disturbances have been documented, but all are considered substantially unnoticeable. The vehicle ways and mining disturbances are overgrown with plant cover, receive little to no use, and continue to be reclaimed by weathering and plant growth. Eventually, they may all but disappear.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The Cougar Canyon inventory unit possesses the same outstanding opportunities for solitude as those identified within the contiguous Cougar Canyon WSA. The WSA's hilly terrain and dense pine woodlands, landscape features that screen and isolate users, extend into this unit.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The Cougar Canyon inventory unit possesses the same opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation as those found within the contiguous Cougar Canyon WSA, with hiking being the best opportunity.

Supplemental Values

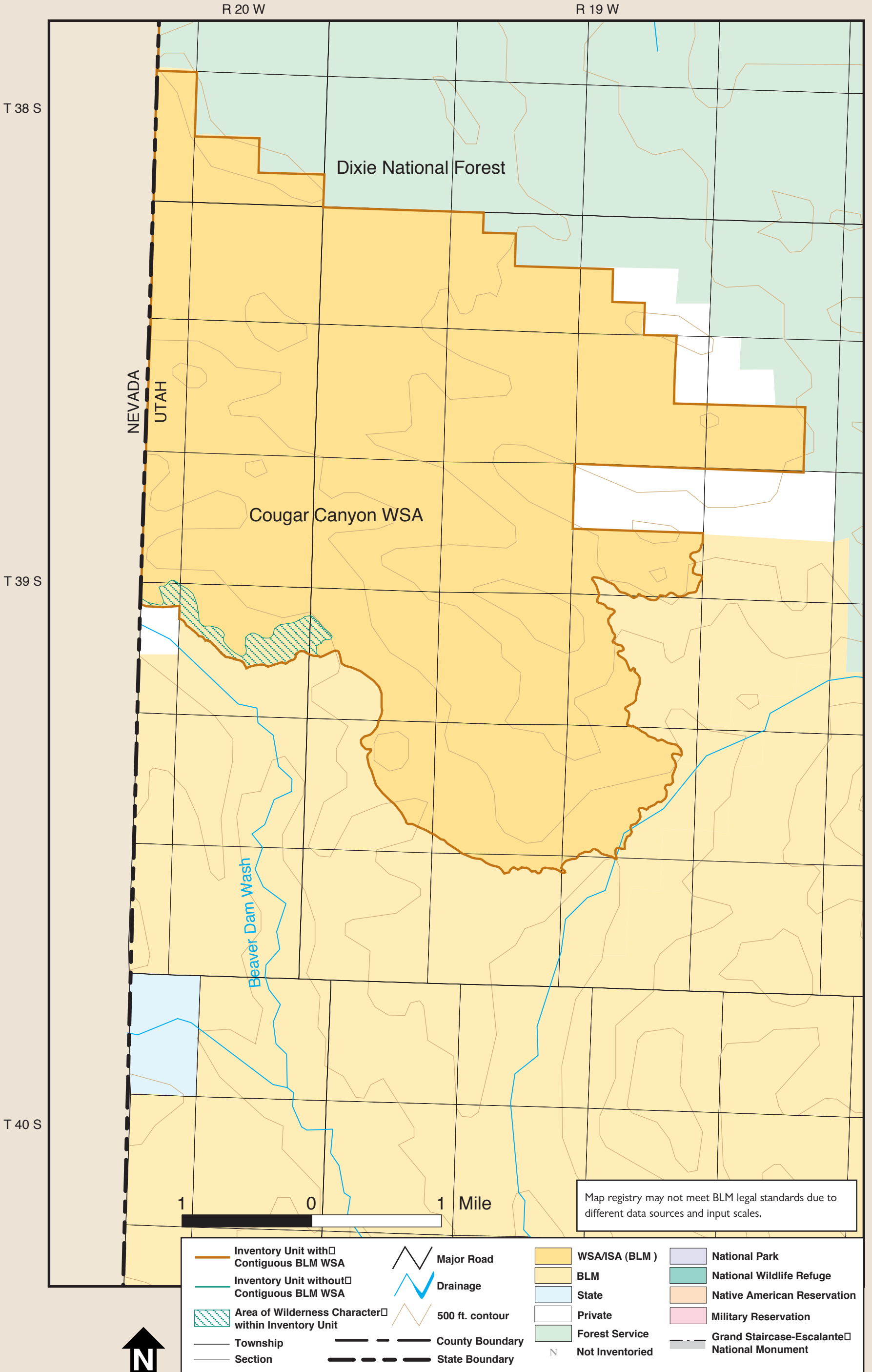
No supplemental values have been identified.

COUGAR CANYON—This mineral exploration site has been naturally reclaimed by plant growth and weathering.



BLM photo

Cougar Canyon



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA | Major Road | WSA/ISA (BLM) | National Park |
| Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA | Drainage | BLM | National Wildlife Refuge |
| Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit | 500 ft. contour | State | Native American Reservation |
| Township | County Boundary | Private | Military Reservation |
| Section | State Boundary | Forest Service | Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument |
| | | Not Inventoried | |

SOUTHWEST REGION—Cougar Canyon

The Narrows

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
20,400	1,100	21,500 (99%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
200	0	200 (1%)
Inventory Unit Total		
20,600	1,100	21,700
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

About 21,500 acres of The Narrows inventory unit have wilderness characteristics, while 200 acres do not. The unit encompasses remote and rugged piñon and juniper woodlands separated by mountain tops, canyons, and foothills, along with five miles of perennial free-flowing stream within Beaver Dam Wash. The unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation and is popular for hiking, camping, hunting, and fishing. A spectacular area known as The Narrows of Beaver Dam Wash provides opportunities for enjoying wildlife and a riparian ecosystem made up of willows, cottonwoods, and sedges. The unit provides habitat for a large deer herd as well as sensitive native fishes.

Several areas were found to be unnatural and lack wilderness characteristics because of the cumulative effects of human activities, including water pipelines, established and well-used deer camps, vehicle ways, OHV use areas, and a stream gaging station.

Unit Description

The unit is located on the Utah-Nevada state line about 30 miles northwest of St. George in Washington County. It contains rugged mountains and numerous side canyons covered by dense piñon and juniper stands with a mountain mahogany understory. Yucca and desert shrubs exist along the lower-elevation foothills. The elevation transitions from a low of 3,800 feet in Beaver Dam Wash near the rural town of Motoqua to 5,629 feet at the summit of Bull Mountain about 4 miles west. The unit is bisected by 8.5 miles of Beaver Dam Wash, which includes a particularly narrow and steep-sided riparian area known as The Narrows. This wash supports an outstanding willow, cottonwood, and sedge riparian ecosystem.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Many intrusions were documented during the inventory, but most of these human features have been excluded from the unit boundaries. Most of the unit is natural and roadless, with little evidence of human activity. The principal human intrusions include 21 vehicle ways totaling 11.1 miles in length, six segments of range fence totaling 10.6 miles in length, and two reseeded fire-burned areas. The vehicle ways receive little or no use and are substantially unnoticeable. Many of these were associated with mineral exploration and are now unmaintained, often impassible, and heavily eroded. Large wildfires have occurred frequently within the southern portion of the unit, but the burned areas are now returning to a natural appearance.

Several areas (totaling 200 acres) are unnatural and lack wilderness characteristics because of the cumulative effects of camping, off-highway vehicle (OHV) use, a pipeline, a stream gaging station, vehicle ways, and roads. The roads to Dodge Spring, Holts Cabin, and Dobin Mine have been cherry-stemmed from the unit, along with associated developments including the Dodge Spring pipeline, the Dobin Mine, several permanent deer hunting camps, and two parcels of private land.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. The rugged

terrain, dense vegetation, and deeply incised drainages provide excellent screening that separates visitors from the sights and sounds of others. A visitor is able to seek and experience seclusion within this remote area.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation are available, including day hiking, camping, hunting, fishing, backpacking, and horseback riding. Opportunities for deer hunting and wildlife viewing are especially outstanding and popular, as evidenced by the abundance of road-side deer camps. Beaver Dam Wash provides a rare opportunity for native trout fishing. The rock formations within Beaver Dam Wash and the distant views of surrounding Navajo sandstone formations in lower desert areas provide outstanding opportunities for geologic sightseeing and photography.

Supplemental Values

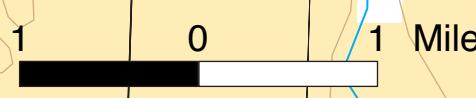
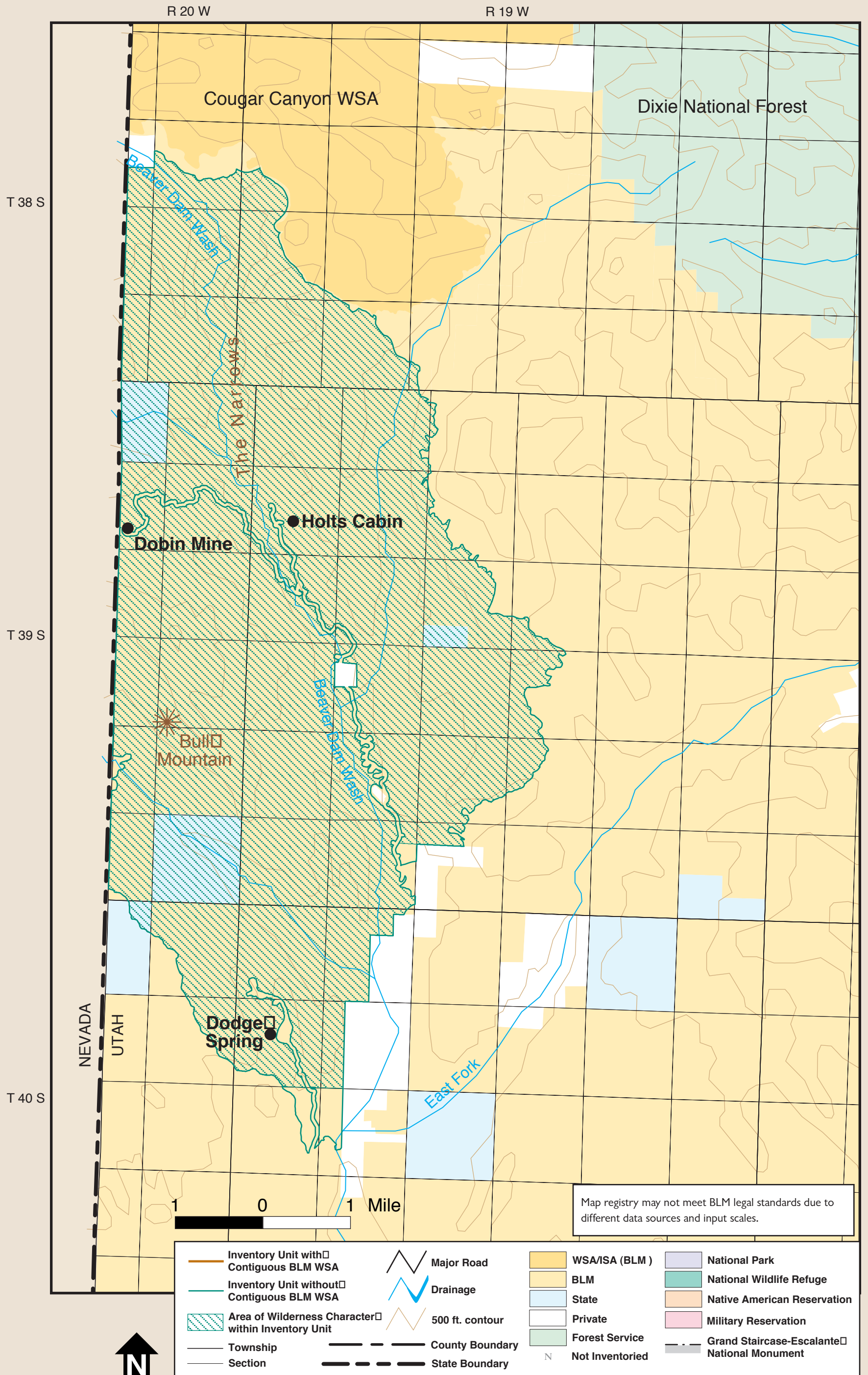
The inventory unit possesses outstanding opportunities for wildlife viewing, contains regionally significant hydrologic and riparian values, exhibits striking geologic features, and provides numerous traditional locations for family gatherings and hunting camps. Portions of the unit have been determined eligible for Wild and Scenic River designation and are proposed as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern for riparian and watershed values. The section of Beaver Dam Wash within the unit is the longest free-flowing and perennial portion of this 54-mile-long intermittent wash that crosses the Utah-Nevada state line. It provides habitat for both native trout and the Virgin spinedace.

THE NARROWS—The distant Clover Mountains in Nevada (outside the unit) provide a backdrop for one of the tributary drainages to The Narrows.



BLM photo

The Narrows



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	



Joshua Tree

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
9,500	900	10,400 (70%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
3,500	1,000	4,500 (30%)
Inventory Unit Total		
13,000	1,900	14,900
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Joshua Tree ISA (UT-ISA-010)		1,040

About 10,400 acres of the Joshua Tree inventory unit have wilderness characteristics, while 4,500 acres do not. The inventory unit is roadless, appears mostly natural, and provides visitors with outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation, including technical rock climbing. In addition, the area contains an outstanding example of the transition zone (between the Colorado Plateau/Great Basin and the Mojave Desert) where a higher-elevation piñon and juniper woodland changes to a lower-elevation Joshua tree forest.

Portions of the unit lack wilderness characteristics for two reasons. The northeast portion is unnatural primarily because of the presence of two large private parcels containing substantially noticeable mining impacts, with similar impacts on bordering state and public land. The western portion is unnatural because of an accumulation of water developments linked by a pipeline cutting across the unit. A communication site, a mine, and a range development have been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

Unit Description

The Joshua Tree inventory unit is located near the extreme southwest corner of Utah in western Washington County about 35 miles west of St. George. The unit contains the southern extent of the Beaver Dam Mountains in Utah, with a scenic crest at an elevation of approximately 6,784 feet. Part of the largest stand of Joshua trees in the northern extent of their range is found here. The remainder of the unit consists of steep, uneven topography down to the lower elevations between 3,000 feet and 4,000 feet, where the piñon and juniper woodland changes to a forest of Joshua trees. A spectacular high-elevation divide within the Beaver Dam Mountains is located in the center of the unit, with side canyons containing plant and wildlife diversity, interesting geology, and scenic beauty. The Woodbury

Desert Research Site, a desert tortoise research area, is located within the unit. The unit surrounds the Joshua Tree Instant Study Area and National Natural Landmark.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

About 70% of the inventory unit appears natural. Only a few small and insignificant adits and naturally rehabilitating vehicle ways related to mining access remain in the natural-appearing portion of the unit.

Two areas significantly impacted by mining and grazing management activities were found to be unnatural. A substantially noticeable mine, considerable mine workings, and blade work in the north have rendered this area unnatural. A series of range facilities, linked with a common pipeline, result in the western portion of the unit being unnatural.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude, given its diverse terrain, vegetative screening, and general size and shape. It provides many opportunities for visitors to enjoy seclusion in the rugged, precipitous topography of the Beaver Dam Mountains. High peaks, geologic features, side canyons, notches, ridges, and desert basins offer a variety of topographic features to shield visitors

from others in the area and from outside sights and sounds. There are many areas where visitors can seek and find a secluded place in the midst of this rugged landscape.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory unit provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Outstanding opportunities exist for technical rock climbing, given the sheer walls of the mountain divide, including a face known locally as the "diamond". This area was recently written up in a southern Utah climbing magazine; nearly 50 routes exist up one side canyon alone. Spires, boulders, hanging valleys, and seasonal waterfalls all add to the recreation experience. Backpacking, day hiking, hunting, photography, nature study, horseback riding, camping, geological and general sightseeing, bird watching, and wildlife viewing all offer excellent prospects for primitive recreation.

Supplemental Values

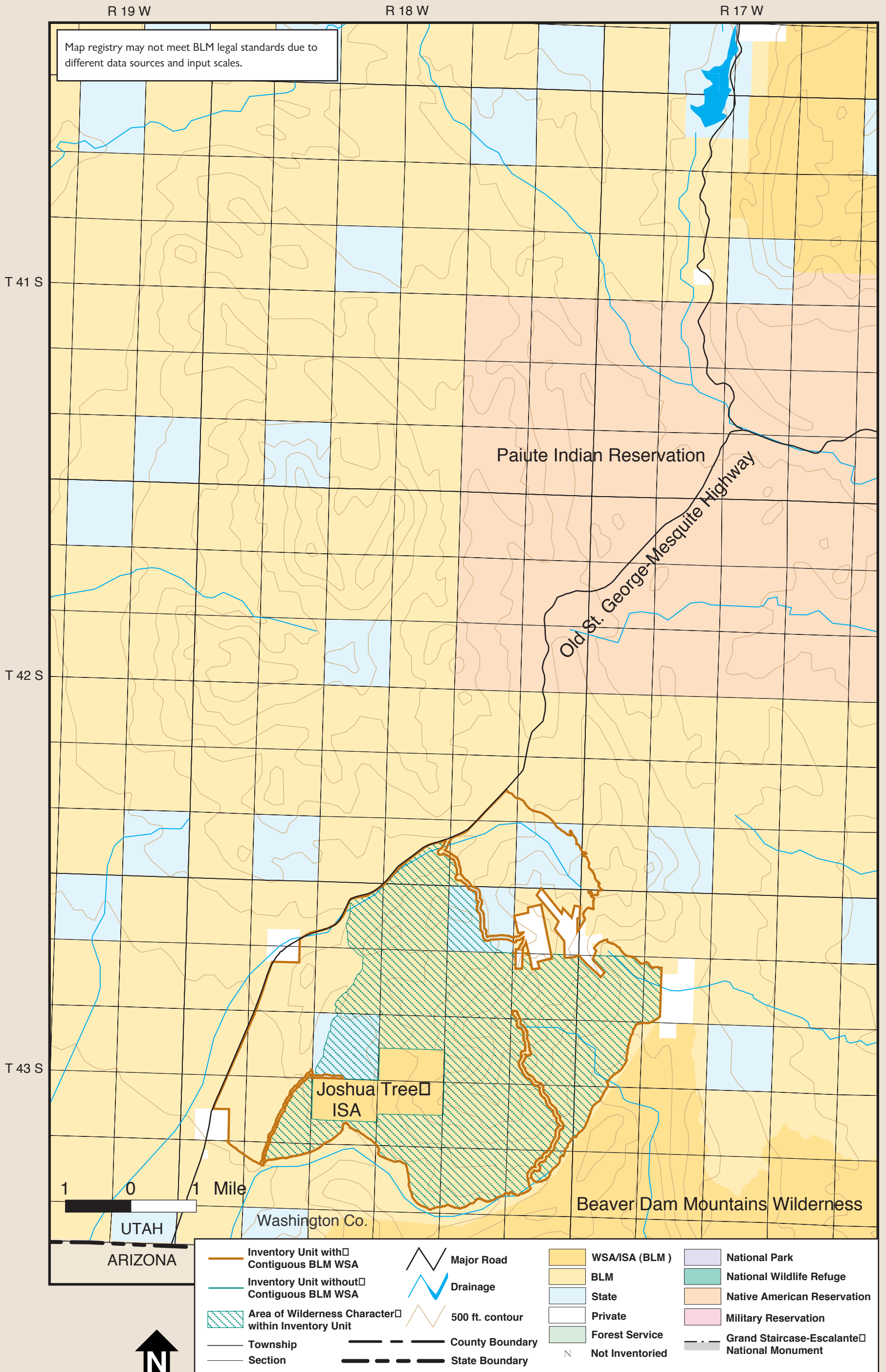
Spectacular scenic viewpoints and the impressive divide along the Beaver Dam Mountains are supplemental values, along with the apparently growing regional and possibly national interest in the sport of technical rock climbing. Bio-diversity is high because of the presence of the transition zone between piñon-juniper woodlands of the Colorado Plateau and the Joshua Tree forest of the Mojave Desert. Historic mining could also be considered a supplemental value, given the extreme heights at which the mining took place, combined with the technical skill it took to remove the material with little mechanical access.



JOSHUA TREE— Joshua trees are a unique part of this inventory unit; a portion of the largest stand in the northern extent of their range is found here.

BLM photo

Joshua Tree



Beaver Dam Wash

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
23,000	2,200	25,200 (98%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
200	300	500 (2%)
Inventory Unit Total		
23,200	2,500	25,700
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

Almost all of the Beaver Dam Wash inventory unit (25,200 acres) has wilderness characteristics. The core area is roadless and natural, providing visitors with outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Stark and desolate, the unit is part of the Mojave Desert ecosystem, which is characterized by some of Utah's hottest temperatures and lowest elevations. The Joshua tree forest and creosote-covered plains add to its primitive character, enhancing the impression of an inhospitable landscape with little human activity and no permanent structures for miles. The Beaver Dam Wash, which bisects the unit from north to south, is noted for its varied bird populations and the periodic presence of rare surface water. The endangered desert tortoise is found here. About 500 acres in two areas lack wilderness characteristics because of range developments and their access routes.

Unit Description

The Beaver Dam Wash inventory unit is located in the extreme southwestern corner of Washington County about 40 miles southwest of St. George. The landscape consists of a Joshua tree forest on open rolling hills, a number of washes, and a large mesa on the western boundary. The Beaver Dam Wash bisects the unit from north to south and is the primary geologic feature. Wide panoramic views can be seen from most hilltops. Vegetation transitions from Great Basin and Colorado Plateau plant species to Mojave Desert species, including blackbrush, creosote, apricot mallow, beavertail cactus, and several species of cholla, yucca, and barrel cactus.

The eastern boundary follows the Welcome Spring pipeline road near Castle Cliff Wash to a junction with the Lytle Ranch gravel road, which forms the northern boundary. The Beaver Dam Well road has been cherry-stemmed out of the unit from the Lytle Ranch road to the

Beaver Dam Wash. A single-spur vehicle way from the Beaver Dam Well road to a head box, trough, pipeline, and fence enclosure has also been cherry-stemmed out of the unit. The northern boundary continues west until it meets a large utility power line just east of the Beaver Dam Wash. The boundary then follows the power line and service road across the wash to the Nevada state line, the western boundary. The southern boundary is delineated by the Arizona state line.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the unit appears natural. It contains four fence lines totaling 8.5 miles, four water pipeline systems totaling 10.5 miles, six vehicle ways totaling 12.6 miles, and some range fence enclosures. Most of these facilities are relatively unnoticeable because they are screened by vegetation and rolling terrain. A visitor is unaware of these facilities until directly upon them. While occasional vehicle travel is possible along the bottom of Beaver Dam Wash, flash floods quickly erase evidence of vehicle passage. However, natural conditions in two parts of the unit are compromised by the presence of substantially noticeable grazing facilities and associated access.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude, with the best opportunities found in the central and western portions of the unit. The unit, averaging 7 miles

wide and 8 miles long, provides about 39 square miles of natural land. Users have ample spots to avoid the sights and sounds of others. Hikers are screened from one another by Joshua trees, rolling terrain, mesas, and washes. Except for Beaver Dam Wash, there are no evident destination points or linear corridors, so visitors are likely to disperse throughout the area.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, especially during the cool weather of late fall, winter, and early spring. Outstanding opportunities exist primarily within the Beaver Dam Wash. Small rills empty into Beaver Dam Wash, providing short meanders to the bench lands and the Joshua tree forests above the drainage itself. Day hiking, photography, seasonal wild flower viewing, bird watching, and nature study are among the excellent opportunities for unconfined recreation. Visitors who seek a solitary walk or horseback trip through a lonely and uninhabited area will like this place.

Supplemental Values

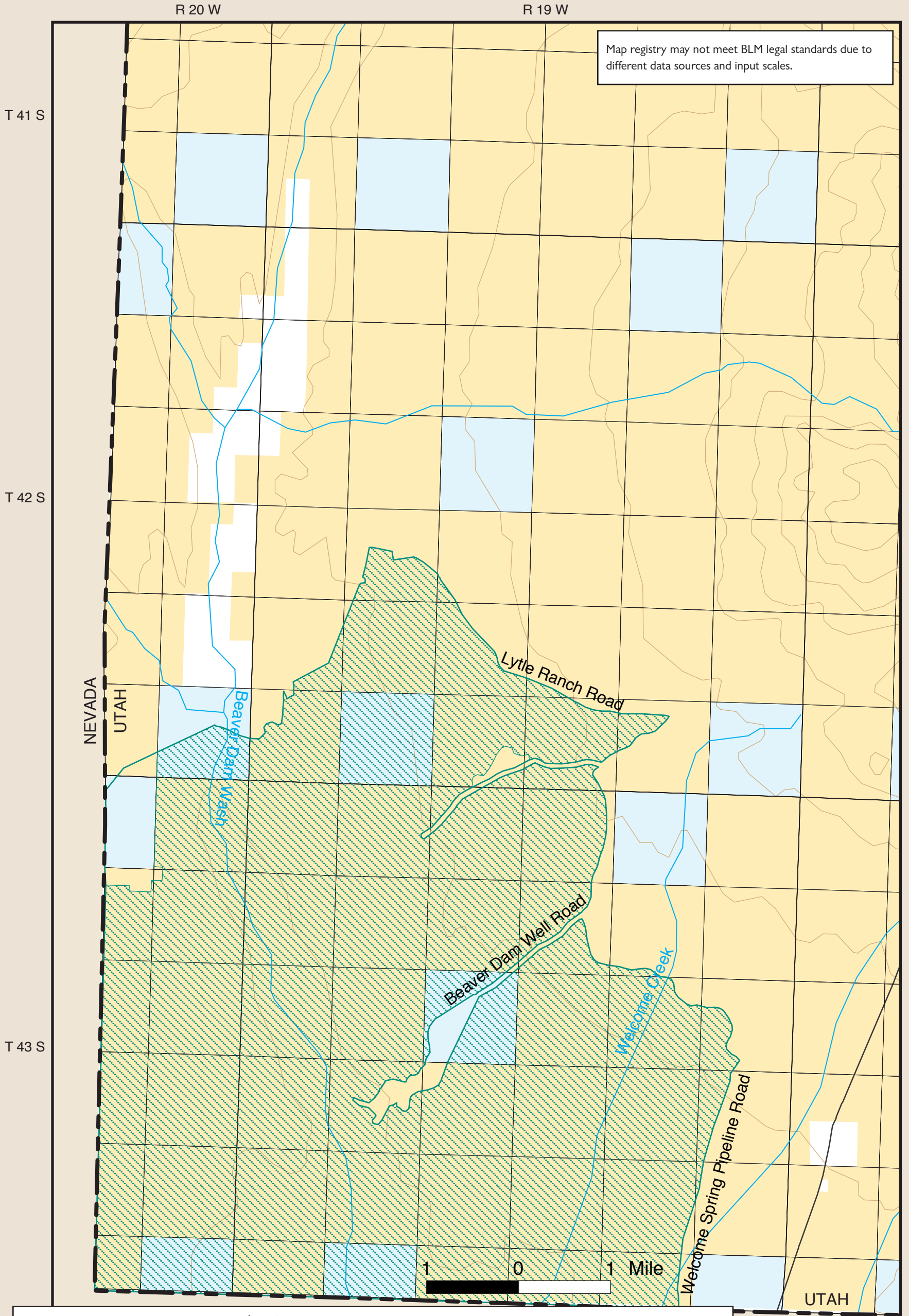
The panoramic views, Joshua trees, endangered desert tortoise, and diverse wildlife are considered the foremost supplemental values. The area provides habitat for a variety of Mojave ecosystem reptiles, including the sidewinder rattlesnake, speckled rattlesnake, Mojave rattlesnake, desert iguana, and Gila monster. Beaver Dam Wash is noted for its concentration of various bird species because of the proximity of both upland and riparian habitats. The area may also be part of an avian migration route.

BEAVER DAM WASH—Joshua trees provide screening from others in this area, which is noted for some of Utah's hottest temperatures and lowest elevations.



BLM photo

Beaver Dam Wash



Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	



SOUTHWEST REGION—Beaver Dam Wash

Red Mountain

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
970	1,100	2,070 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
970	1,100	2,070
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Red Mountain WSA (UT-040-132A)		18,290

The six Red Mountain inventory units are contiguous to the Red Mountain Wilderness Study Area (WSA). All six units (2,070 acres) have wilderness characteristics. Each unit is natural, and most provide visitors with outstanding opportunities for either solitude or primitive recreation. The units are obvious extensions of the scenic landscapes and wilderness values displayed in the contiguous WSA. Units 1, 2, 4, and 6 contain portions of the rugged 1,400-foot Red Mountain cliffs. The Red Mountain plateau and cliffs represent a spectacular formation of Navajo Sandstone. These units enrich the natural integrity of the WSA by enclosing additional portions of this significant geologic feature.

Unit Description

The inventory units are located in west-central Washington County about six miles northwest of St. George. They encompass three different land forms. The

southern units (Units 1, 2, and 3) are located on the flat bench or lower cliff faces of the southern portion of Red Mountain, while the western units (Units 4 and 5) are located primarily on two benches. The northern tract (Unit 6) is in the dissected canyons of Red Mountain proper. The dominant vegetation covering the rough hills, cliff faces, and benches of these six units is mainly desert shrubs and grasses. A road and a pipeline system have been cherry-stemmed from Unit 6.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

All of the units are natural, with Units 1, 3, and 5 being nearly pristine. Minor evidence of human activity in Units 2, 4, and 6 includes an abandoned fence, a small mineral excavation, and an insignificant 0.1-mile vehicle way, along with associated vehicle tracks. However, these slight imprints are indiscernible to casual observers and are being reclaimed naturally.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The six inventory units are contiguous to the Red Mountain WSA and are natural extensions of the landforms and associated opportunities found within this WSA. Units 4, 5, and 6 provide outstanding opportunities for solitude because of their rugged terrain. Inventory Units 1, 2, and 3 lack outstanding opportunities for solitude because of their proximity to the town of

Ivins and the Kayenta subdivision. All three units have unavoidable views southward toward expanding subdivisions.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Outstanding opportunities for hiking, climbing, geologic sightseeing, and photography exist in the WSA, and these opportunities extend to some degree into each of the inventory units. Views of the Red Mountain cliff faces and panoramas of the nearby mountains and peaks of Zion National Park are spectacular. Given the steepness of the terrain, hiking or climbing can be strenuous but extremely rewarding.

Supplemental Values

The six units offer the visitor splendid views and fascinating geology. Units 1, 2, and 3 have spectacular views of the surrounding Red Mountain and the mountains and peaks of nearby Zion National Park. Units 4 and 5 have outstanding views of the Red Mountain cliffs, Gunlock Reservoir, the Santa Clara River, the Beaver Dam Mountains, and distant mountains along the Nevada/Utah border. From Unit 6, visitors can view the Veyo Crater and the Pine Valley Mountains. Red Mountain itself has outstanding geological features of possible interest to visitors studying geology. The mountain is a large Navajo Sandstone plateau, rising dramatically 1,400 feet from the relatively level Santa Clara Bench.

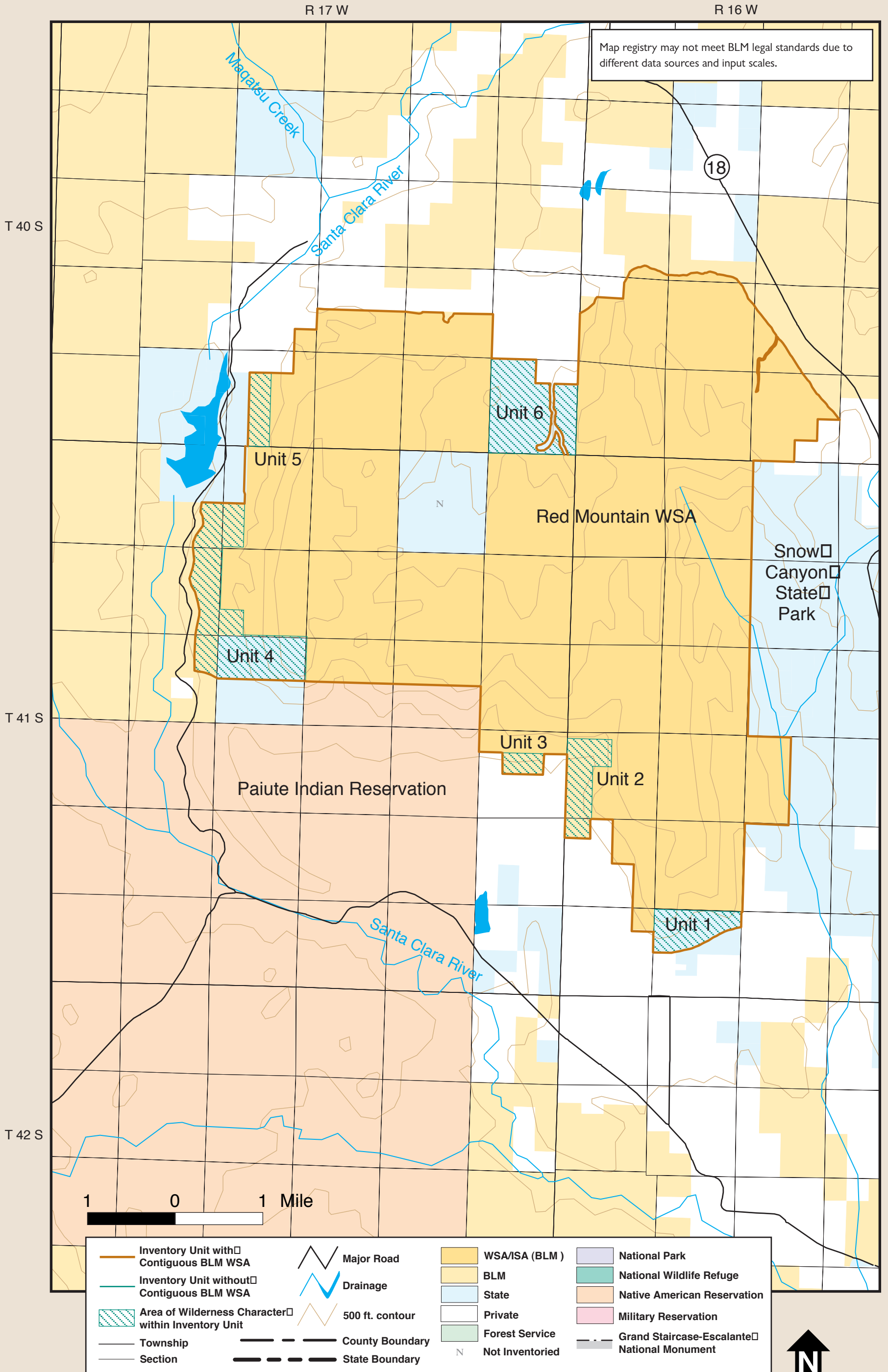
RED MOUNTAIN—

The grey-green vegetation of the sagebrush flats in inventory Unit 3 contrasts with the red cliff faces within the Red Mountain WSA in the background, attesting to the area's splendid views and fascinating geology.



BLM photo

Red Mountain



SOUTHWEST REGION—Red Mountain

Orderville Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
2,030	900	2,930 (55%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
2,200	200	2,400 (45%)
Inventory Unit Total		
4,230	1,100	5,330
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Orderville Canyon WSA (UT-040-145)		1,750
North Fork Virgin River WSA (UT-040-150)		1,040
Zion National Park		120,620

About 2,930 acres of the seven Orderville Canyon inventory units have wilderness characteristics, while 2,400 acres do not. The units are contiguous to the Orderville Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and the North Fork Virgin River WSA, as well as an area in Zion National Park that is administratively endorsed for wilderness. The units possessing wilderness characteristics include areas containing some upper portions or side tributaries of Orderville Canyon (Units 3, 5, and 6), the benchlands above Orderville Canyon (Units 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7) and a prominent peak, Dakota Hill (Unit 1). All of the units complement and extend the landforms, ecological integrity, and naturalness of the two contiguous WSAs. They also provide an extension of the same outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation found within the WSAs. Those areas lacking wilderness characteristics, Unit 2 and part of Unit 6, are criss-crossed with substantial vehicle ways and all-terrain vehicle (ATV) routes. The State of Utah has a 200-acre parcel proposed for sale located north of Orderville Canyon that occupies the western portion of Unit 2.

Unit Description

The Orderville Canyon inventory units are located in the northwest region of Kane County about 10 miles north of Utah Highway 9. Half of the inventory area is located north of Orderville Canyon, with the other half lying south of the canyon. Units 1, 6, and 7 are contiguous to Zion National Park to the west. The unit's boundaries are defined by the Zion National Park boundary, private land, substantial vehicle ways, and the North Fork Virgin River WSA and Orderville Canyon WSA boundaries. The terrain consists of steep canyons and drainages, canyon rims, broad hollows, rounded peaks, and flat benches. A piñon and juniper woodland

covers most of the inventory units, along with some ponderosa pine. The understory consists of mountain mahogany, serviceberry, Gambel's oak, cliffrose, and silver buffaloberry. The lower portion of the units is covered by mountain shrub vegetation, with oak, big sagebrush, serviceberry, piñon pine, juniper, and manzanita, along with some bitterbrush and rabbitbrush. The units are currently used for woodcutting, camping, cattle grazing, big game hunting, and ATV riding.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

All or portions of six units (Units 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7) are natural in character, while these units contain about 3 miles of vehicle ways and one state land sale area. All other vehicle ways have been cherry-stemmed from the units. These cherry-stemmed vehicle ways are used by ATVs and are considered intrusive and substantially noticeable. Unit 2 is unnatural in its entirety.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The six units with wilderness characteristics are natural extensions of the wildlands represented in the Orderville Canyon WSA, the North Fork Virgin River WSA,

and Zion National Park. The inventory units enhance the outstanding opportunities for solitude offered by these contiguous lands. The varied topography and assortment of vegetative cover provides excellent screening. Numerous drainages and broader hollows provide areas of seclusion.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Each of the six units provide extensions of the landscapes found within the Orderville Canyon WSA and the North Fork Virgin River WSA. Outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation have been documented for these WSAs, and these opportunities clearly extend into the inventory units. Moreover, Units 1, 6, and 7 border Zion National Park, lands that are administratively endorsed for wilderness. The world-renowned hiking, canyoneering, and backpacking opportunities found within these National Park Service lands clearly extend into both WSAs and all of the inventory units.

Supplemental Values

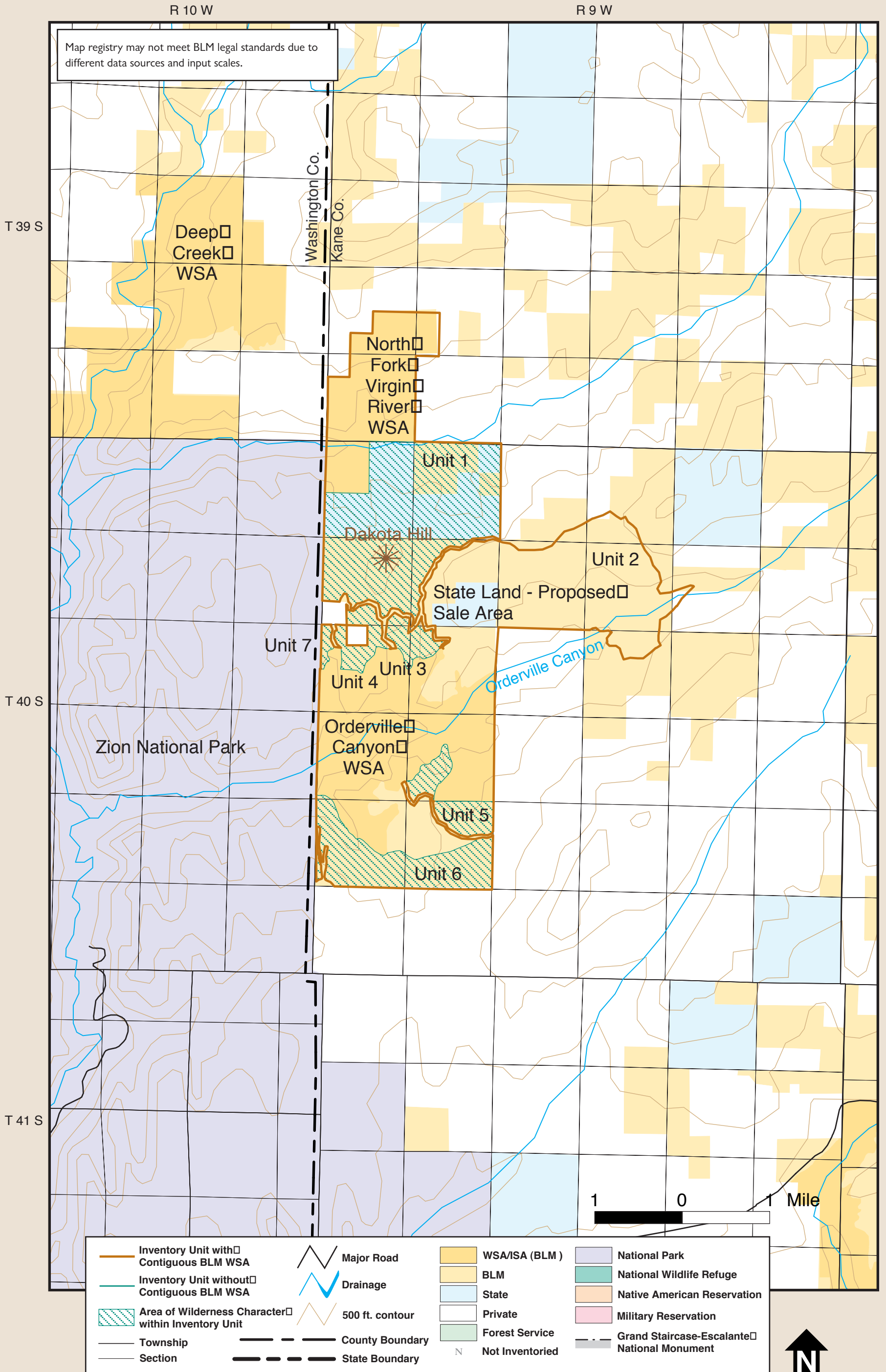
The six units are ecological extensions of the Orderville Canyon WSA and the North Fork WSA, where special features have been identified. Four Category 2 candidate plant species may occur: *Asplenium andrewsii*, *Erigeron sionis*, *Heterotheca ionensis*, and *Sphaeromeria ruthiae*. Raptors that may inhabit the area include golden eagles, peregrine falcons, and red-tailed and Cooper's hawks. Big game animals include mule deer, elk, and cougar.



ORDERVILLE CANYON—Excellent screening is provided by ponderosa pine, piñon, oak, and juniper, enhancing outstanding solitude opportunities in Unit 1 and the contiguous WSAs.

BLM photo

Orderville Canyon



SOUTHWEST REGION—Orderville Canyon

Deep Creek

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
3,700	80	3,780 (98%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
80	0	80 (2%)
Inventory Unit Total		
3,780	80	3,860
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Deep Creek WSA (UT-040-146)		3,320

Most of the Deep Creek inventory unit (3,780 acres) has wilderness characteristics when considered in conjunction with the contiguous Deep Creek Wilderness Study Area (WSA). The unit is nearly pristine and has solitude opportunities, along with fine supplemental features. These inherent values enhance the wilderness characteristics of the contiguous WSA. Only three minor human developments were documented: two vehicle ways totaling 1.4 miles and a fence. These human imprints are substantially unnoticeable in the landscape, given the unit's dense vegetation and rugged topography. An 80-acre parcel lacks wilderness characteristics because it is separated from the rest of the unit by private land.

Unit Description

The Deep Creek inventory unit is located in northeast Washington County about 15 miles east of Interstate 15 and 10 miles southeast of Kanarrville. It is immediately north of, and borders for 0.75 mile, the 3,320-acre Deep Creek WSA. The unit is about 4 miles long and averages 2.5 miles wide. Unit boundaries are formed by the contiguous WSA, as well as by private and state lands. There are two private inholdings and one state parcel within the inventory unit.

Located upon the Kolob Terrace, the area contains parts of serpentine Crystal and Deep Creek canyons. About 4.5 miles of Crystal Creek, a tributary of Deep Creek, slashes diagonally through the unit's center. Deep Creek and Crystal Creek are an

average of 600 feet below the terraces and benchlands. The area is topographically diverse, ranging between 8,400 feet and 5,720 feet in elevation. Wildlife populations and plants are equally diverse. Raptor populations are especially notable. Vegetation ranges from coniferous forests, dense piñon and juniper woodlands, understory shrubs, and sage- and grass-covered slopes and benches, to riparian species along the stream courses.

Recreational use of the unit appears to be low. Four-wheel drive and all-terrain vehicle use along a 1.3-mile vehicle way on the south end of the unit occurs around the north and east side of Volcano Knoll. Drivers use this route to reach a splendid overlook of Deep Creek. This vehicle way is also used for hunting access and limited car camping.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The inventory unit is natural, almost pristine. Only three minor human intrusions were documented during the inventory: a 1.3-mile vehicle way, a 0.2-mile vehicle way and campsite, and a 0.7-mile fence line. Both of the vehicle ways and the fence line are inconspicuous and well screened by the rugged terrain and vegetative cover.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit has outstanding opportunities for solitude, but only when considered in conjunction with the contiguous WSA. The unit's dense vegetation, contorted canyons, and elevation changes all contribute to opportunities to experience

solitude. There are numerous areas where a visitor can find a secluded spot, separated from others by vegetation, terrain, or distance. In addition, the unit is not exposed to any outside sights and sounds of human works, further augmenting the feelings of isolation and separation from others.

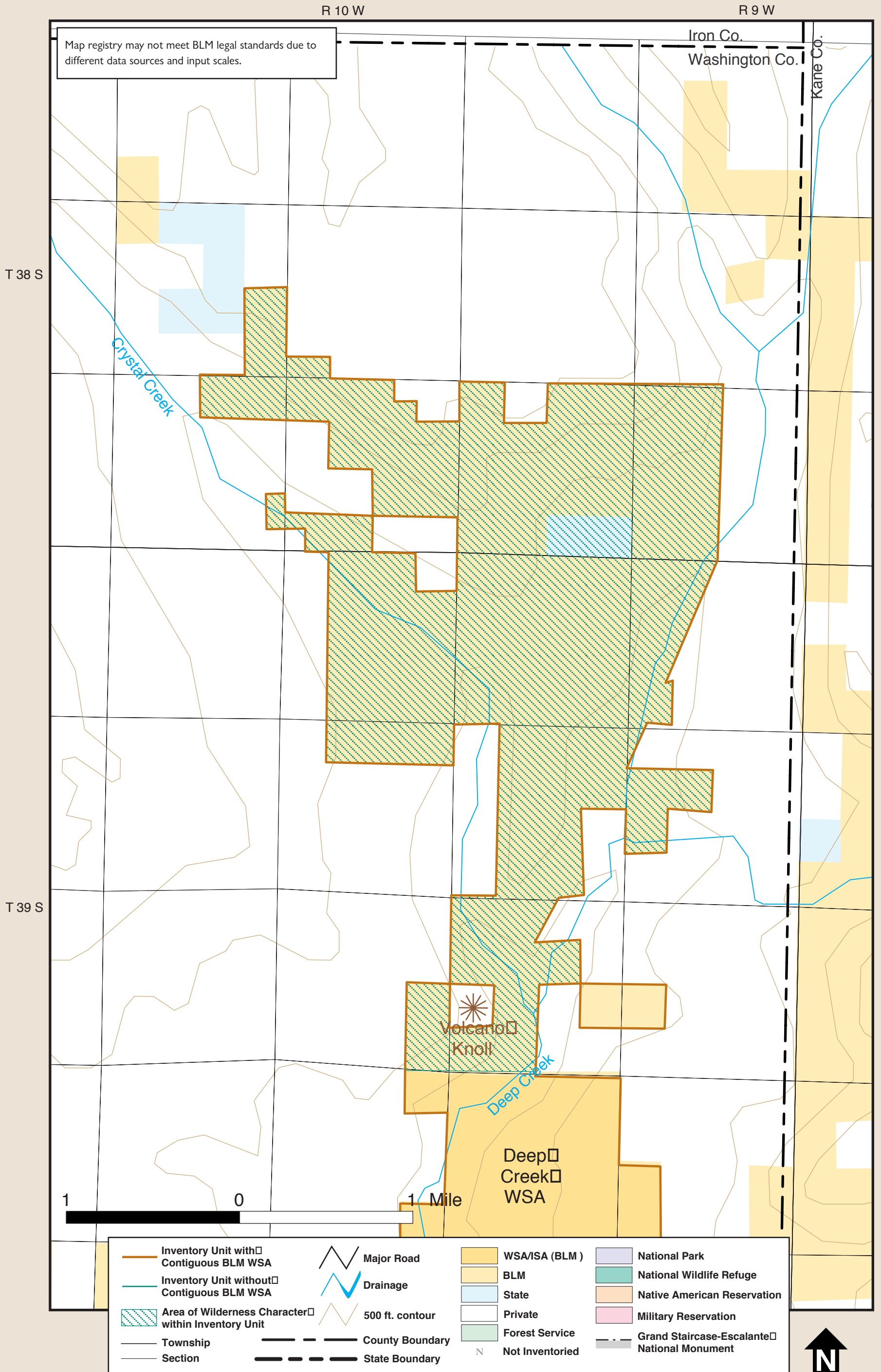
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, but only when considered in conjunction with the contiguous WSA. The unit provides opportunities for primitive recreation, (including hiking, hunting, and wildlife observation), although these are somewhat constrained by the unit's irregular boundary and poor physiographic integrity. Hiking opportunities are found along Crystal Creek. Opportunities are also available to hunt mule deer, elk, and cougar. Wildlife observation, especially bird watching, and photography are enjoyable activities, given the nearly 300 vertebrate species present. Access to the Zion Narrows canyon system is possible from this unit.

Supplemental Values

Diverse wildlife habitats and ecosystems occur because of water availability, enormous elevation changes, and deep canyons. The unit contains 4.5 miles of Crystal Creek and 1.8 miles of Deep Creek, both riparian corridors. A vast number of raptors are present, including bald and golden eagles, peregrine and prairie falcons, red-tail and Cooper's hawks, and American kestrels. About 300 other wildlife species are also present.

Deep Creek



SOUTHWEST REGION—Deep Creek

The Watchman

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
40	0	40 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
40	0	40
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
The Watchman WSA (UT-040-149)		600

The Watchman inventory unit (40 acres) has wilderness characteristics. This small parcel, contiguous to the 600-acre The Watchman Wilderness Study Area (WSA), was found to moderately enhance the wilderness characteristics of the bordering WSA. The Watchman inventory unit augments the WSA's wilderness values by including the minor western talus slopes of Johnson Mountain and a short riparian corridor along the North Fork of the Virgin River.

Unit Description

The Watchman inventory unit is located in Washington County, 2 miles east of Rockville and 1.5 miles directly south of Springdale. The unit contains the west talus foothills of Johnson Mountain, which descend to the North Fork of the

Virgin River. The 0.15-mile long river segment is lined with cottonwood trees. Rolling hills are covered with low brushy desert shrubs like creosote, blackbrush, and saltbrush. A few rock outcrops jut above the scrubby landscape, which is occasionally dotted with junipers.

Hiking in the river corridor and horseback riding appear to be the main uses of the area. All-terrain and four-wheel-drive vehicles infrequently use the one vehicle way. Public access is becoming difficult, given the presence of private lands and subdivisions.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The unit is natural. Only two human imprints were documented during the inventory: a 0.4-mile vehicle way and a 0.1-mile road. The road has been cherry-stemmed. The vehicle way, overgrown with shrubs and infrequently used, is substantially unnoticeable in the landscape. This route is used by hikers, equestrians, and all-terrain vehicle users.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The small size, open aspect, sparse vegetation, and low rolling terrain of the unit do not, on their own, generate outstanding

chances for visitors to experience solitude. The parcel is also exposed to the sights and sounds of nearby towns, roads, housing, and farming. Nevertheless, the parcel is contiguous to The Watchman WSA, which does contain outstanding solitude opportunities. When considered along with this adjacent WSA, the inventory unit contains outstanding opportunities for solitude.

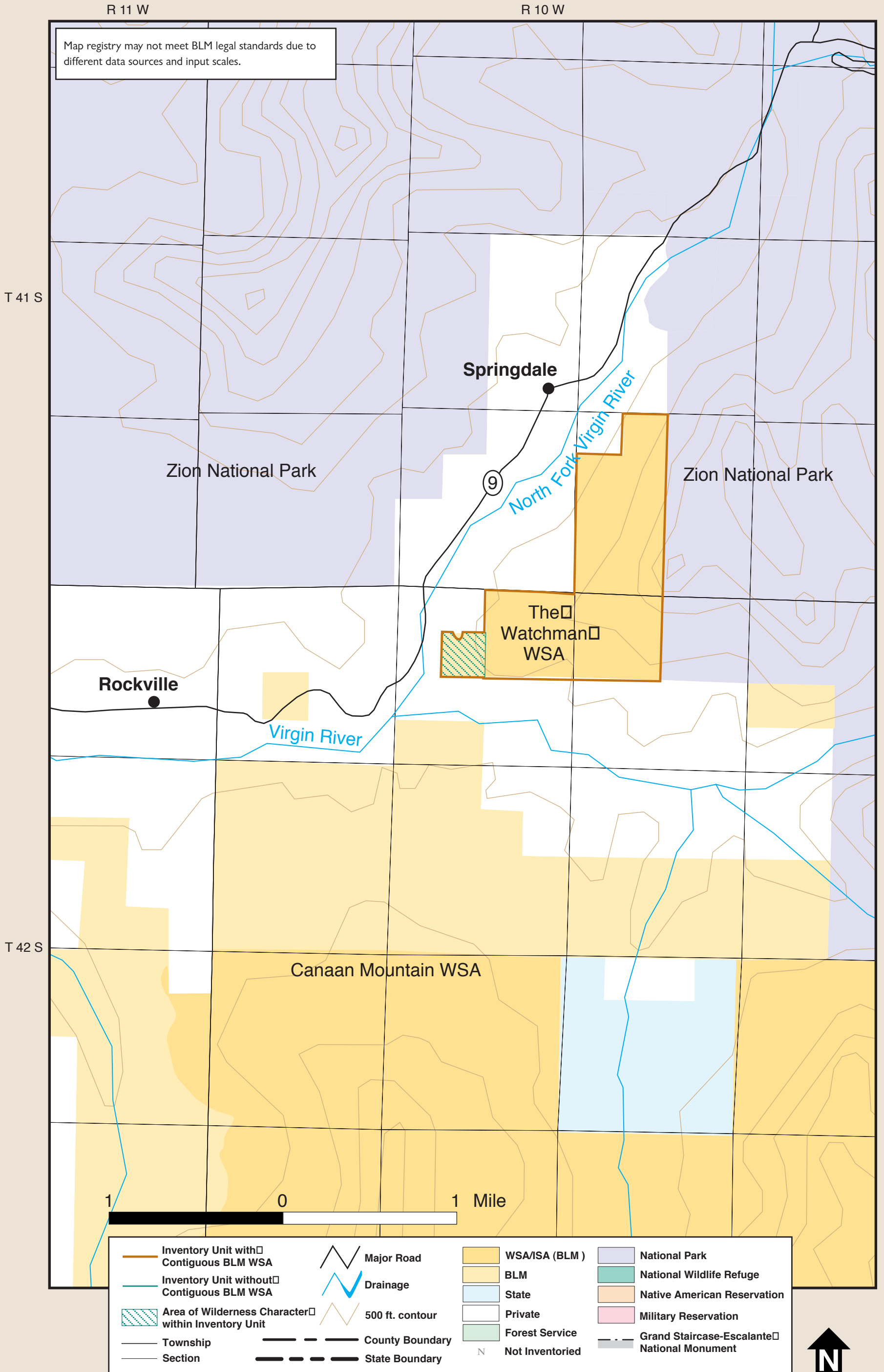
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit provides good opportunities for hiking along the North Fork of the Virgin River, for viewing Johnson Mountain and the river, and for studying the geology of Grand Staircase rock formations. Most visitors walk from the Watchman Campground in Zion National Park, unknowingly crossing two miles of surrounding private lands. Outstanding primitive recreation opportunities are present for the visitor climbing eastward into The Watchman WSA and Zion National Park, centering on the Watchman formation and Johnson Mountain. These adjacent lands have outstanding and well-documented opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Supplemental Values

The unit contains 0.15 mile of the North Fork of the Virgin River, a cottonwood-lined riparian corridor. A vast number of raptors are present in this area, including bald eagles, golden eagles, peregrine falcons, prairie falcons, American kestrels, red-tail hawks, and Cooper's hawks.

The Watchman



SOUTHWEST REGION—The Watchman

Goose Creek

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
20	0	20 (100%)
Inventory Unit Total		
20	0	20
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

The Goose Creek inventory unit (20 acres) lacks wilderness characteristics. This area is segregated from the 89-acre Goose Creek Wilderness Study Area (WSA) by a well-maintained dirt road that leads to private land. The lands under inventory fail to satisfy the size criteria because they are less than 5,000 acres in size and are not of sufficient size to make practicable their preservation as wilderness. Furthermore, the lands in question are both roaded and unnatural. Roads totaling 1.15 miles extend through the unit.

Unit Description

The Goose Creek inventory unit is located in the northeastern corner of Washington County. The unit contains lands on the Kolob Terrace between Kolob Creek and Goose Creek. The area is lightly forested with ponderosa pines and mountain oak. Woodcutting is the most apparent activity. Recreational uses are unknown. Public access is limited because of locked gates and private land. The Goose Creek WSA, recommended by the BLM as suitable for wilderness, is directly south of the unit. The WSA overlooks the deep chasm of Goose Creek.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The inventory unit does not meet the size criteria. Therefore, no further analysis is needed. There are 1.15 miles of constructed road and jeep trail in the area, rendering it unnatural in appearance.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory unit does not meet the size criteria, so no further analysis is needed.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory unit does not meet the size criteria, so no further analysis is required.

Supplemental Values

The inventory unit does not meet the size criteria, so no further analysis was conducted.

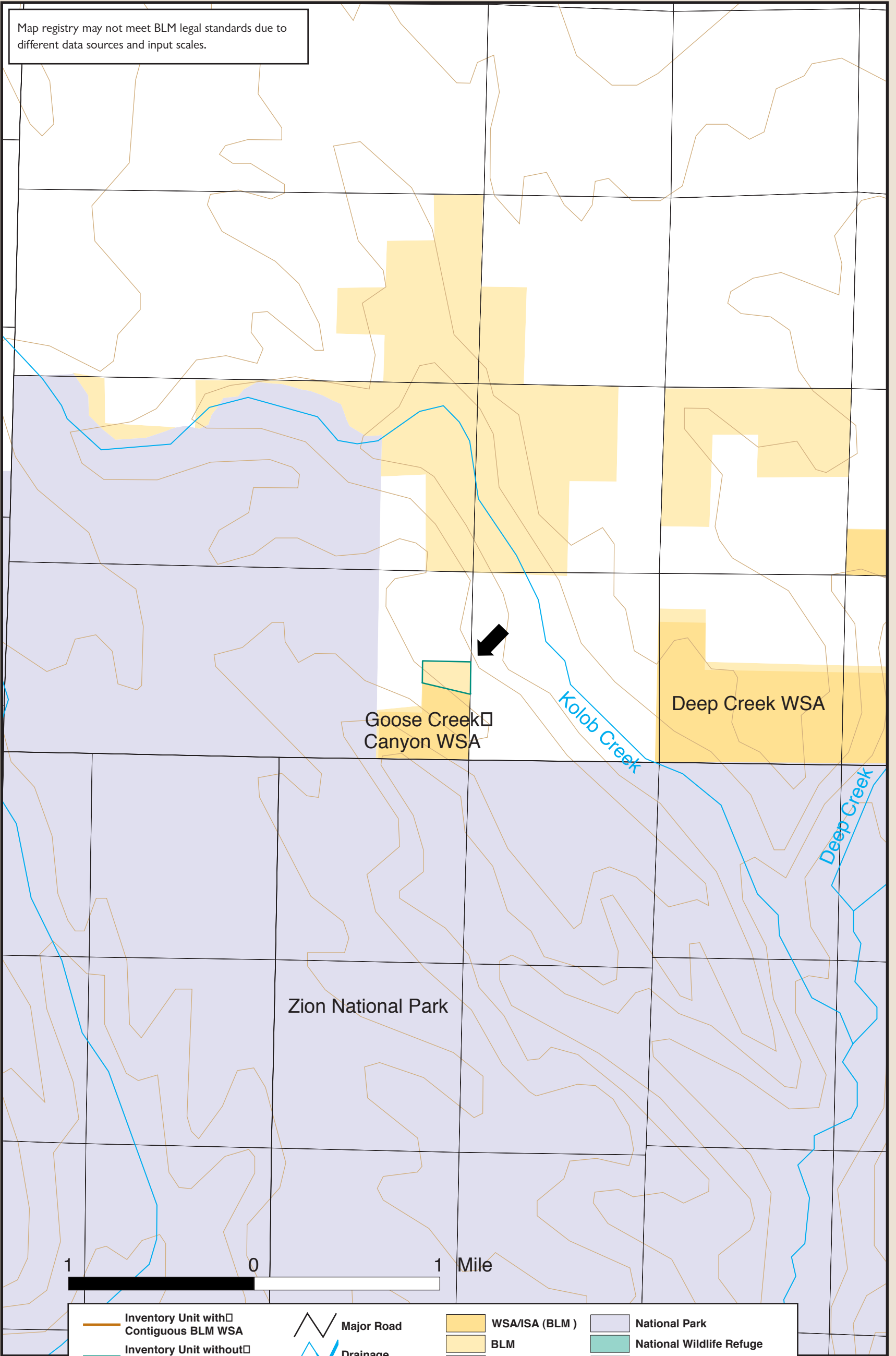
Goose Creek

R 10 W

Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

T 39 S

T 40 S



Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	



SOUTHWEST REGION—Goose Creek

Spring Creek Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
0	1,440	1,440 (99%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
10	0	10 (1%)
Inventory Unit Total		
10	1,440	1,450
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Spring Creek Canyon WSA (UT-040-148)		4,433

About 1,440 acres within the three Spring Creek Canyon inventory units have wilderness characteristics. The two state section units (Units 1 and 2) are natural and have solitude and primitive recreation opportunities similar to those found within the contiguous Spring Creek Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA). Unit 3 (10 acres) is separated from the WSA by a road and does not satisfy the size criteria for wilderness or further inventory.

The Spring Creek Canyon WSA is contiguous to the Kolob Unit of Zion National Park, an area administratively endorsed for wilderness by the National Park Service (NPS). Like the nearby NPS lands, much of Units 1 and 2 are composed of a heavy piñon and juniper woodland through which grey and red-rock cliffs protrude. Landscapes within the inventory units are a natural extension of the terrain found within the WSA and Zion National Park.

Unit Description

The units are located in the southeast corner of Iron County about one mile east of the town of Kanarrville. The units' topography is dominated by the 2,000-foot rise of the sheer Hurricane Cliffs. Kanarra Creek Canyon slices through Unit 1, and Spring Creek Canyon cuts through the southwest corner of Unit 2.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Units 1 and 2 appear natural, although some surface disturbance has occurred within Unit 1, primarily on the western boundary. This disturbance consists of a developed pipeline and a 0.2 mile maintenance road within Kanarra Creek Canyon leading to a fenced enclosure supplying water to Kanarrville. This road, pipeline, and fenced enclosure have been cherry-stemmed from the unit. In addition, an insignificant 0.4-mile vehicle way is located in the southeast corner of Unit 1.

Within Unit 2 there is surface disturbance caused by off-highway vehicle travel and a campsite along a 0.6 mile vehicle way in Spring Creek Canyon; this route leads to a pack trail and continues up the canyon. Additionally, about 0.8 mile of the Red Rock pack trail crosses Unit 2. However, these disturbances are substantially unnoticeable.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The contiguous Spring Creek Canyon WSA is extremely rugged and has excellent topographic screening. These WSA terrain attributes extend into the area encompassed by the inventory units. Units 1 and 2 provide outstanding opportunities for solitude, primarily within the Kanarra Creek and Spring Creek Canyons and their steep tributary drainages. Piñon and juniper woodlands provide screening on the ridges.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Units 1 and 2 provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Opportunities exist for hiking, camping, scenic and wildlife photography, and geologic study. Two pack trails cross Unit 2. Impressive views of the Kolob Unit of Zion National Park, Cedar Valley, and the Escalante Desert can be enjoyed from the ridge tops. The segments of the Kanarra Creek and Spring Creek Canyons contained within these units contribute to outstanding hiking, exploring, and back-packing opportunities, both within the units and in the WSA.

Supplemental Values

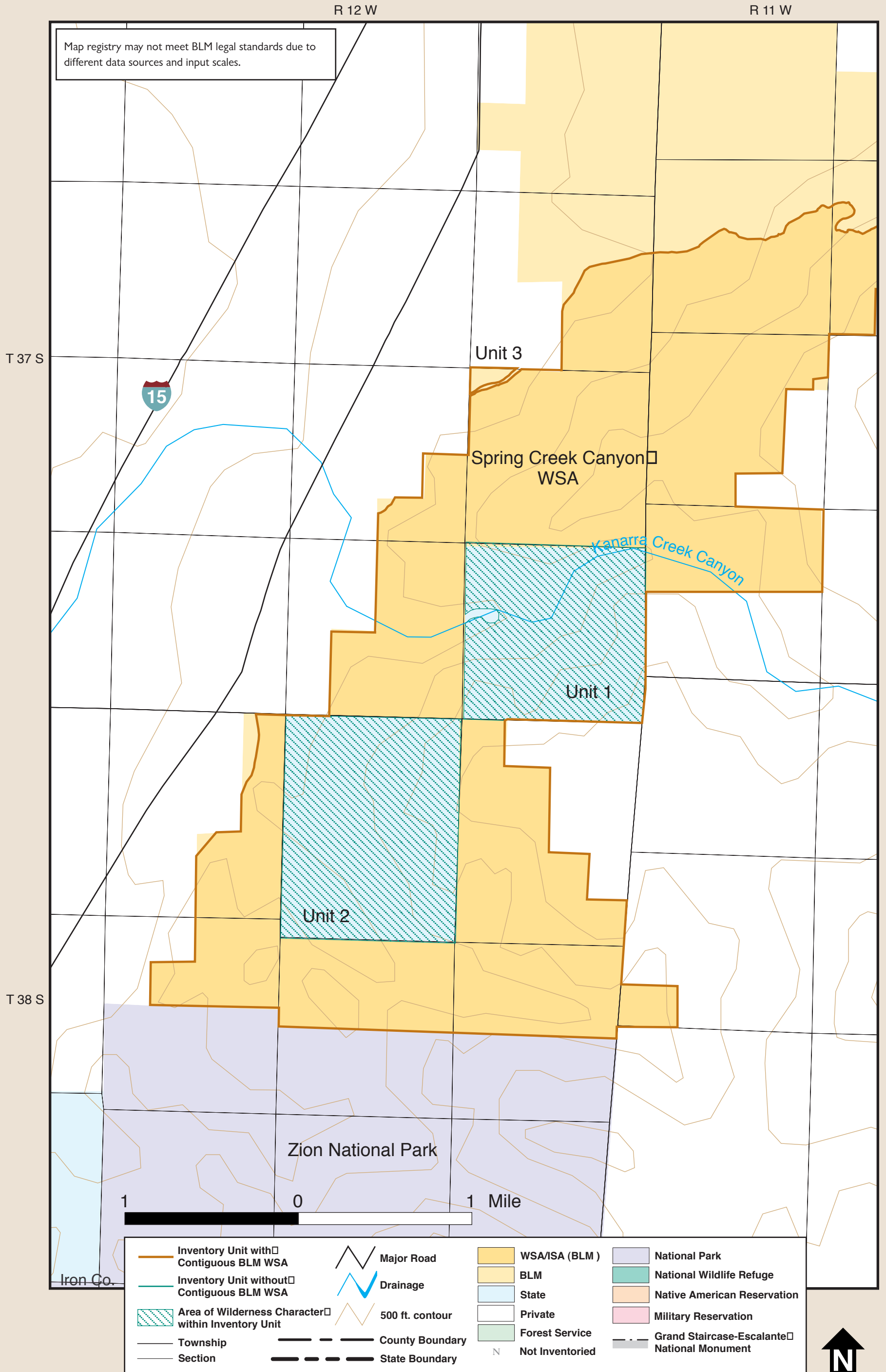
The units contain two endangered animal species, the bald eagle and peregrine falcon. Mountain lions, a wildlife species commonly associated with wilderness, are also found within the units. The units are within a vegetative transition zone where the upper elevations contain Douglas fir and ponderosa pine, while the middle to lower elevations contain piñon and juniper woodland, Gamble's oak, mountain mahogany, and quaking aspen. The red sandstone cliff walls of the main canyons and their tributaries are reminiscent of those found within the Kolob Unit of Zion National Park.



BLM photo

SPRING CREEK CANYON—This view into the interior of Unit 2 highlights the area's rugged terrain.

Spring Creek Canyon



Black Ridge

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
20,100	1,700	21,800 (91%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
2,100	0	2,100 (9%)
Inventory Unit Total		
22,200	1,700	23,900
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Zion National Park - Kolob Unit		

About 21,800 acres of the Black Ridge inventory unit have wilderness characteristics, while 2,100 acres do not. The area with wilderness characteristics is natural and roadless, with little evidence of human activity. Most of the area is composed of the spectacular Hurricane Cliffs, Black Ridge, and the colorful western edge of Smith Mesa, all essentially pristine. Some of the human intrusions present include minor vehicle ways located near the unit's boundary. The vehicle ways located in the La Verkin Creek drainage have no legal public access, are impassible even with four-wheel drive, and are naturally rehabilitating. The La Verkin Creek drainage is a riparian area offering outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation for the hiker, hunter, and horseback rider. Black Ridge provides outstanding scenic vistas north into Zion National Park and west into the Pine Valley Mountain. The unit includes portions of a historic trail along Ash Creek as well as the historic Dominguez-Escalante Trail.

The southern portion of the unit lacks wilderness characteristics because of the cumulative effect of roads, vehicle ways, a buried pipeline, off-highway vehicle play areas, an ordnance contamination area, a shooting range, two drill pads, and two trash dumps. Small portions of the east side of the unit along Smith Mesa and Hurricane Mesa lack wilderness characteristics because of agricultural land clearings and a road.

Unit Description

The Black Ridge inventory unit is located approximately 20 miles northeast of St. George in Washington County. The unit is immediately east of Interstate 15 and Utah State Route (SR) 17 at Toquerville and is north of SR 9. Approximately seven miles of the unit are contiguous to the Kolob Unit of Zion National Park, which has been administratively endorsed for wilderness by the National Park Service. The terrain rises from 3,320 feet in elevation in La Verkin Creek to 6,442 feet at the top of Black Ridge. La Verkin Creek and Ash Creek support cottonwood and desert willow riparian vegetation, while the multiple sandstone benches along Smith Mesa support a dense piñon and juniper woodland. The extremely rugged and steep Hurricane Cliffs rise 2,000 feet above Ash Creek in less than one mile.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the inventory unit retains its natural character. Many intrusions have been documented, but almost all of these are within the portions of the unit determined to lack naturalness character because of the cumulative effects of human activities. The portion of the unit with natural character shows little evidence of human activity. The principal human intrusions in the natural portion include 12 vehicle ways totaling 24.6 miles in length. However, these vehicle ways receive little or no use and are substantially unnoticeable.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The La Verkin Creek drainage on the unit's east side provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. The dense vegetation along the riparian bottoms and the piñon and juniper woodlands on the benches provide excellent screening, separating visitors from the sights and sounds of others in the unit and from external human activities. However, the western part of the unit does not offer outstanding opportunities for solitude. This unit shares a seven-mile border with the Kolob Unit of Zion National Park. The opportunities for solitude found within the Kolob Unit extend into the Black Ridge inventory unit, especially down La Verkin Creek.

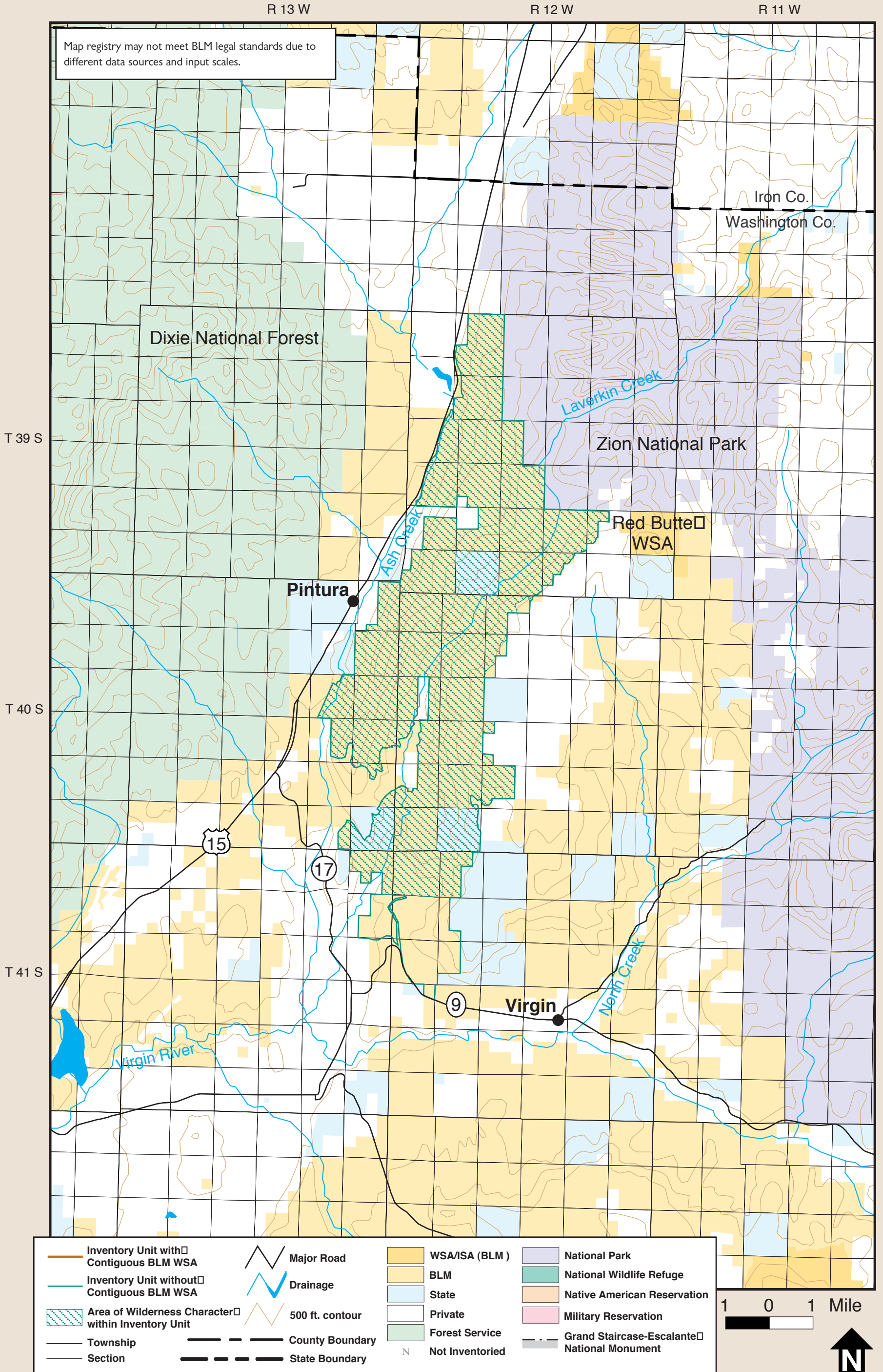
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation are available, including day hiking, overnight backpacking, hunting, horseback riding, photography, sightseeing, and geologic study. Students of geology can study rock exposures along the Hurricane fault. Opportunities for hiking or horseback riding the six miles of La Verkin Creek or along the benches of Smith Mesa are excellent.

Supplemental Values

The Black Ridge, formed by the Hurricane Fault, is a major topographical and geological feature in Washington County.

Black Ridge



Canaan Mountain

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
3,000	1,300	4,300 (65%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
2,340	0	2,340 (35%)
Inventory Unit Total		
5,340	1,300	6,640
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Canaan Mountain WSA (UT-040-143)		47,170
Parunuweap Canyon WSA (UT-040-230)		30,800

All or parts of Units 1, 2, 4, and 5 (4,300 acres) of the five Canaan Mountain inventory units have wilderness characteristics. They are natural in appearance and provide visitors with outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. The units with wilderness characteristics are contiguous with the Canaan Mountain Wilderness Study Area (WSA). However, parts of Units 1, and 4, and all of Unit 3 (2,340 acres) are unnatural and lack wilderness characteristics because of vehicle routes and off-highway vehicle (OHV) activity.

Unit 1 is especially noteworthy. It contains the start of the Eagle Crags trail, a popular hiking route traversing Canaan Mountain that provides several outstanding views of the southern portion of Zion National Park. The Canaan Mountain WSA is contiguous to Unit 9 of the Parunuweap Canyon inventory units, sharing 0.3 mile of boundary in Shunes Hollow (See Parunuweap Canyon unit map, page 34M). Accordingly, the Canaan Mountain WSA and the Parunuweap Canyon WSA are linked by a tract of roadless and natural land. In addition, these areas all share a border with Zion National Park lands that are under formal wilderness consideration.

CANAAN MOUNTAIN—The Eagle Crags trailhead and a portion of the trail are within Unit 1. This popular hiking route traverses Canaan Mountain, providing several outstanding views of the southern portion of Zion National Park. The peaks on the right are in the WSA.

Unit Description

The five Canaan Mountain inventory units are located in eastern Washington and western Kane Counties about 30 miles east of St. George. They are located on the north, south, and east sides of the Canaan Mountain WSA and share the same dissected and rolling foothills and sandy terraces found within the WSA. The units have a mixture of piñon and juniper woodland and sagebrush vegetation. In addition, the eastern part of Unit 1, south of the Trees' Reservoir, contains a riparian area along South Creek. The units are used mainly for ranching and recreation, with a considerable amount of OHV and all-terrain vehicle (ATV) activity being present. About 0.8 mile of the Eagle Crags hiking trail is found in Unit 1.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Portions of all of the inventory units have natural character, with the exception of Unit 3, which is unnatural in its entirety. Units 2 and 5 appear natural in their entirety, while Unit 1 has minor unnatural portions. About half of Unit 4 is natural. The units contain vehicle ways used for grazing management, OHV and ATV driving, camping, hunting, and woodcutting access. However, all of these features are considered inconspicuous.

Within parts of the units found to be unnatural, the inventory documented two old stock tanks, some campsites, a trailhead for the Eagle Crags trail, the Rimrock Springs water development, a telephone right-of-way, and OHV and ATV disturbance.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The natural portions of Units 1, 2, 4, and 5 have outstanding opportunities for solitude because of their diverse terrain and dense vegetative screening. There are many places where visitors can avoid the sights, sounds, and activities of others. In addition, these units adjoin the Canaan Mountain WSA, which has outstanding solitude opportunities. Solitude opportunities equal to those provided within the WSA extend into these four inventory units. A small and detached part of Unit 1 also borders a portion of Zion National Park that is administratively endorsed for wilderness. Solitude opportunities provided by the NPS lands extend into this portion of Unit 1.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Units 1, 2, 4, and 5 offer outstanding opportunities for backpacking, horseback riding, hiking, camping, geologic sightseeing, and photography. Magnificent views of Canaan Mountain, Elephant Butte, Zion National Park, and Eagle Crags can be enjoyed from several locations within the inventory units. The inventory units enhance the outstanding primitive recreation opportunities provided by the contiguous Canaan Mountain WSA.

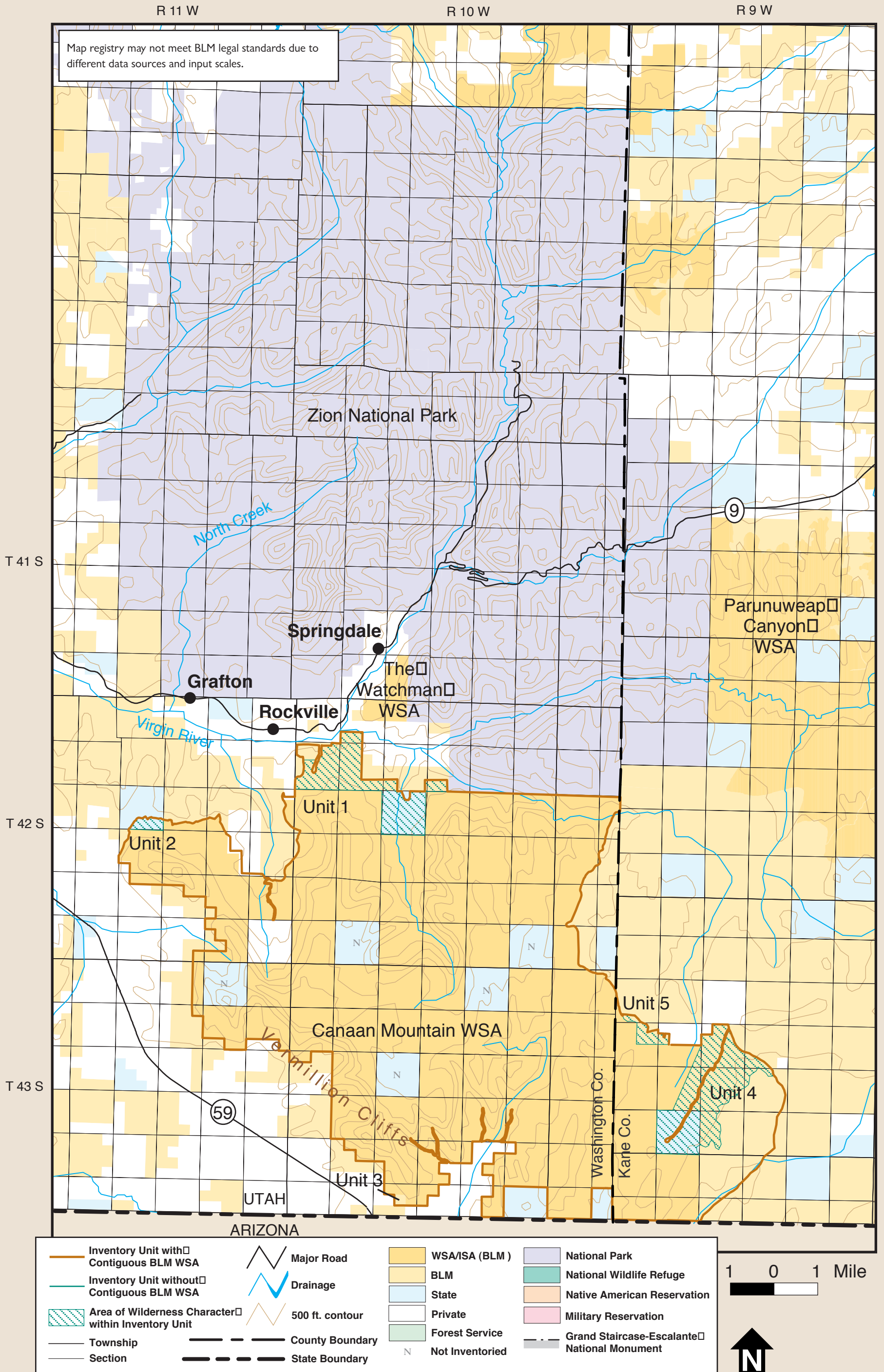
Supplemental Values

Units 1, 2, and 5 provide spectacular scenic views of Zion National Park, Eagle Crags, and Canaan Mountain. Unit 4 provides spectacular scenic views of Canaan Mountain.



BLM photo

Canaan Mountain



SOUTHWEST REGION—Canaan Mountain

Parunuweap Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
5,500	2,290	7,790 (64%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
3,500	800	4,300 (36%)
Inventory Unit Total		
9,000	3,090	12,090
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Canaan Mountain WSA (UT-040-143)		47,170
Parunuweap Canyon WSA (UT-040-230)		30,800

Eight of the nine Parunuweap Canyon inventory units are contiguous to the Parunuweap Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA), while one unit is contiguous to both the Parunuweap Canyon and Canaan Mountain WSAs. About 7,790 acres of the inventory units have wilderness characteristics, while 4,300 acres do not.

The portions of the units with wilderness characteristics are natural and include scenic canyon rims, thickly wooded piñon and juniper benchlands, and stands of ponderosa pine. Landforms, topography, and wilderness opportunities are similar to what is offered within the contiguous WSAs. These natural landscape extensions are apparent in Unit 6; this unit's primary feature is the dramatic sandstone monolith of Harris Mountain and Harris Point, which occupies the northern portion of Unit 6 and continues into the Parunuweap Canyon WSA. Unit 7 includes the upper headwaters of Rock Canyon, while Unit 4 includes a segment of Mineral Gulch. Both scenic canyons are main tributaries of Parunuweap Canyon, with stands of ponderosa pine.

The areas lacking wilderness characteristics are unnatural. Utilized primarily for woodcutting, they are blanketed with slash debris and traversed with substantial vehicle ways.

Unit Description

The Parunuweap Canyon inventory units are located in Kane County about 20 miles northwest of Kanab. Four of the units are located north of Parunuweap Canyon, while the other five are south of the canyon. The units are defined by private land boundaries, roads, well-defined vehicle ways, and the Parunuweap Canyon WSA. Unit 9 also borders the Canaan Mountain WSA and Zion National Park.

The terrain consists of canyon rims and drainages, separated by flat benchlands of sagebrush or thick piñon and juniper woodlands. The southern extension of Rock Canyon, a tributary of Parunuweap Canyon, cuts through Unit 7. Scattered throughout the inventory units, especially within Rock Canyon are pockets of ponderosa pine and sandstone outcroppings. The most prominent feature in the inventory units is Harris Mountain, a topographic formation that extends into the Parunuweap Canyon WSA.

The units are currently used for woodcutting, big game hunting, camping, cattle grazing, and off-highway vehicle (OHV) and all-terrain vehicle (ATV) driving.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Six of the nine inventory units contain natural lands where the evidence of human activity is substantially unnoticeable. Unit 5 is pristine, while Units 6, 7, and 8 have natural character throughout, even though they contain insignificant human imprints like 4 miles of fence line and 2.9 miles of minor seldom-used vehicle ways. Unit 9 is mostly natural, although part of the unit is unnatural because of intrusive vehicle ways and grazing developments. Over half of Unit 4 is natural; the remainder is unnatural due to chainings.

Unit 1 is dominated by human activity, mainly vehicle ways, evidence of woodcutting, deer camps, OHV travel, grazing, vegetation chainings, and mineral exploration. Units 2 and 3 are entirely unnatural because of mining and/or woodcutting.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The natural portions of Units 4, 6, 7, and 9 offer outstanding opportunities for solitude. Each unit has varied topographical relief and dense vegetative cover consisting of piñon and juniper woodlands and ponderosa pine. Visitors are well-screened from others in these four units. The natural portions of Units 1, 5, and 8 offer outstanding opportunities for solitude in conjunction with the contiguous portions of the Parunuweap Canyon WSA.

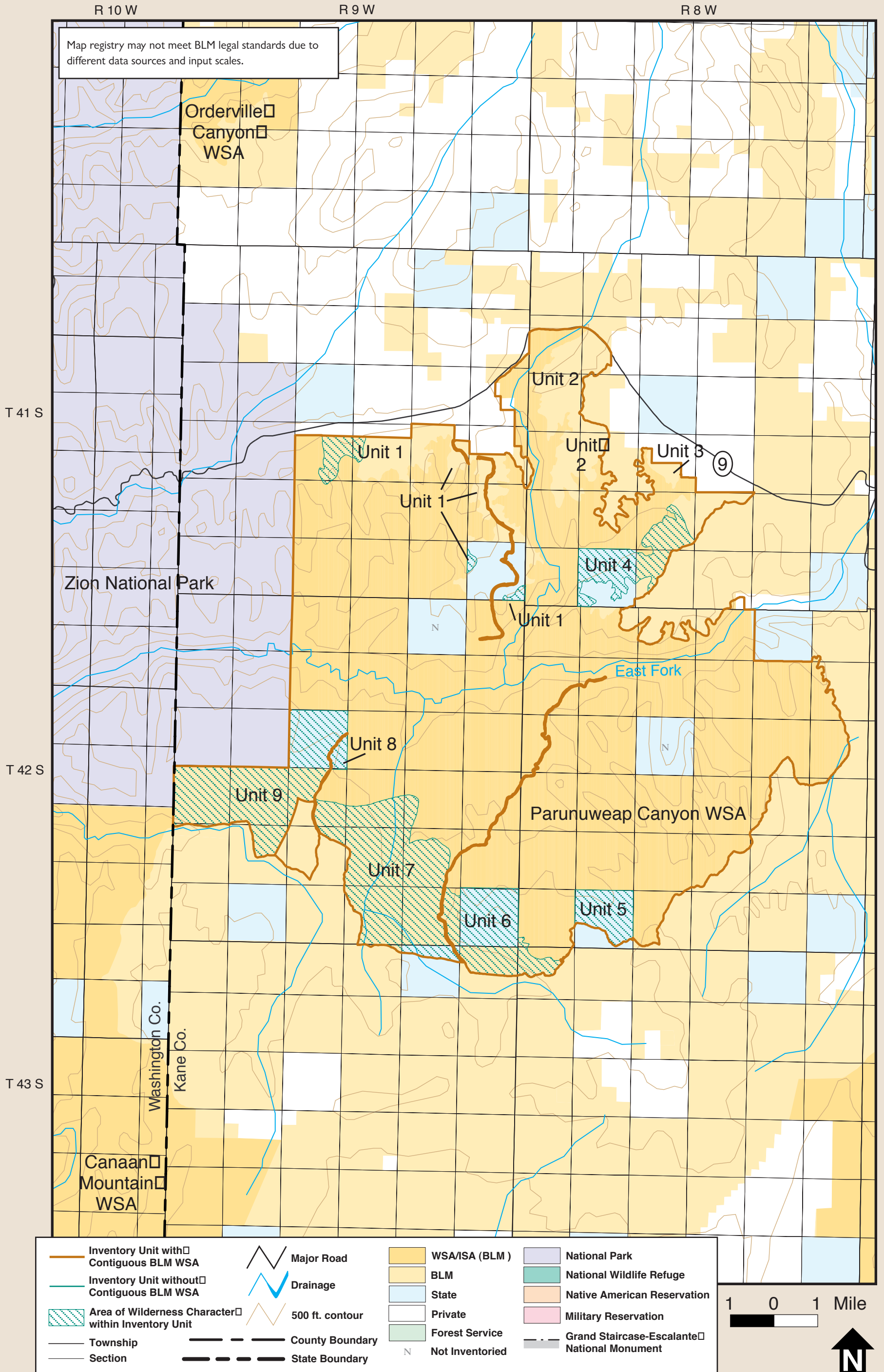
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The natural portion of the inventory units provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation when considered in conjunction with the contiguous WSAs. In addition, opportunities for primitive, dispersed recreation within several of the units are outstanding on their own. Units 4, 7, and 9 offer challenging opportunities, especially for deer hunting. The Rock Canyon area of Unit 7 also offers challenging opportunities for hiking and backpacking.

Supplemental Values

The units provide scenic overviews into Parunuweap Canyon from Units 4, 6, 7, and 9. From Harris Point in Unit 6, the scenic vistas encompass Zion National Park, the White Cliffs, and Bryce Canyon to the northeast. The canyon walls and ridges are extensions of the same formations that make up Zion National Park. Diverse plant life can be found in the inventory area. It is likely that the units, which are part of the Parunuweap Canyon complex, also support cultural values.

Parunuweap Canyon



SOUTHWEST REGION—Parunuweap Canyon

Moquith Mountain

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
10,950	2,090	13,040 (90%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
1,200	270	1,470 (10%)
Inventory Unit Total		
12,150	2,360	14,510
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Moquith Mountain WSA (UT-040-217)		14,830

About 13,040 acres of the Moquith Mountain inventory units have wilderness characteristics, while 1,470 acres do not. Units 1, 3, and 4 are natural in character and offer outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. These lands include the eastern portions of the Vermilion Cliffs (Unit 1), the eastern cliffs of Cottonwood Canyon (Unit 1), and scenic portions of Water Canyon (Unit 4) and South Fork Cottonwood Canyon (Unit 3). Great hiking opportunities are present within Unit 1. A hiking trail traverses the rim of the mesa above the city of Kanab, while the canyons offer hikers and hardy backpackers challenge, wildlife viewing, and scenic views.

Unit 2 is unnatural: it has been used for all-terrain vehicle (ATV) riding and woodcutting and is criss-crossed with power lines, water pipelines, and intrusive vehicle ways. Units 5 and 6 fail to satisfy the size criteria; they are not contiguous to the Moquith Mountain Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and do not have at least 5,000 acres of land. Unit 5 is separated from Unit 1 by a powerline, while a vehicle way separates Unit 6 from Unit 1.

MOQUITH MOUNTAIN—The inventory unit offers hikers and backpackers opportunities for wildlife viewing and excellent scenery.



BLM Photo

Unit Description

The Moquith Mountain inventory units are located in Kane County and skirt the western edge of the city of Kanab. The units are partly contiguous to the Moquith Mountain WSA. They consist primarily of a long high mesa indented by seven finger-like canyons and drainages. The Vermilion Cliffs are the units' most prominent feature, with sandstone escarpments, rim rock mesas, and numerous indented canyons and drainages. The inventory units are currently used for hunting, cattle grazing, off-road vehicle driving, and utility access (power lines and a water pipeline).

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Units 1, 3, and 4 are primarily natural. They display only minor evidence of human activities and development. Unit 1 contains three small range fences, two insignificant vehicle ways (0.6 mile), and a communication panel. Units 3 and 4 are nearly pristine. All significant human imprints and developments have either been cherry-stemmed or form the units' boundaries. These intrusions include roads, significant vehicle ways, power lines, water pipelines, canals, a hiking trail-head parking area, and a large parcel of private land.

Unit 2 is unnatural because of many conspicuous human developments like pipelines, roads, vehicle ways, ATV trails, a corral, fences, campsites, and a power line.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Unit 1 offers outstanding opportunities for solitude. The unit's steep, rugged cliff line, its canyons, and its pockets of piñon and juniper woodland and ponderosa pine provide visitors with opportunities for isolation. Because of their small size, Units 3 and 4 provide opportunities for solitude only in conjunction with the contiguous Moquith Mountain WSA.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Opportunities for dispersed primitive and unconfined recreation within the units are outstanding. Unit 1 offers challenging opportunities for hunting, hiking, horse-back riding, and some backpacking. The rugged canyons and drainages in Unit 1 provide for some challenging hiking opportunities. The private land pattern around the unit has restricted access into the area for the general visitor. Therefore, the primary access routes into Unit 1 are two canyons along the eastern boundary and a hiking trail traversing the rim of the mesa from the city of Kanab. The canyons offer hikers and hardy backpackers challenging terrain, opportunities to view wildlife and scenic vistas, and the possibility of discovering ancient habitations within the area.

Units 3 and 4 have primitive recreational opportunities only in conjunction with those found in the Moquith Mountain WSA. These units offer excellent views for hikers from the top of the ridge line into the heads of Indian, South Fork, and Water Canyons.

Supplemental Values

The three units with wilderness characteristics are part of the complex ecological community of the Vermilion Cliffs. They contain riparian communities, upland ponderosa pine forest, canyons, large alcoves, and some hanging gardens. This area has a high potential for archaeological resources. The three units also support a good deer population, a small population of cougars, and hawks and eagles.

Moquith Mountain

R 7 W

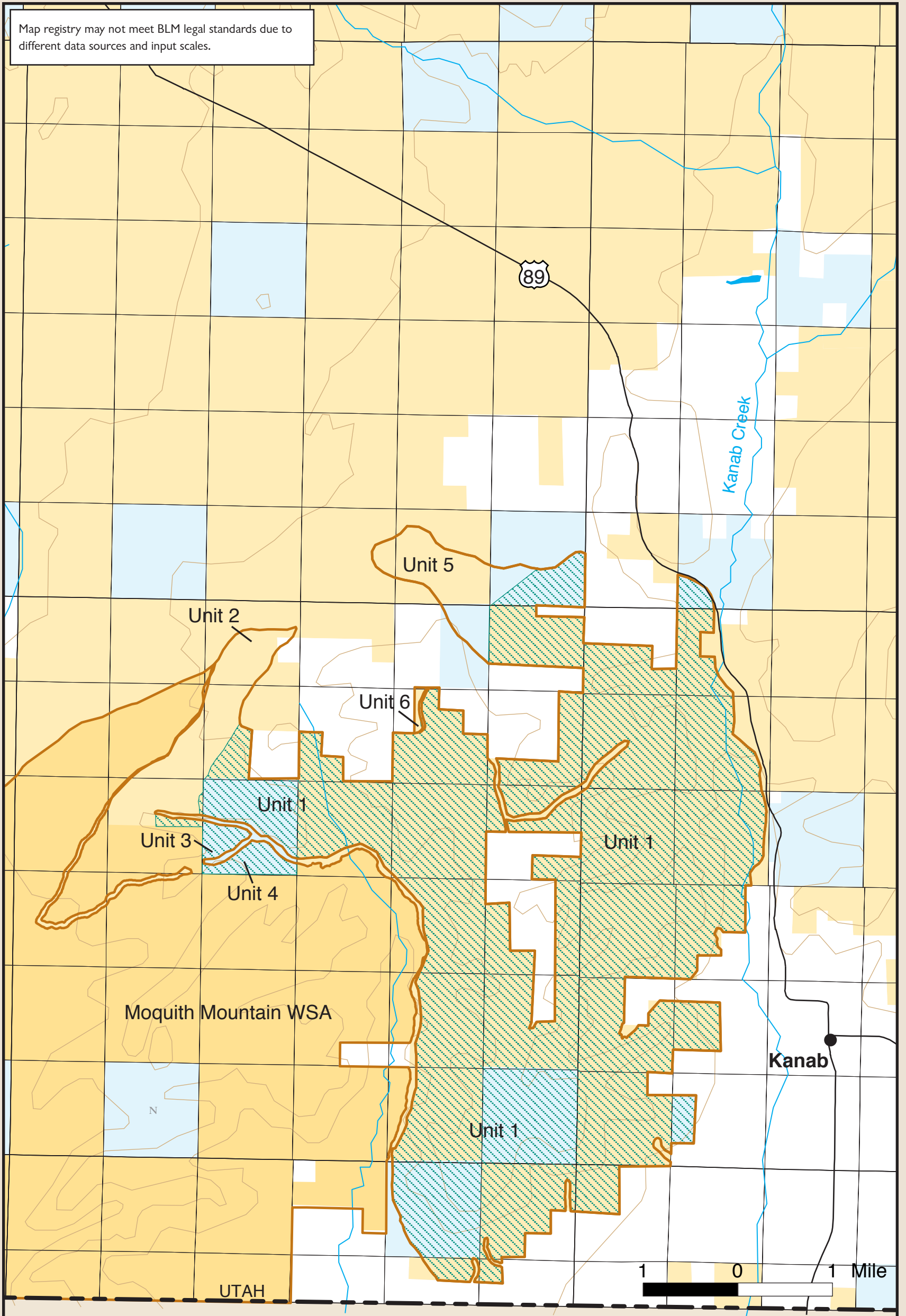
R 6 W

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T 42 S

T 43 S

T 44 S



Moquith Mountain WSA

Kanab

ARIZONA

UTAH

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA | Major Road | WSA/ISA (BLM) | National Park |
| Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA | Drainage | BLM | National Wildlife Refuge |
| Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit | 500 ft. contour | State | Native American Reservation |
| Township | County Boundary | Private | Military Reservation |
| Section | State Boundary | Forest Service | Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument |
| | | Not Inventoried | |



Upper Kanab Creek

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
42,100	5,900	48,000 (99%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
300	10	310 (1%)
Inventory Unit Total		
42,400	5,910	48,310
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

About 48,000 acres of the Upper Kanab Creek inventory unit possess wilderness characteristics. Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation abound. The unit also contains exceptional scenery and geological values. However, there are approximately 310 acres along the boundary of the unit that do not possess wilderness characteristics. These areas have either been chained and seeded, contain developments serving the needs of local communities, or have been significantly marred with trails created by all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and off-highway vehicles (OHVs).

Unit Description

The Upper Kanab Creek unit is located 15 miles north and northwest of Kanab. The western portion is adjacent to a number of communities located in Long Valley, while the eastern part is within BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

The Upper Kanab Creek area is exceptionally scenic, forming the backdrop for tourists traveling Highway 89 between Zion National Park (NP), Bryce Canyon NP, and the North Rim of the Grand Canyon. It is divided into two distinct areas by the prominent White Cliffs, a striking escarpment formed by Navajo Sandstone. These cliffs are one of the principal steps in the Grand Staircase cliff-lines between the Grand Canyon and Bryce Canyon.

Navajo Sandstone has many erosional variations and exhibits an impressive spectrum of colors and textures. Numerous canyons have been cut into the White Cliffs; these sometimes narrow into convoluted slot canyons that have been polished by frequent

flash floods. Where canyons are more open, they frequently contain an attractive combination of ponderosa pine and areas of colorful sandstone or sand dunes. Lower elevations contain large, dense stands of piñon and juniper. There are also areas of scattered ponderosa pines and stretches of riparian vegetation along the perennial reaches of Kanab Creek. A large part of the unit is just north of the wells that supply culinary water for Kanab. The unit is used for both grazing and recreation.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the unit has retained its natural character. However, there are a number of minor human imprints scattered along the unit's edge and near the lower part of Upper Kanab Creek, including 31 vehicle ways (mostly short spurs) totaling 24.9 miles and four identified OHV/ATV play areas, along with additional lengths of cross-country tracked routes. The Sand Hills, the largest play area, is located in the unit's south-central area just south of Red Canyon. Most of these vehicle ways and ATV/OHV play areas are substantially unnoticeable and are located in sandy and seasonally erosional areas. The unit also contains some livestock management facilities, including five fences (totaling 5.0 miles), two stock tanks, a pipeline, and a sheep camp. However, these features

UPPER KANAB CREEK—Vegetation provides a contrast with the White Cliffs of Johnson Canyon, where numerous extensive hiking and horseback riding opportunities exist.



Jerry Sintz

blend into the vast landscapes and are substantially unnoticeable.

Several parts of the unit have unnatural character. Nine vehicle ways were judged to be substantially noticeable in the area as a whole and have been cherry-stemmed. There are also several sites substantially disturbed by chainings, a landfill, a radio tower, a corral, and mineral material extraction.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit possesses many outstanding opportunities for solitude, thanks to the area's natural character, rugged terrain, plant screening, shape, and size. The unit consists of rolling topography broken by a complex series of canyons and cliffs. The rugged topography alone provides abundant screening. The unit's central core, centered on Upper Kanab Creek, is over six miles wide and long.

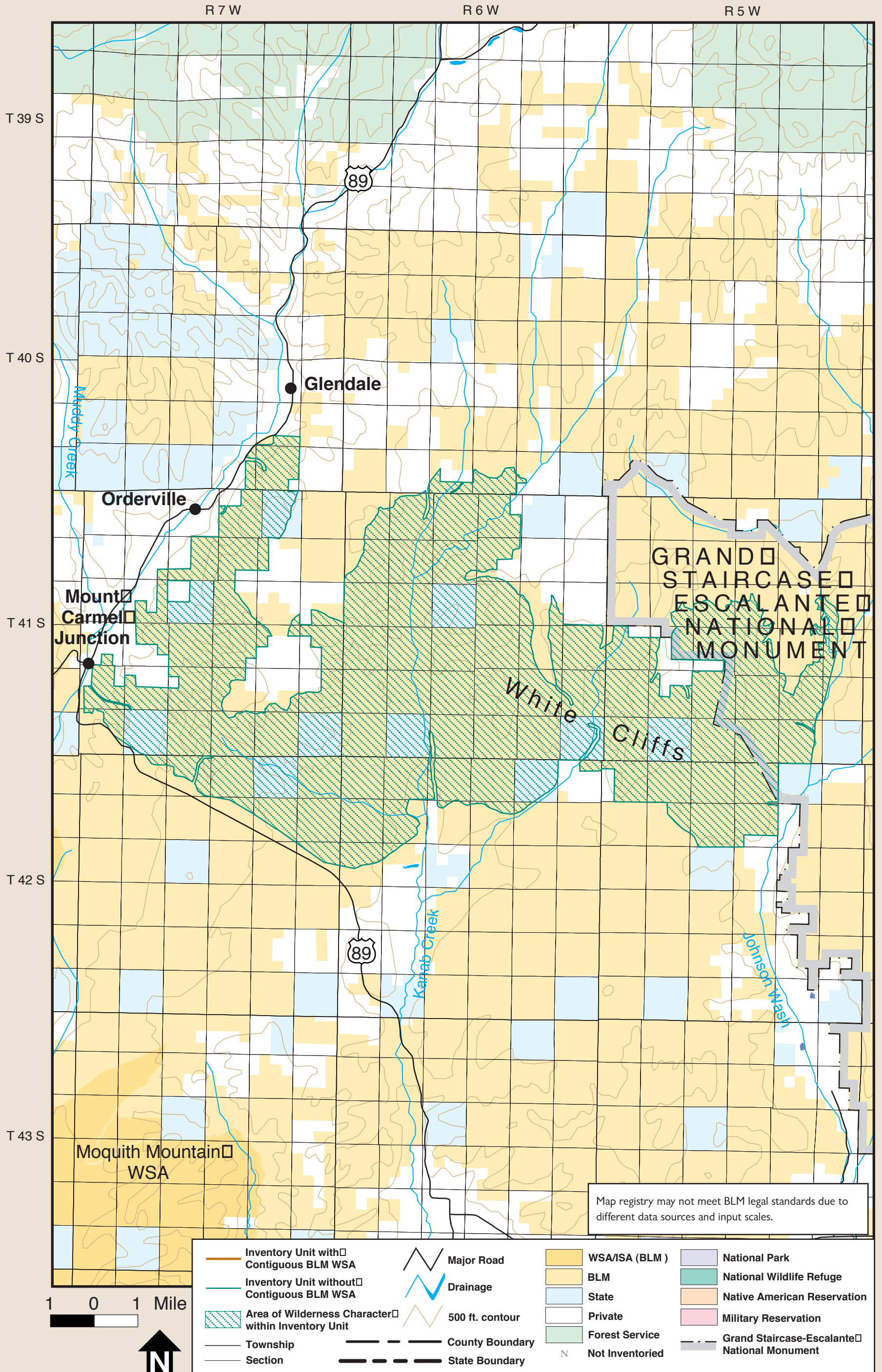
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

A visitor to the unit finds an abundance of primitive recreation opportunities because of the unit's natural character, scenery, rugged terrain, and size. The rugged cliffs, canyons, and mesas fronting the White Cliffs provide abundant and extensive hiking and horseback riding opportunities. There is the potential for trips to or around the Elkheart Cliffs, Red Hollow, Dianas Throne, Upper Kanab Creek, Cutler Point, Dry Leaf Canyon, Burnt Cedar Point, and Swamp Canyon. Long hikes and horseback trips through Upper Kanab Creek would be especially outstanding. Opportunities are equally outstanding for short day hikes, backpacking, hunting, geological study, sightseeing, photography, and camping.

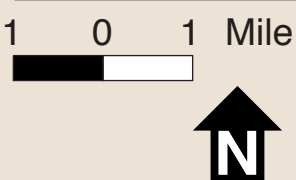
Supplemental Values

The unit is exceptionally scenic. The Navajo Sandstone of the White Cliffs escarpment forms a colorful backdrop for travelers on Highway 89. Most tourists traveling between Zion NP, Bryce Canyon NP and the North Rim of Grand Canyon NP pass this way. The unit also provides critical winter range for the important Paunsaugunt deer herd.

Upper Kanab Creek



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

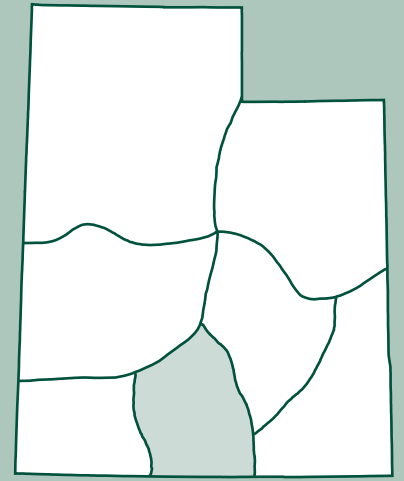


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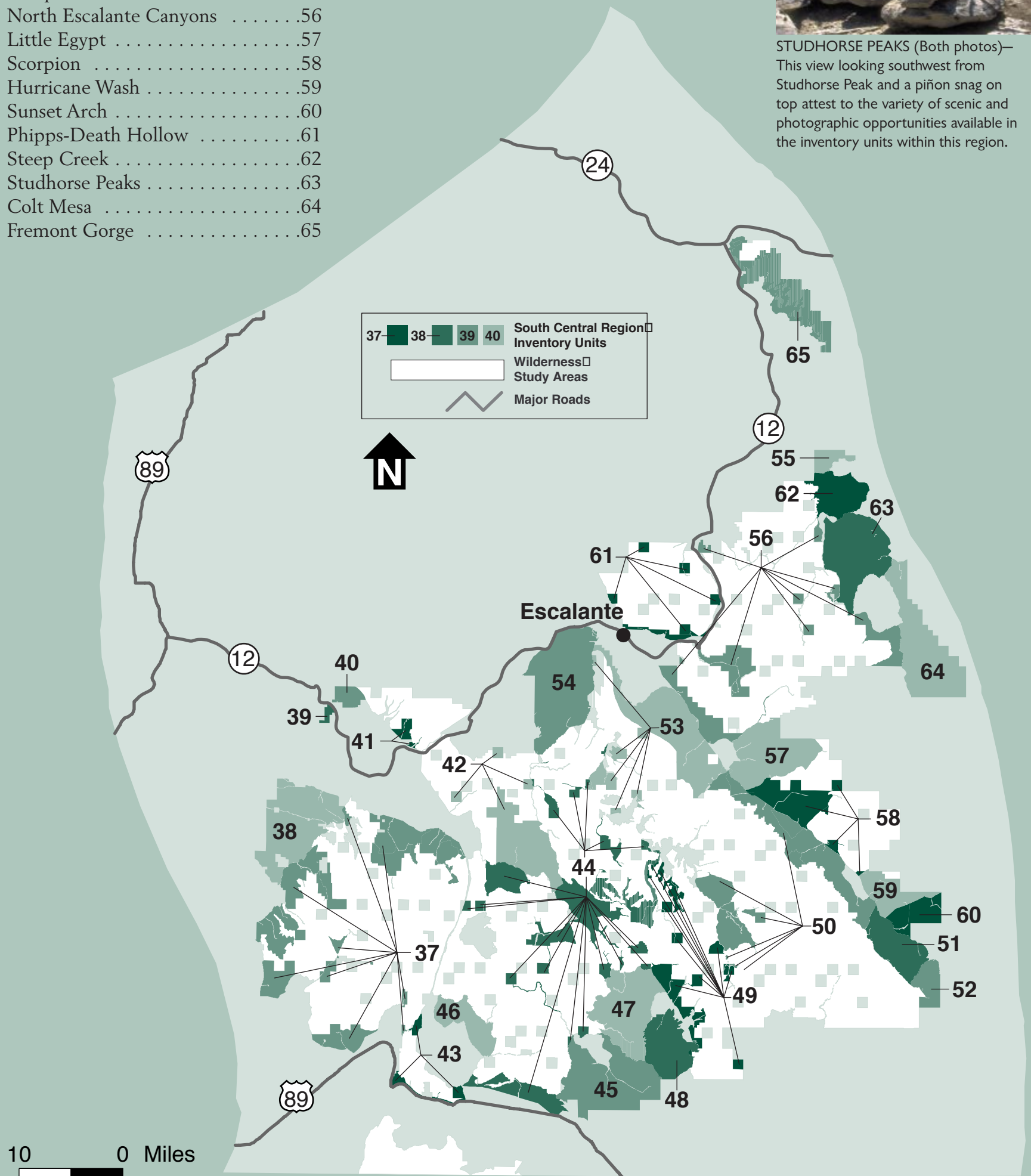


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STUDHORSE PEAKS (Both photos)—This view looking southwest from Studhorse Peak and a piñon snag on top attest to the variety of scenic and photographic opportunities available in the inventory units within this region.



Paria-Hackberry

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
25,780	7,630	33,410 (66%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
15,400	1,620	17,020 (34%)
Inventory Unit Total		
41,180	9,250	50,430
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Paria-Hackberry WSA (UT-040-247/UT-040-247A)		136,222

About 33,410 acres of the fourteen Paria-Hackberry inventory units have wilderness characteristics. The portions of the units with wilderness characteristics are roadless and natural in appearance and are natural extensions of the contiguous Paria-Hackberry Wilderness Study Area (WSA). They provide or enhance opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation within the WSA. The units that are in the most pristine condition and that contribute substantially to solitude and primitive recreation are located towards the interior coves of the Paria-Hackberry WSA.

In portions of several of the units (17,020 acres), wilderness characteristics is not present because of chainings, seedings, livestock developments, mineral-related impacts, and vehicle routes receiving regular and continuous use. Ten of the fourteen units contain cherry-stemmed routes.

Unit Description

The Paria-Hackberry inventory units are located in Garfield and Kane Counties, between Cannonville and Kanab, within BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The units cluster around the exterior of the Paria-Hackberry WSA. The geology is fascinating in this area known as the Grand Staircase, where great escarpments of sandstone, such as the White Cliffs and the Vermillion Cliffs, rise in successive benches to the north. The terrain throughout the units varies from high-elevation piñon- and juniper-covered benchlands, which provide scenic overlooks, to steep and rugged drainages and canyons, colorful badlands, and sagebrush-dotted grasslands. Generally, the dense piñon and juniper forests, along with some ponderosa pine on the high benchlands to the north, give way to lower-elevation desert shrubs and grasslands to the south. Riparian vegetation, primarily cottonwoods and willows, is prominent along the creeks and canyon bottoms.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

All fourteen units are natural in character to varying degrees. Units 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, and 14 are natural in their entirety. Units 1, 5, 6, and 7 are natural over more than half of their acreage, while Units 2 and 12 are natural over less than half. Units 10 and 11 are entirely pristine, while others contain pristine zones or areas only lightly impacted by intrusions such as short segments of fences or vehicle ways. Pristine areas generally comprise sections of land lying in remote areas with great topographic relief, or lands nearly surrounded by naturally reclaiming WSA boundary routes. The remainder of the units have light human impacts that are not substantially noticeable. These impacts include vehicle ways, fences, a range development, and chainings that are undergoing natural reclamation. The portions of the units considered to be without natural character have substantially noticeable impacts, including heavily used vehicle ways, mining impacts, numerous range developments, pipelines, and large chained, fenced, and seeded grazing pastures.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The units are contiguous to the Paria-Hackberry WSA, which possesses outstanding opportunities for solitude. Places such as the Paria River, Bull Valley Gorge, No Man's Mesa, Deer Range Canyon, and Tank Canyon contain uniquely outstanding opportunities for solitude. Several of the

inventory units are immediately adjacent to these places and would extend and complement these opportunities. Vegetative screening and topographic relief are the primary factors contributing to the opportunity for solitude. The juniper and piñon woodland that is predominant in many of the units provides an excellent barrier between people, reducing sights and sounds. The White Cliffs and Vermillion Cliffs form another effective barrier between visitors, physically isolating sections of the units and WSA with 600- to 1,000-foot cliff walls.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory units are contiguous to the Paria-Hackberry WSA, which provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. As in the WSA, outstanding opportunities for hiking, camping, backpacking, rock climbing, horseback riding, hunting, sightseeing, nature study, and photography can be enjoyed and experienced within many of the units. Wildlife observation, historical study at the old Pahreah Townsite, nature study of a relict vegetation community on one of the mesas, and sightseeing are all opportunities available to the visitor.

Supplemental Values

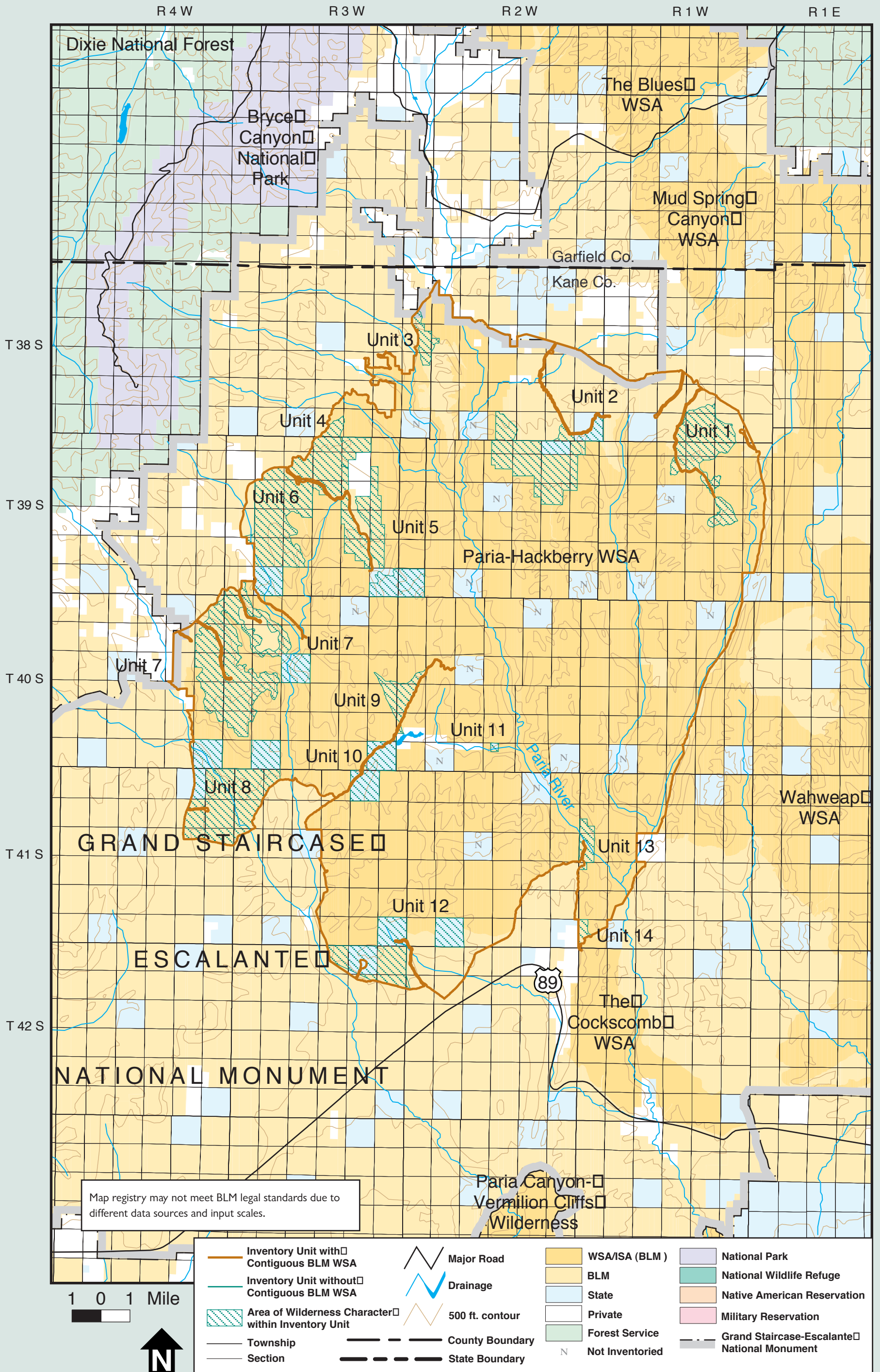
No Mans Mesa contains a relict vegetation community and is a Research Natural Area. The old Pahreah Townsite is a historic area that offers a unique glimpse into a pioneer settlement. Portions of the White Cliffs, No Mans Mesa, the Vermillion Cliffs, and the banded, multicolored badlands in the southern part of the units provide outstanding geology and scenery.

PARIA-HACKBERRY— Interesting geological features provide screening and the opportunity to find solitude.



Jerry Sintz

Paria Hackberry



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—Paria-Hackberry

Horse Mountain

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
11,100	1,300	12,400 (44%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
14,740	900	15,640 (56%)
Inventory Unit Total		
25,840	2,200	28,040
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

About 12,400 acres of the four Horse Mountain inventory units have wilderness characteristics, while 15,640 acres lack wilderness characteristics because of chainings, seedings, and other disturbances. Roads up the Willis Creek, Howard Creek, and Sheep Creek drainages divide the inventory area into four units. Horse Mountain and the roadless lands south of Willis Creek (Unit 1) have wilderness characteristics. These lands are nearly pristine and offer outstanding opportunities for solitude, although three tracts within Unit 1 are unnatural because of chainings and woodcutting.

All of Unit 2 north of Willis Creek is unnatural because of a proliferation of range developments, vegetation manipulations, and woodcutting. There are approximately 13.7 miles of roads and vehicle ways, one corral, four ring or stock tanks, two pipelines, 15 fence lines, 13 chainings and seedings with varying degrees of slash debris, and several active woodcutting areas in this unit. Units 3 and 4 do not satisfy the size requirements as they are less than 5,000 acres. The adjoining U.S. Forest Service lands are not under any formal wilderness consideration or study process.

Unit Description

The inventory units are located about 4 miles southwest of Cannonville and about 1 mile from the southeastern boundary of Bryce Canyon National Park. All of the public lands in the unit are within BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The land between the units and Bryce Canyon National Park is administered by the U.S. Forest Service as part of the Dixie National Forest. The topography of the units consists of several benchlands that extend from the southeastern boundary of Bryce Canyon National Park and the Dixie National

Forest. Vegetation consists of an uneven piñon and juniper woodland, patches of scrub oak, service berry, sagebrush, rabbit brush, and a variety of grasses.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the inventory area south of Willis Creek has natural character. Four portions of the inventory area are unnatural: all lands north of Willis Creek, a chained tract south of Willis Creek, a large woodcutting area in Bull Run Valley, and areas in the southwest corner. The tops of the benchlands in these areas have been subject to extensive chainings and seedings over the years. Many vehicle ways and roads have been developed through some of these chainings and seedings by local woodcutters and range managers.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The solitude opportunities in Unit 1 are outstanding because of its size, blocked configuration, and natural screening. These factors provide sufficient opportunities to avoid the sights, sounds, and evidence of others within the area. Visitors can hike or ride several miles into the unit from any direction and seek and find a secluded spot. With few destinations or attractions, visitors would likely be scattered throughout the area, further reducing chances for visitor-to-visitor encounters. The generally

sparse piñon and juniper cover amid the rolling terrain is sufficient in this 18-square-mile area to effectively screen or separate users from each other. Overall, the best opportunities for solitude are in an area primarily west of Horse Mountain; in the eastern region of the unit, the opportunity for solitude diminishes.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The opportunities for primitive or unconfined recreation are not outstanding because of the lack of challenge and diversity, along with the poor quality of the potential hiking, backpacking, and sightseeing experiences. The landscape consists of a mostly sparse and nondescript piñon and juniper woodland that is separated by drainages. These intervening washes and valleys are shallow, sage-choked, and uninspiring scenically. The hills are equally commonplace, with exposed flanks and generally sparse plant cover. Scenic vistas toward Bryce Canyon and the Paria/Hackberry region are meager, consisting mainly of views of unremarkable timber-covered hills. The noted red-rock exposures of Bryce Canyon are not readily visible from this locale. Observers on top of Horse Mountain view substantial chainings and seedings to the north, east, and southwest, along with farms and agricultural land elsewhere. Such scenes further detract from the promise and sense of an outstanding wilderness opportunity.

Supplemental Values

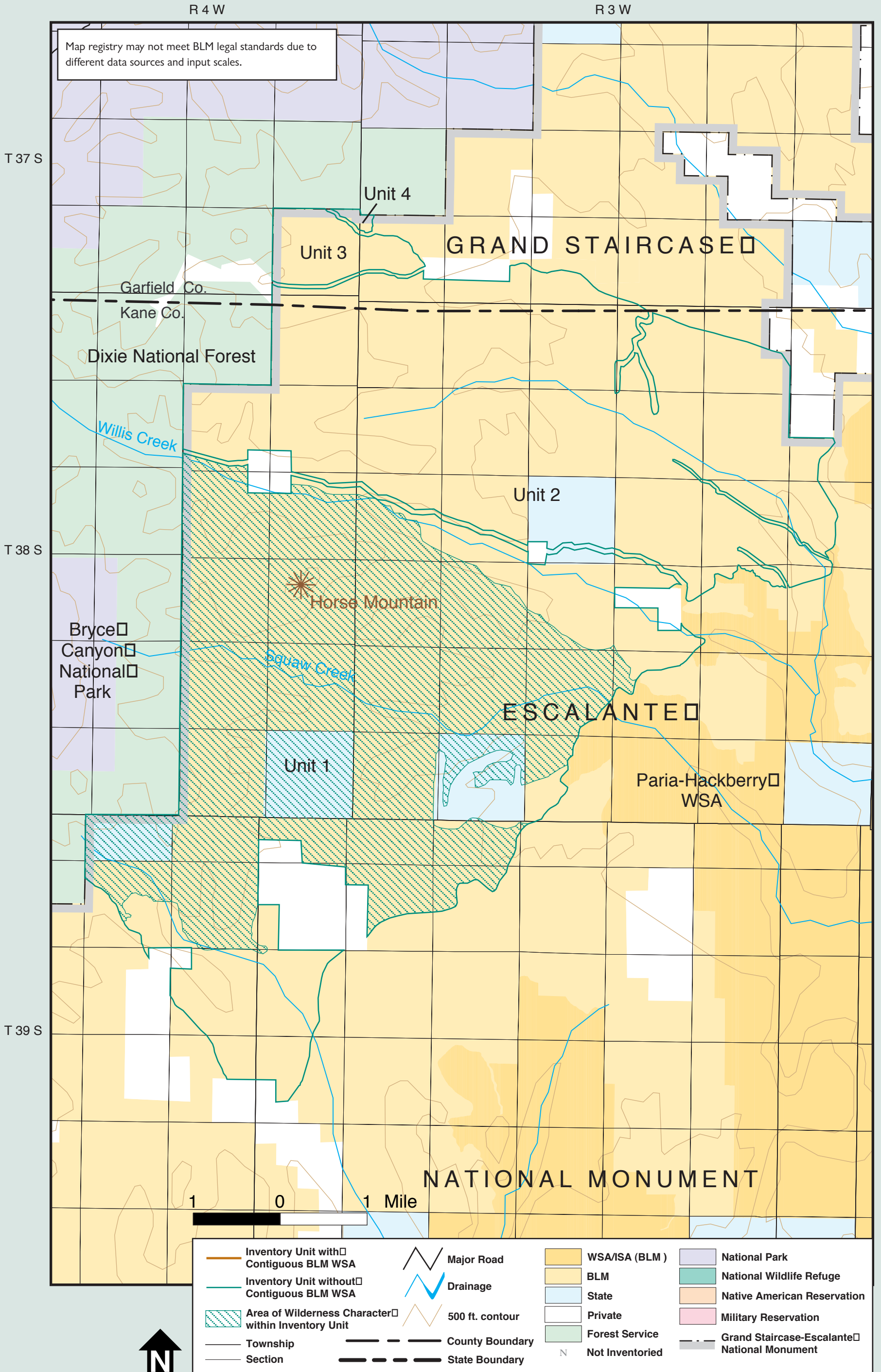
No supplemental features have been identified.

HORSE MOUNTAIN—A view of Horse Mountain over a piñon and juniper woodland; Bryce Canyon National Park is on the horizon.



BLM photo

Horse Mountain



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—Horse Mountain

East of Bryce

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
800	0	800 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
800	0	800
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Bryce Canyon National Park		

The entire East of Bryce inventory unit (800 acres) has wilderness characteristics. Overall, it appears natural; an abandoned irrigation canal on the southeast edge of the unit is being naturally reclaimed and is substantially unnoticeable. The unit is contiguous to Bryce Canyon National Park, sharing three miles of boundary. The East of Bryce inventory unit provides a continuation of the geological land forms and ecosystems present in the park lands: red cliffs and pine forests on the mesas, along with badland shales on the lower slopes. The contiguous lands managed by the National Park Service (NPS) have been administratively endorsed for wilderness. The East of Bryce inventory unit provides an extension of the wilderness values of these NPS lands.

Unit Description

The East of Bryce inventory unit is located in western Garfield County between Bryce Canyon National Park and Tropic. It is composed entirely of public land. The unit consists of a portion of a large mesa providing overviews of Tropic Valley to the east and Bryce Canyon National Park to the west. Several moderate drainages cut into the mesa from the south and east. The vegetation is predominantly piñon and juniper woodland on the mesa top and finger ridges, with sagebrush and shrubs on the hillsides on the south and east.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The unit retains its natural character. The only evidence of human activity is an abandoned earthen irrigation canal on the extreme edge of the southeastern boundary. The irrigation canal, which crosses a small corner of the unit near the base of a finger ridge, is no longer in use, nor is it maintained. It is being naturally reclaimed by revegetation and erosion and is unnoticeable to casual observers.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The East of Bryce unit is contiguous to Bryce Canyon National Park and provides an extension of the outstanding opportunities for solitude found within the park. However, the sights and sounds of the town of Tropic and Utah Highway 12 could diminish solitude opportunities in those parts directly adjacent to the village and road.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The entire East of Bryce unit is contiguous to and could be an extension of a National Park Service wilderness, if these NPS lands were designated. The unit has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation when considered in conjunction with the contiguous NPS lands. Recreational use occurs primarily from access points within Bryce Canyon National Park and consists mainly of hiking, backpacking, and photography.

Supplemental Values

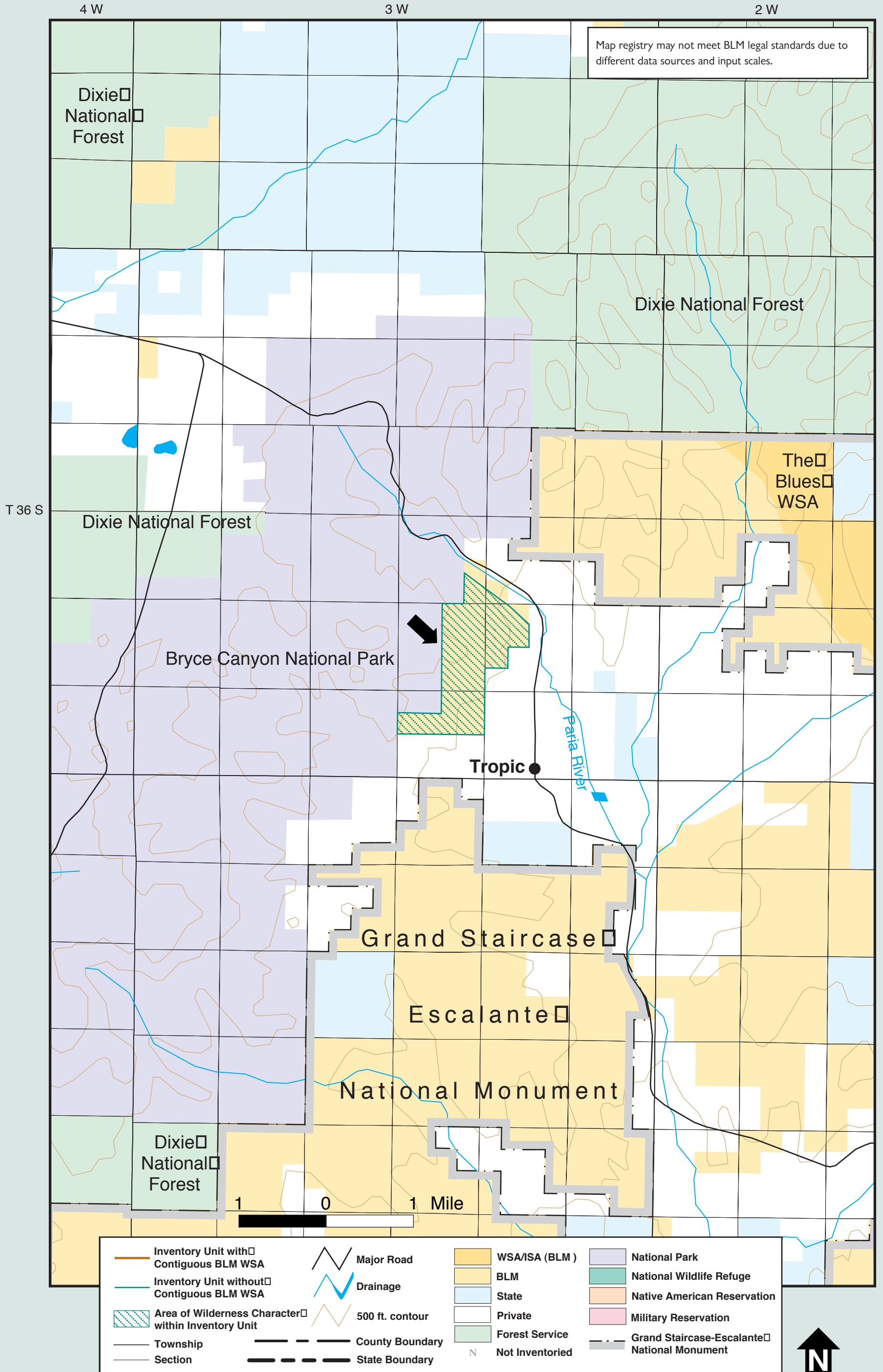
The mesa portions of this unit provide visitors with exceptional vistas. Some scenic overviews along the rim of the mesa provide views of Tropic Valley and the colorfully banded sandstone escarpments of Bryce Canyon National Park.

EAST OF BRYCE—This view from the northern boundary shows the dense piñon and juniper woodlands covering the unit's northern hills.



BLM photo

East of Bryce



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—East of Bryce

Box Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
3,000	0	3,000 (97%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
100	0	100 (3%)
Inventory Unit Total		
3,100	0	3,100
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Bryce Canyon National Park (1994 recommended addition)		2,760

About 3,000 acres of the Box Canyon inventory unit have wilderness characteristics, but only in conjunction with Bryce Canyon National Park lands to the west, which were recommended as a wilderness addition by the Park in 1994. Most of the unit, which shares a common 1.5-mile boundary with the National Park, is natural. However, about 100 acres have considerable disturbance and thus do not have wilderness characteristics. There are no distinctive supplemental values. The world-famous geological formations present on contiguous lands managed by the National Park Service (NPS) do not continue into the unit to any degree.

Unit Description

The Box Canyon inventory unit is located in western Garfield County east of Bryce Canyon National Park and north of the village of Tropic. The unit consists of a steep portion of Bull Dog Bench. Box Canyon, Dry Canyon, and other unnamed

canyons drain south toward the Paria River. The north is lightly forested with piñon and juniper on the benches and upper canyons. Sagebrush and shrubs cover the lower south-facing valleys and hills.

The evidence of human activity includes an old bulldozer scrape, 1.5 miles of vehicle way, 3.1 miles of fence, a stock pond, and a canal and associated access. No known recreational use occurs; there is limited public access due to private lands.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the unit retains its natural character, with the upper elevation areas being nearly pristine. Minimal surface-disturbing activity has occurred, almost all of it restricted to areas near private lands along the southern boundary. Only minor vehicle ways, fences, and a slight bulldozer scrape extend into the natural appearing part of the area. All of these imprints are gradually being reclaimed by plant growth and erosion and are unnoticeable to casual observers.

Part of the unit (100 acres) has been considerably disturbed and is unnatural in appearance.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit has outstanding solitude opportunities only when considered in

conjunction with the contiguous NPS lands. Solitude opportunities are limited because of the size of the unit and its narrow shape. Plant cover is sparse and the terrain has an open aspect to the south. This open character exposes the visitor to off-site ranching/farm operations and traffic along Highway 12.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit has outstanding primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities only when considered in conjunction with contiguous NPS lands. Hiking, horseback riding, and other primitive recreation opportunities are of a lower caliber than those found on the contiguous NPS lands, and the scenery and geology are less striking and more commonplace as well. Although geologic formations that are found within the National Park extend into the unit, there are no celebrated geological features to attract visitors. Recreation access is limited because of posted private land along the south boundary. The best public access is through the Dixie National Forest and NPS lands to the north and west.

Supplemental Values

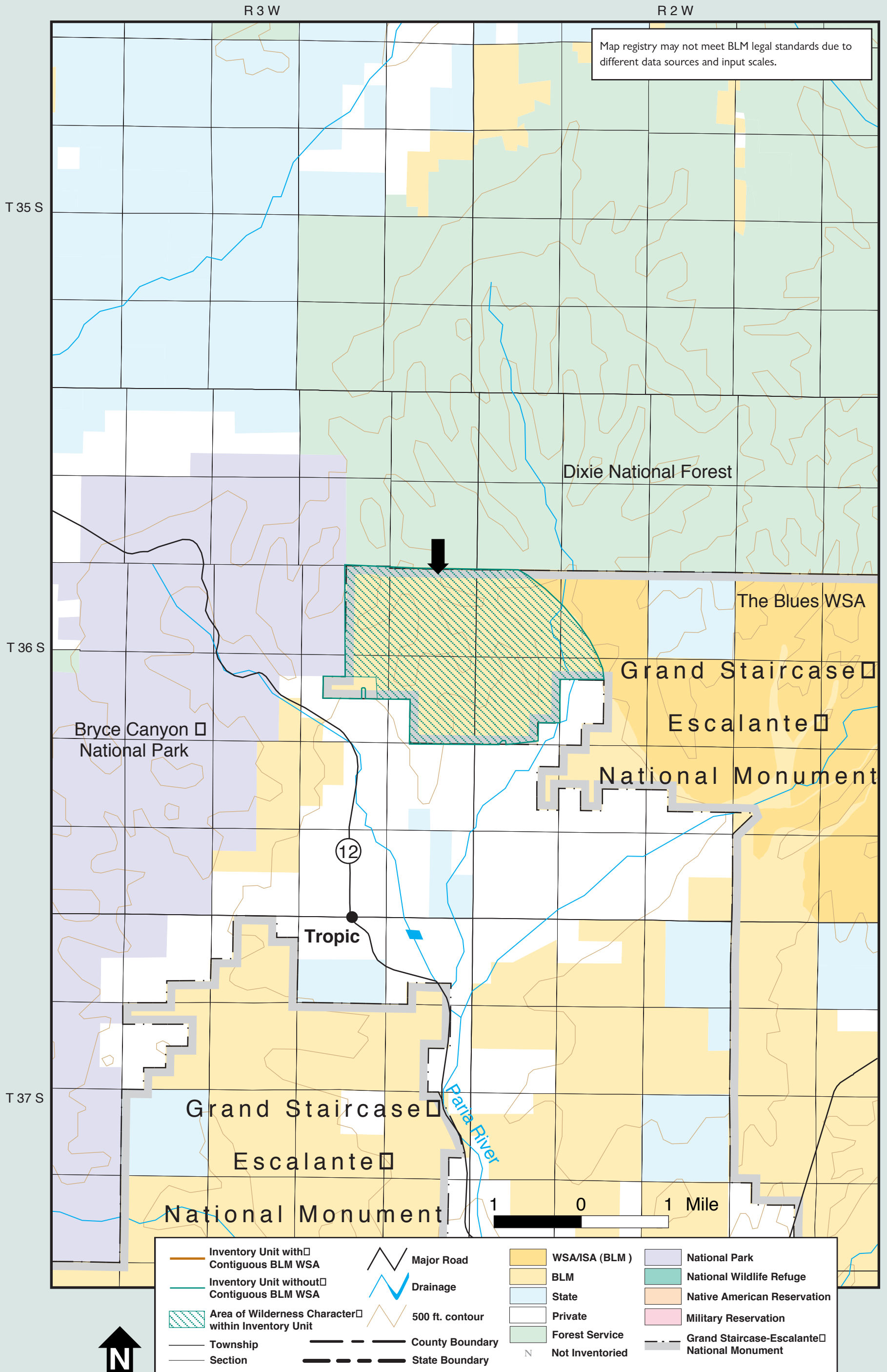
No supplemental values have been documented.

BOX CANYON—Although geologic formations in this inventory unit are not as spectacular as those in the contiguous Bryce Canyon National Park, they still have scenic interest for the hiker or photographer.



BLM photo

Box Canyon



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—Box Canyon

The Blues

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
750	900	1,650 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
750	900	1,650
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
The Blues WSA (UT-040-268)		19,030

The Blues inventory units (1,650 acres) possess wilderness characteristics as an extension of the wilderness characteristics identified in the contiguous The Blues Wilderness Study Area (WSA). A road and disturbance from coal mining has been cherry-stemmed, separating Units 1 and 2.

Unit Description

The Blues inventory units are located in western Garfield County approximately 25 miles southwest of Escalante and 4 miles northeast of Henrieville, Utah. They lie within the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

Inventory Units 1 and 2 contain both state and BLM public land, while Unit 3 is entirely BLM-managed public land. The vegetation consists of a piñon-juniper woodland at the middle elevations, ponderosa pine at higher elevations, and grasses, sagebrush, and shrubs on the foothills and flats near the mouths of the canyons.

Evidence of human activity is present in all three units. A cherry-stemmed road and a coal mine separate Units 1 and 2. All three units contain range fencing. Unit 3 also contains several vehicle ways near the mouth of Pardner Canyon. Recreational use in all three units consists mainly of hiking, backpacking, hunting, rock climbing, and both geological and botanical sightseeing.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The three units appear natural overall, with human impacts being substantially unnoticeable and natural reclamation occurring at a rapid pace. Minimal surface-disturbing activity has occurred in the units as a whole. Disturbances are primarily limited to a small coal mine cherry-stemmed from Unit 2; range fencing in all three units; and a series of ways, a small borrow pit, and a small refuse dump in Unit 3.

The coal mine area in Unit 2 and its associated access were found to be unnatural and lacking wilderness characteristics. Hence, the main mining access road up the unnamed canyon that separates Units 1 and 2, along with the associated coal workings at the road's end, have been cherry-stemmed.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Outstanding opportunities for solitude are present in the units only in conjunction

with The Blues WSA. The three units are contiguous to and are an extension of the WSA. The Blues WSA has outstanding solitude opportunities, and the opportunities provided by the contiguous inventory units would slightly enhance those of the WSA. Solitude opportunities in Units 1 and 2 are impacted by the presence of a maintained road to a coal exploration area. The solitude opportunities in the sagebrush-covered flatlands in all three units are diminished by the sights and sounds of a power line and the traffic along Utah Highway 12.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The units have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation only in conjunction with the contiguous The Blues WSA, an area possessing such opportunities. Opportunities in Units 1 and 2 are impacted by the presence of a maintained cherry-stemmed road to a coal mine. However, in all three units, the scenic forested canyon walls, exposed sandstone cliffs, and small erosional areas with "hoodoo" features are enticing areas to explore. The quality of opportunities in the southern portion of all three units is lessened by the sights and sounds of Utah Highway 12 and the flat sage-covered lands.

Supplemental Values

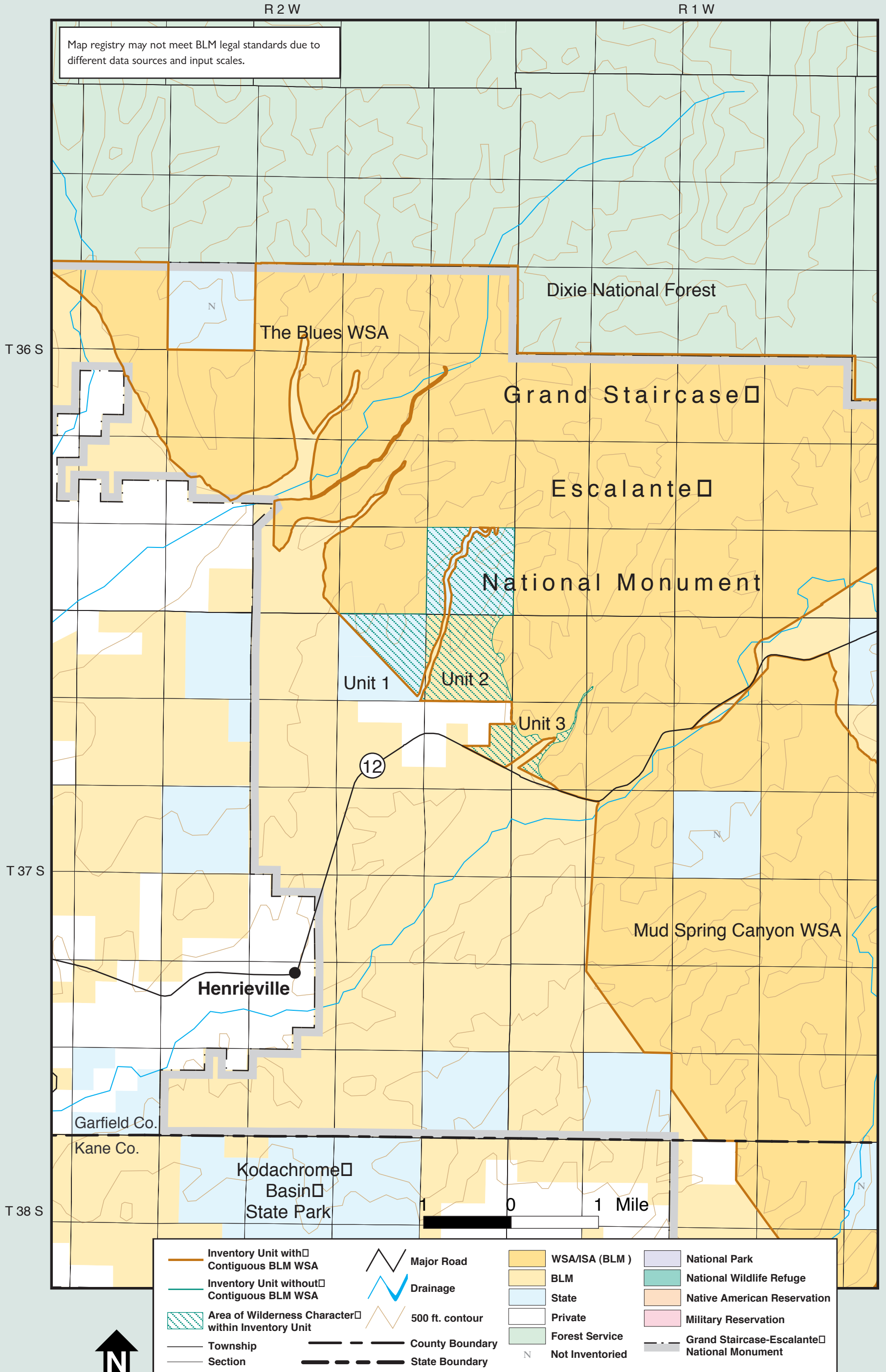
Inventory Units 1 and 2 contain small areas with interesting rock formations similar to Bryce Canyon. One small area exhibits "hoodoo"-like rock arrangements.

THE BLUES—Units 1 and 2, both contiguous to The Blues WSA, are separated by a cherry-stemmed road.



BLM photo

The Blues



Mud Spring Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
18,600	3,680	22,280 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
18,600	3,680	22,280
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Mud Spring Canyon WSA (UT-040-077)		38,075

All 22,280 acres of the Mud Spring Canyon inventory units are natural and roadless and retain their wilderness characteristics. The units contain areas of highly eroded badlands and large open spaces where their wilderness characteristics is enhanced by their remoteness. These inventory units each contribute to the wilderness characteristics and physiographic integrity of the contiguous Mud Spring Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA), containing comparable outstanding primitive recreation and solitude opportunities.

Unit Description

The four Mud Spring Canyon inventory units are located in north-central Kane County and south-central Garfield County, about 12 miles east of Cannonville. They lie within the Grand

Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The terrain varies from expansive flats and rolling hills to highly eroded badlands and rugged canyons. Vegetation on the northern unit is ponderosa pine, giving way to piñon and juniper forests mixed with open flats of grass and sage. The units are bounded by roads, the WSA boundary, and legal land boundaries.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The Mud Spring Canyon inventory units retain their natural character. These units are essentially pristine, and nearly devoid of human impacts. A few impacts—two vehicle ways, a seismic line, and a pack trail—were found to be substantially unnoticeable.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Unit 1 provides outstanding opportunities for solitude within the area's highly eroded badlands. Opportunities for solitude also occur in the expansive flats and rolling hills of this unit, where vegetative screening is provided by piñon and juniper forests that surround open parks in a remote setting. The remaining units contain rugged topography and vegetative screening that provide for outstanding opportunities for solitude. In addition, the

units are contiguous to the Mud Spring Canyon WSA, which also has outstanding opportunities. Each of these inventory units contains comparable outstanding solitude opportunities.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Portions of the four units offer the same outstanding opportunities for backpacking, horseback riding, hiking, sightseeing, and photography that exist in the contiguous Mud Spring Canyon WSA. These opportunities are reasonable extensions of those found within the WSA. The best opportunities for hiking and geologic sightseeing are experienced by traveling into the badlands north of Dog Flat in Units 1 and 4, and into the head of Headquarters Valley under the pink cliffs of Canaan Peak in Unit 3.

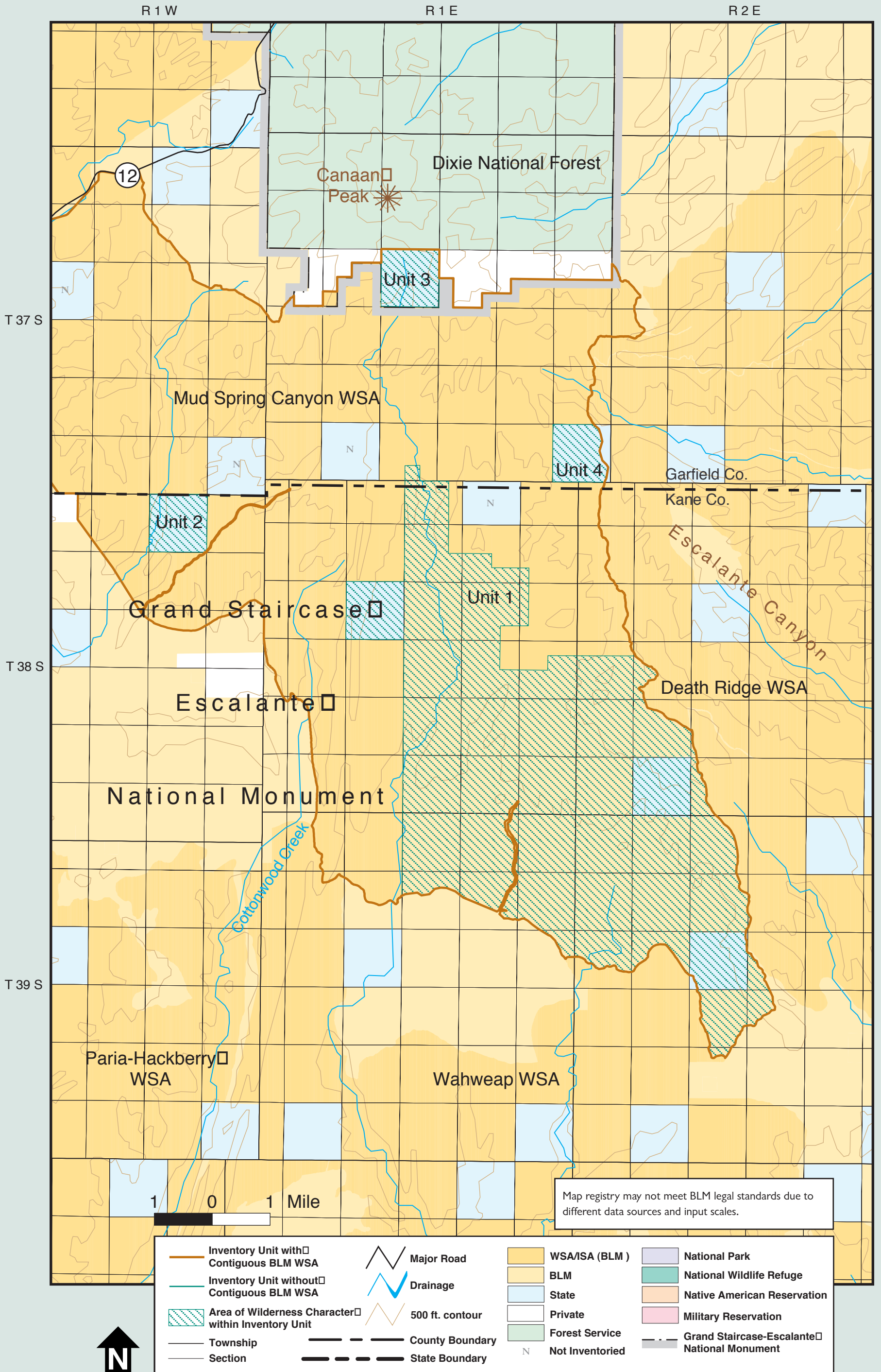
Supplemental Values

All of the main geologic structures of the Kaiparowits Plateau converge in the units and the adjacent WSA, providing visitors excellent opportunities for geologic study and sightseeing. The blue-gray clay rock layers of the Kaiparowits Formation form a series of erosional badlands in Units 1, 3, and 4. Spectacular views of Canaan Peak across the Mud Spring Canyon WSA, unimpeded by any indications of human presence, can be enjoyed throughout large parts of the four units. In some of these views, the pink cliffs in the peak are framed by the concave lines of a northward plunging syncline in the blue-gray rock layers of the Kaiparowits Formation.

MUD SPRING CANYON—A general view showing the inventory unit in the foreground; the Mud Spring Canyon WSA and the jagged sandstone ridge of The Cockscomb syncline are in the background.



Mud Spring Canyon



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	

The Cockscomb

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
500	900	1,400 (56%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
1,100	0	1,100 (44%)
Inventory Unit Total		
1,600	900	2,500
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
The Cockscomb WSA (UT-040-275)		10,080

Portions of Units 1 and 3 (1,400 acres) of The Cockscomb inventory units have wilderness characteristics. These areas contain extensions of the landforms and wilderness opportunities present in the contiguous The Cockscomb Wilderness Study Area (WSA). However, all of Unit 2 and small portions of Units 1 and 3 (1,100 acres) lack wilderness characteristics primarily because of a network of power lines and associated access routes.

The portions of Unit 1 and 3 with wilderness characteristics are roadless and natural. Unit 1 is a sagebrush flatland with small stair-step mesas that rise to join the geologic feature known as the Cockscomb, while Unit 3 contains a portion of the Cockscomb itself and a 1.5-mile reach of the Paria River. Both units provide opportunities for geological sightseeing, photography, and short day hikes into this area of particularly striking scenery and interesting geology. The Cockscomb, a prominent feature, is a craggy ridge of sandstone that is inaccessible except to foot traffic.

Unit Description

The Cockscomb inventory units are located in Kane County about 45 miles east of Kanab. All public lands in the area are within the BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Three individual tracts constitute the area under inventory, each of them contiguous to BLM's The Cockscomb WSA.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of Units 1 and 3 appear natural, although they have some evidence of human activity. The interior of Unit 1 contains one 0.3-mile vehicle way and a fence, both substantially unnoticeable. Along the highway, Unit 1 contains power lines, an associated maintenance route, two stock ponds, and a fence line, rendering a small area unnatural. Unit 3 is natural except for two power lines, their associated maintenance routes, and two faint vehicle ways (totaling 0.5 mile). The power line facilities render a small part of Unit 3 unnatural. All of Unit 2 is unnatural. It contains a route to private property, 0.7 mile of vehicle way, evidence of past mining, fences, a power line along Utah Highway 89, and old bulldozer blading scars. In addition, Unit 2 is separated from the WSA by a major power line and its associated maintenance route.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Outstanding opportunities for solitude exist in the canyons and on the mesas

within the roadless and natural portions of Units 1 and 3. Portions of the units are natural extensions of the canyons, dips, and swells contained within The Cockscomb WSA; all provide superb topographic screening.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The natural portions of Units 1 and 3 are natural extensions of the landforms within The Cockscomb WSA, and thus provide similar outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation. Visitors can explore the Paria River by foot or horseback. The Cockscomb is a stunning backdrop and formidable obstacle. It is a challenge to ascend to the top of the comb, but it can be achieved by rock scrambling or following a side canyon up to the summit. The view from the top is outstanding. Sightseeing, cultural site investigation, photography, nature study, day hiking, outdoor art work, bird watching, and other pursuits are possible, especially along the river and in at least two side canyons.

Supplemental Values

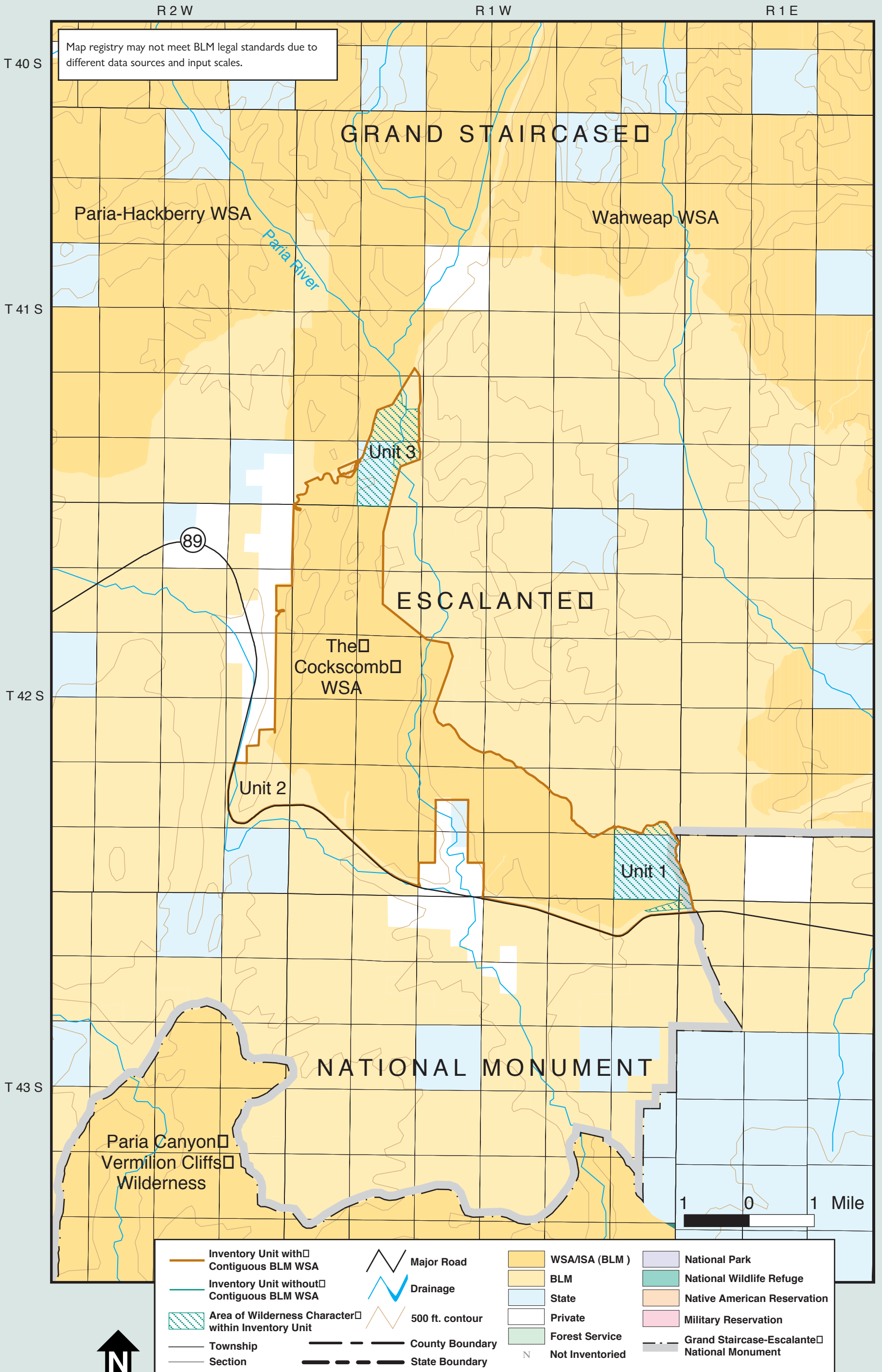
The Cockscomb—a spectacular, jagged sandstone ridge—traverses the area for several miles in a north-south direction. This red, tan, and yellow feature is impressive geologically, as well as scenically. It is of interest both to motorists traveling Utah Highway 89 and to backcountry enthusiasts, who scramble several hundred feet to the top to venture along the ridge line. Scattered piñon and juniper tenaciously find places to grow on the comb among the formations created by wind and water erosion.

THE COCKSCOMB—The Cockscomb (background—one-half mile distant) dominates the east side of Unit 3.



BLM photo

The Cockscomb



Wahweap-Death Ridge

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
34,230	10,320	44,550 (98%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
690	210	900 (2%)
Inventory Unit Total		
34,920	10,530	45,450
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Death Ridge WSA (UT-040-078)		62,870
Wahweap WSA (UT-040-248)		134,400

The findings for the Death Ridge inventory units and the Wahweap inventory units are being presented in one combined evaluation. The BLM's 1996 field inventories determined that the inventory units and the contiguous Death Ridge and Wahweap Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) actually represent an unbroken roadless block of land.

The Wahweap-Death Ridge inventory units include 19 separate inventory tracts on the Kaiparowits Plateau. These units surround the periphery of the Wahweap and Death Ridge WSAs. Most of the inventory units (44,550 acres) have wilderness characteristics. Inventory Unit 5, a pivotal tract containing lands separating the Wahweap WSA from the Death Ridge WSA, has wilderness characteristics. The two WSAs are not separated from each other or from Unit 5 by roads or other significant human intrusions. The 19 inventory units are natural geographic extensions of the contiguous lands within the Death Ridge and Wahweap WSAs. The units clearly represent legitimate and enhancing additions to the untamed landscapes found in the bordering WSAs. The outstanding solitude opportunities provided by the WSAs extend into the natural parts of the 19 units.

Approximately 900 acres in the units do lack wilderness characteristics because of chainings, graded roads, mineral exploration impacts, power lines, and vehicle routes receiving regular and continuous use.

Unit Description

The 19 Wahweap-Death Ridge inventory units are located in southern Garfield County and northern Kane County. Units 1, 2, 3, 4, 18, and 19 are contiguous to the Death Ridge WSA, while Units 6-17 are contiguous to the Wahweap WSA. Unit 5 is contiguous to both WSAs. All of the units are located within BLM's Grand

Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The terrain includes high-elevation benchland flats with steep and rugged drainages that lead into narrow, vertical-walled canyons. The vegetation is dense piñon and juniper woodland (with some ponderosa pine) on the high benchlands and desert shrub and grasslands at the lower elevations. Riparian vegetation is found in several creeks and canyons. The inventory unit boundaries are formed by land ownership, roads, and other human features.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the units retain their natural character. Several units, including the drainages at Drip Tank (Unit 6) and Nipple Spring (Unit 12), the segment of Cads Crotch along Cottonwood Canyon Road (Unit 15), and the section of state land at Horse Flat (Unit 17) appear completely natural and untouched by man. The Pilot Rock (Unit 7), Nipple Butte (Unit 10), and Trap Canyon (Unit 19) areas contain only insignificant vehicle ways and appear natural overall. Large natural areas several square miles in size are found on Squaw Bench and Caine Bench (Unit 5) and Long Flat (Unit 16). Initial aerial observation and photo interpretation revealed a web of linear mechanized disturbances. However, ground-truthing revealed that many of these impacts are single-pass bulldozer ways and drill pads created by past mineral exploration that are abandoned, revegetating, and substantially unnoticeable. Other vehicle ways are mostly unmaintained two-tracks to range developments, woodcutting sites, or scenic overlooks.

Portions of Units 1, 2, 4, 5, and 13 do lack naturalness because of mineral exploration impacts, power lines, and vehicle routes that receive regular and continuous use. Chained areas in Units 1, 2, 4, and 5 are also unnatural. However, human imprints in many of the inventory units are substantially unnoticeable because of the effects of erosion, natural revegetation, and nonuse. Six roads have been cherry-stemmed from Units 5, 11, 13, 16, and 17.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory units are contiguous to both the Wahweap WSA and the Death Ridge WSA, which possess outstanding solitude opportunities. These inventory

units increase the WSAs' size, improve their configuration, and offer a combination of topographic and vegetative screening that enhances the opportunities for solitude within the WSAs. All inventory units are extensions of the existing WSAs and provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. The remoteness of the area further enhances opportunities for seclusion and feelings of isolation. The inventory units containing lands within Paradise Canyon (Unit 5), Escalante Canyon (Units 3, 5, and 18), Trap Canyon (Unit 19), Cottonwood Canyon (Unit 15), Wesses Cove (Units 8 and 9), and East Clark Bench (Unit 14) provide the same landforms and outstanding opportunities for solitude that are within the contiguous WSAs. The ancient piñon and juniper woodlands of Fourmile Bench and Paradise Bench (Unit 5) provide dense vegetative screening.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

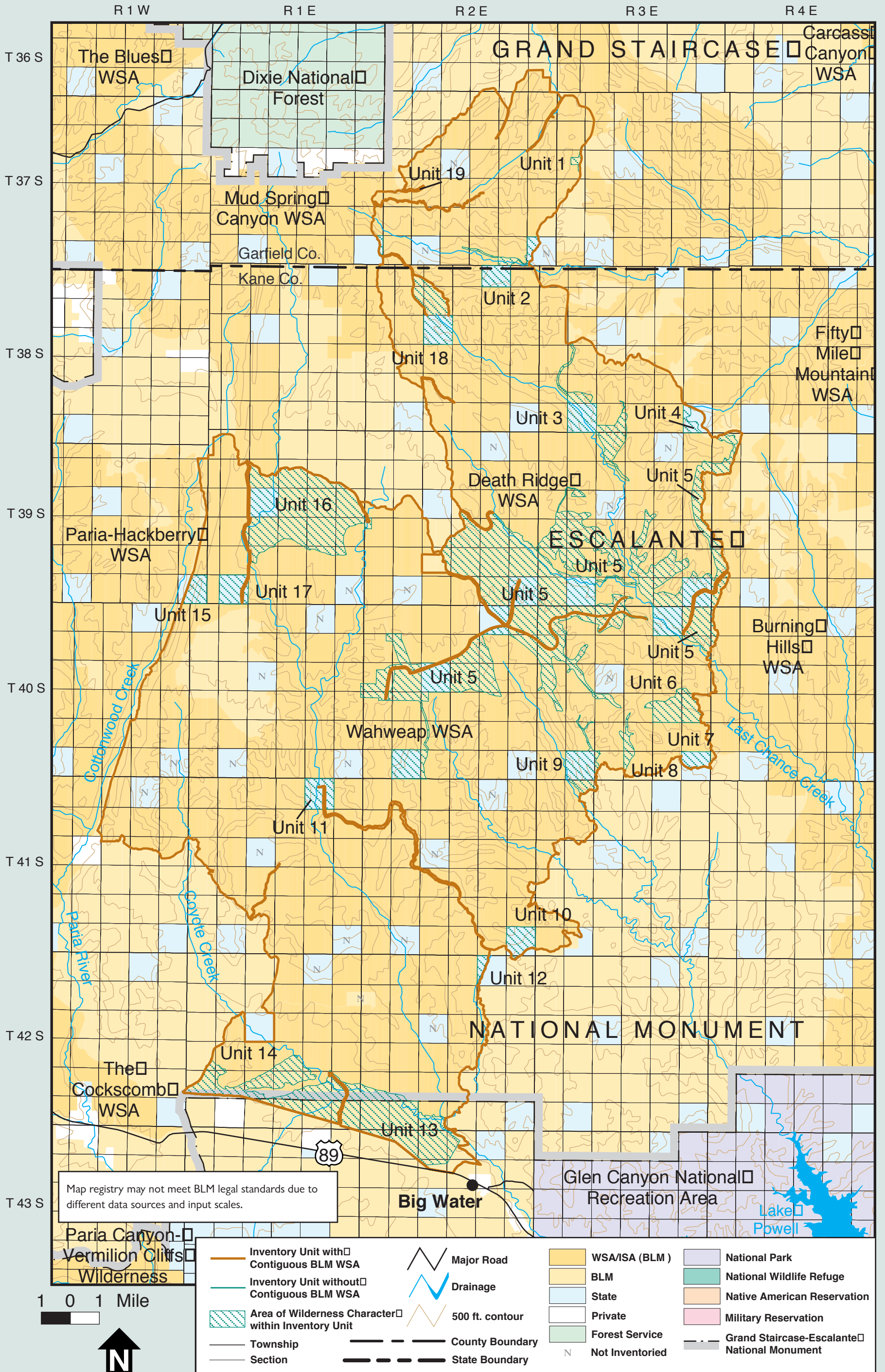
The two contiguous WSAs provide no identified outstanding primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities. Potential recreation opportunities in the inventory units include hiking, camping, backpacking, horseback riding, sightseeing, and photography. Opportunities are particularly noteworthy in Paradise Canyon and Petes Cove (Unit 5), Escalante Canyon (Units 3, 5, and 18), Wesses Cove (Units 8 and 9), and numerous other unnamed side canyons. Hiking and ecological study opportunities are available in the expansive piñon and juniper woodlands found on Fourmile Bench, Paradise Bench, and Squaw Bench, all in Unit 5.

Good opportunities for sightseeing and photography are found in the units containing the Cockscomb Ridge (Unit 15), the Little White Rock Canyon (Unit 14), the Trap Canyon narrows (Unit 19), the Nipple Butte standing rocks (Unit 10), the Pilot Rock (Unit 7), the Coyote Creek badlands (Units 13 and 14), Paradise Canyon (Unit 5), and Wahweap Canyon (Units 11 and 16).

Supplemental Values

Many of the units possess ecological, geological, scientific, and scenic values. Of particular interest are the 1,400-year old juniper trees located on Fourmile Bench and Squaw Bench (Unit 5). The diversity of plant life, ranging from desert shrub to ponderosa pine, and the abundance and variety of wildlife provide special opportunities for ecological study (Units 3, 6, 8, 9, 12, 17, and 18).

Wahweap-Death Ridge



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—Wahweap-Death Ridge

Nipple Bench

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
25,800	3,600	29,400 (99%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
200	10	210 (1%)
Inventory Unit Total		
26,000	3,610	29,610
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

The determination that most of the Nipple Bench inventory unit (29,400 acres) has wilderness characteristics was based upon its outstanding naturalness over most of its area. The canyon rims and open aspect of the unit offer spectacular vistas across steep-walled canyons over 1,000 feet deep. The unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude along the Nipple Bench rim and in two large canyon systems. Opportunities exist for hiking, camping, geologic sightseeing and photography, walks on the Nipple Bench rim, and the viewing of Lake Powell from several points. Taken together, these primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities are outstanding. Two minor areas of the unit (210 acres) lack wilderness characteristics. One portion is near the central area of Nipple Bench, while the other is near the northwest tip of the unit. The cumulative effect of range management developments and stock water structures makes these areas unnatural. Three cherry-stemmed roads penetrate the unit.

Unit Description

The unit is located approximately 60 miles east of Kanab and 20 miles northwest of Page, Arizona, in eastern Kane County. It is within the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, with a large plateau, Nipple Bench, dominating the unit's center. This bench lies between the Kaiparowits Plateau to the north and eroded badlands to the south. Nipple Bench is divided by deeply cut canyons separating Haycock Point, Mustard Point, Middle Warm Creek Point, and Baldwin Hollow; each of these points provides striking overviews of Lake Powell to the southeast. The vegetation is a predominantly piñon and juniper woodland on the north end of Nipple Bench, with sagebrush and other high desert shrubs and grasses on the remainder of the bench. The lower canyons and badlands are nearly barren of plants. Current land uses include livestock management and driving various roads and jeep trails to scenic overlooks. Some hunting also occurs.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the unit retains its natural character. There are 19 vehicle ways totaling 14.6 miles, two off-road vehicle play areas, and four fences, but all of these are substantially unnoticeable in the area as a whole. Many of the vehicle ways are a result of one-time mineral exploration ventures and ongoing grazing management. The vehicle ways associated with mineral exploration extend to drill holes on the Nipple Bench plateau. However, these routes are not maintained and have been naturally reclaiming, and the drill holes are no longer noticeable. The four livestock fences total 2.4 miles. There are two off-highway vehicle (OHV) play areas located on the southern and western boundaries. These two sites consist primarily of clay soils, so wind and rain obliterate OHV tracks in a short period of time. Two small parts of the unit were found to be unnatural because of a collection of livestock management facilities and associated roads. A pipeline, trough, water catchment apron, and several salting sites are located along roads and vehicle ways that extend through the central portion of Nipple Bench.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude, but only in three locations. The large canyon between Haycock Point and Mustard Point and the area called Baldwin Hollow both provide outstanding opportunities because of their size and topographic complexity. High canyon

NIPPLE BENCH—Canyons on the south side of the unit cut into the Nipple Bench plateau, offering access for some of the area's best hiking opportunities.



walls screen visitors from others. The canyon rims along Nipple Bench also provide outstanding solitude when the visitor is distanced from the frequently visited overlooks and roads. Expansive views intensify the feeling of isolation from human activity. However, the unit does not provide outstanding opportunities for solitude elsewhere.

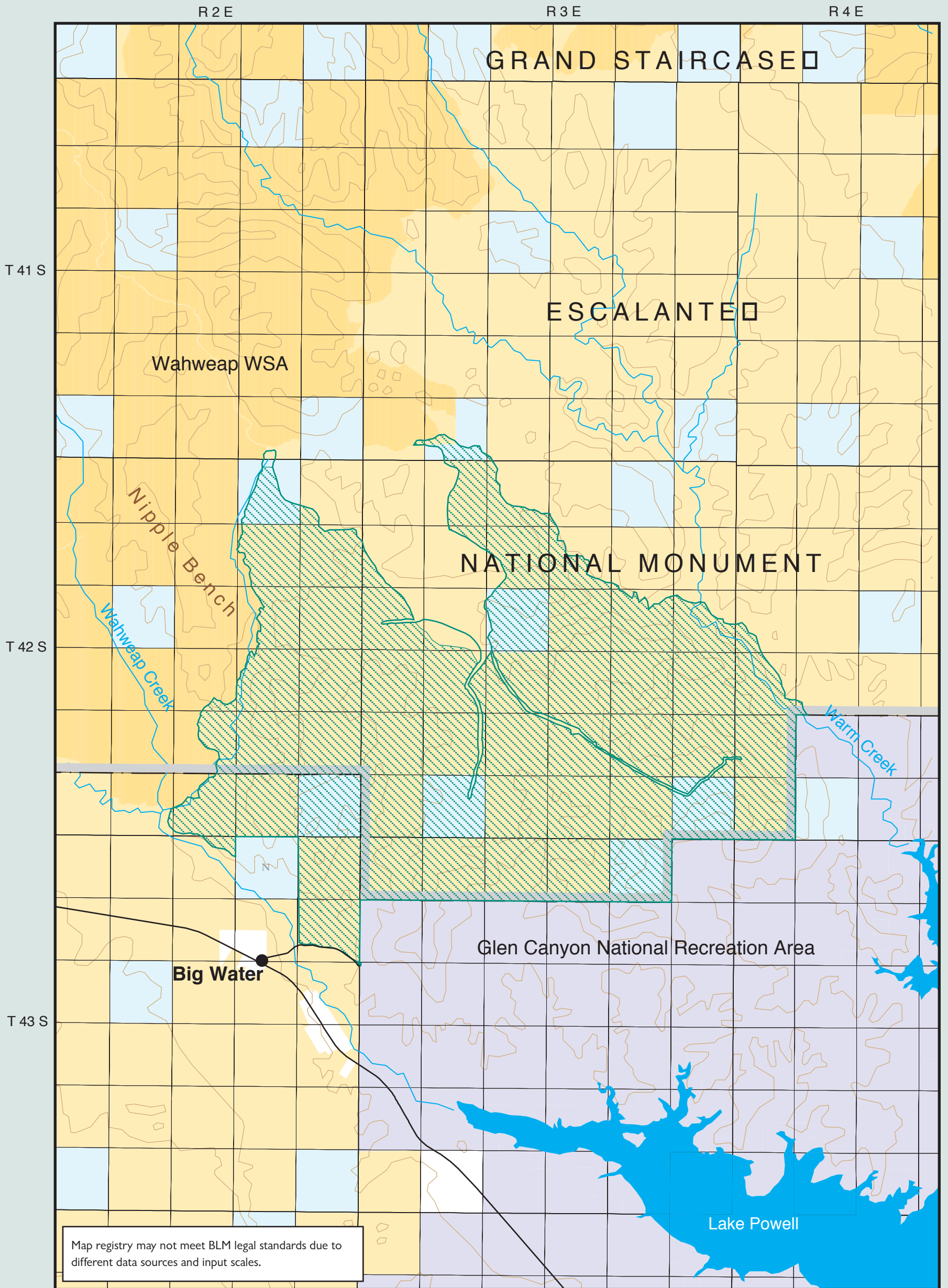
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Opportunities exist for hiking, camping, sightseeing, and photography. Hiking opportunities along the rim of Nipple Bench offer visitors days of splendid and uninterrupted views of the upper canyons within the unit as well as awe-inspiring views of Lake Powell outside the unit. There are also views of Four Mile Bench and the southern portion of the Kaiparowits Plateau, Wahweap Creek, and the Wahweap and Burning Hills Wilderness Study Areas. Hiking opportunities are outstanding in the large canyon between Haycock Point and Mustard Point. However, hiking opportunities are not outstanding in the unit's other canyons, which are short and open.

Supplemental Values

Spectacular views of Lake Powell can be enjoyed from Mustard Point and along the entire southern part of the unit. Views of Four Mile Bench, Smoky Mountain, Navajo Mountain, and the canyon areas of Tippet Bench and Squaw Canyon are also excellent. Archaeological sites from the Anazazi period may be found within the unit. Researchers from the Museum of Northern Arizona have found significant examples of fossilized plants and such vertebrates as turtles, dinosaurs, and crocodiles.

Nipple Bench



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

1 0 1 Mile



Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	

Coyote Creek

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
9,600	640	10,240 (100%)
Inventory Unit Total		
9,600	640	10,240
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

None of the 10,240-acre Coyote Creek inventory unit has wilderness characteristics. Although the unit contains opportunities for solitude, the quality of these opportunities is not considered outstanding because of the lack of topographic variety and vegetative screening. Likewise, the opportunities for primitive or unconfined recreation are not outstanding because of the lack of challenge, diversity, and quality for any potential hiking, backpacking, and sightseeing endeavors.

In contrast to the evidence of grazing developments scattered around the boundary, the interior is pristine. However, despite this natural character, the opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined types of recreation in the pristine portion were not sufficiently outstanding to result in a finding of wilderness characteristics.

Unit Description

The Coyote Creek inventory unit is located in south central Kane County about 35 miles east of Kanab. It consists of public land, except for one state section, and is located within BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The unit lies on the Kaiparowits Plateau and contains parts of Brigham Plains and Jack Riggs Bench, lower benchlands north of the Wiggle Rim, and about three miles of the Coyote Creek drainage. Upland vegetation in the north is scattered piñon and juniper woodland. Sparse sage and grassland shrubs grow on the lower benchlands, while clay soils are found in the south.

Evidence of grazing developments is scattered around the unit, mostly along the boundary. However, the interior is pristine. The unit receives little recreation use.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The unit retains much of its natural character, given the near absence of human impacts. Human impacts include three stock ponds and 0.6 mile of associated vehicle ways, two fence lines totaling 2.1 miles, and an unused 1.2 mile vehicle way into the unit's southwest side. The remainder of the interior is free of any human impacts.

Three small areas on the edge were found to be unnatural. Two of these areas contained stock ponds adjacent to the west boundary. The cumulative effects of several grazing developments, centered around a stock pond and related access at the south end of the unit, were considered substantially noticeable. A well-used vehicle way to a stock pond facility has been cherry-stemmed from the southwest portion of the unit.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

While opportunities for solitude occur within the unit due to its remote location, these opportunities are not outstanding. The benchlands within the unit are relatively open and flat, with only low sage or scattered piñon and juniper cover. Solitude opportunities in the canyon systems are limited by the relatively small tributaries and open aspect of the drainages. The lower elevations have no vegetative screening.

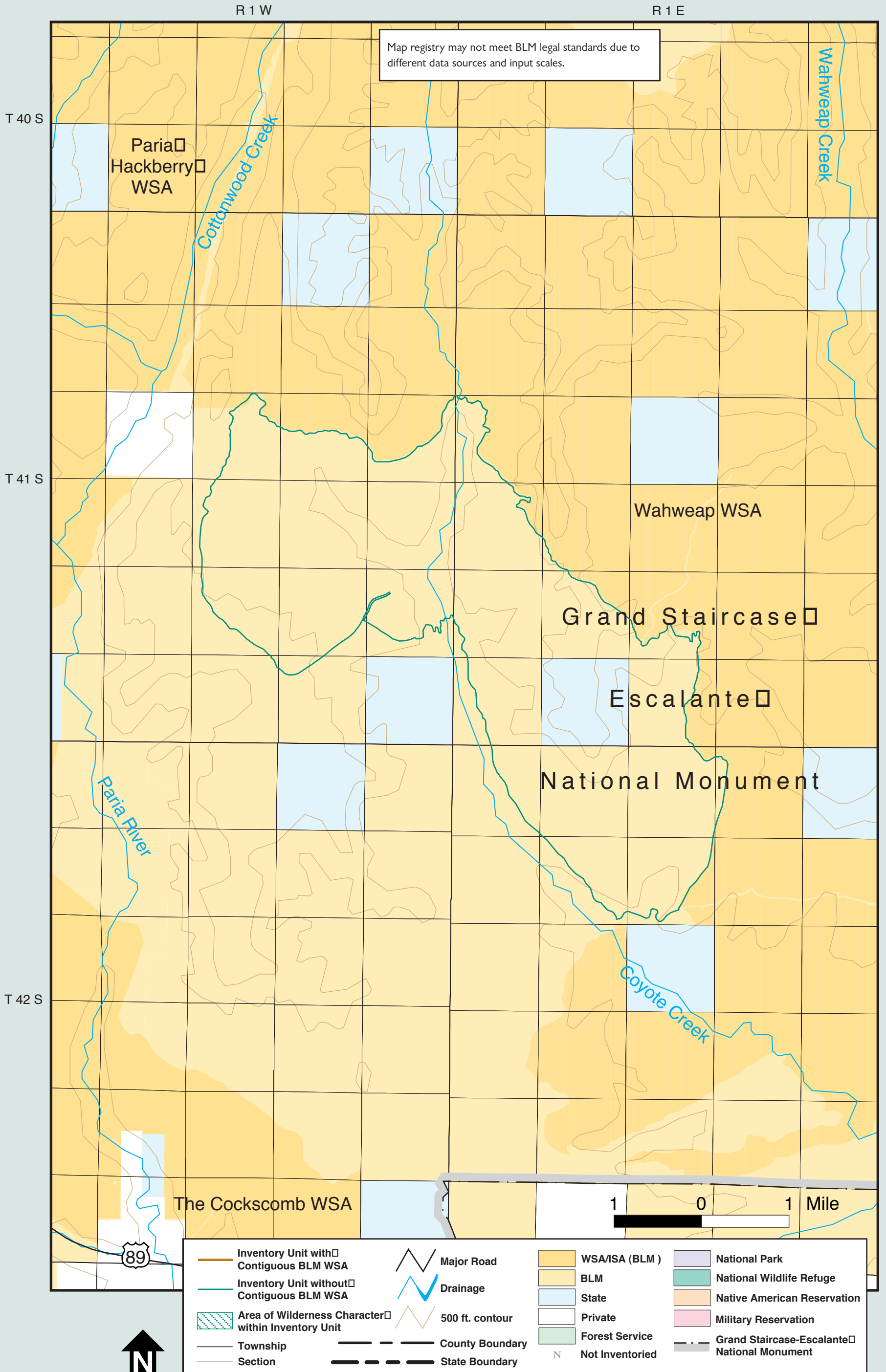
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Some opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including day hiking, overnight backpacking, and geologic sightseeing, are available, but these opportunities are not considered outstanding. They were found to be less than outstanding because of the lack of quality, challenge, and variety. Primitive recreation opportunities, primarily hiking, can be found in the canyon and associated tributaries of Coyote Creek, representing about seven miles of the canyon system. However, primitive recreation opportunities on the upland benches and open southern landscapes are considered meager.

Supplemental Values

The Coyote Creek inventory unit includes rocks of Cretaceous age. These rock elements are known to contain paleontological values that are found throughout the Kaiparowits Plateau.

Coyote Creek



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—Coyote Creek

Warm Creek

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
21,000	2,700	23,700 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
21,000	2,700	23,700
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

The entire Warm Creek inventory unit (23,700 acres) has wilderness characteristics and is primarily natural in appearance. The terrain provides visitors with outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. The benches open to panoramas of canyons that are over 500 feet deep. Tibbet Canyon, John Henry Canyon, and the Wesses Canyon in the core of the unit are colorful and steep-walled, with scenic eroded mudstones and sandstones. Several locations within the unit contain some evidence of past minor mineral exploration and current range management activity. However, most of the mineral-related workings and vehicle ways are no longer in use, and all are returning to a natural condition.

Unit Description

The unit is located approximately 60 miles east of Kanab and 25 miles northwest of Page, Arizona. It is part of the Kaiparowits Plateau within the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The unit consists of three benches—Tibbet Bench, John Henry Bench, and Spring Point--that are separated by three deep canyons: Tibbet Canyon, John Henry Canyon, and the Wesses Canyon complex.

The vegetation is predominantly piñon and juniper woodland on the north end of John Henry Bench and across the northern region of the unit to Spring Point above Smoky Hollow. Scattered cottonwoods and tamarisk can be found in the canyon bottoms. Other vegetative communities include high-desert grasses and shrubs such as sagebrush, fourwing saltbush, and shadscale. The area is currently used for mineral exploration and sightseeing. The unit and surrounding areas have abundant coal reserves.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the unit retains its natural character; evidence of human activity is substantially unnoticeable. Some surface disturbance has occurred in the form of mineral exploration and range developments. However, the range developments are insignificant; all major facilities are located next to roads and are outside the unit. The unit does contain the Andalex Coal Mining Lease, located in an unnamed tributary of Smoky Hollow. However, access to the mining portal has washed out and is not even visible in places. Four roads leading to range facilities have been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

Two types of vehicle ways are present: routes that were not bladed and routes that received unauthorized blading in September 1996. The 12 vehicle ways in the first category total about 9.0 miles. About 3.6 miles receive no use, while the rest of the vehicle ways are occasionally traveled. Mineral exploration routes extend to drill holes throughout the various bench areas. These vehicle ways are not maintained, are generally impassable, and are being naturally reclaimed. The drill holes are no longer noticeable to visitors.

About 12.2 miles of seven vehicle ways above Dirty Devil and on Spring Point Bench received unauthorized mechanical blading by Kane County in September 1996. These routes had been constructed for mineral exploration, but at the time of the blading they were overgrown with vegetation, were no longer being maintained, and did not receive regular and continuous use. The unauthorized blading did not alter these basic conditions. The routes could be restored to a more natural-appearing condition with mechanical reclamation or through natural weathering processes.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude, especially within the canyons. The long and sinuous portions of John Henry and Wesses Canyons can effectively screen and separate visitors. The canyon complex and tributaries of Wesses, Dirty Devil, and Stony Point stretch over 20 miles. Visitors have plenty of opportunities to seek a secluded spot in this rugged, remote, and seldom-visited locale. The piñon and juniper woodlands along the top of Spring Point and the northern part of John Henry Bench provide screening between visitors in the benchland areas.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Outstanding opportunities exist for hiking, camping, geologic sightseeing, and photography. Hiking and backpacking opportunities are outstanding in the two major canyon systems: John Henry Canyon and the Wesses/Stony Point/Dirty Devil Complex. About 27 miles of main and tributary canyon hiking are available for visitors who enjoy untrammelled hiking and backpacking through seldom-visited canyons. There are a vast number of route opportunities, and the geology of the Cretaceous Straight Cliffs Formation is interesting to view and study.

Supplemental Values

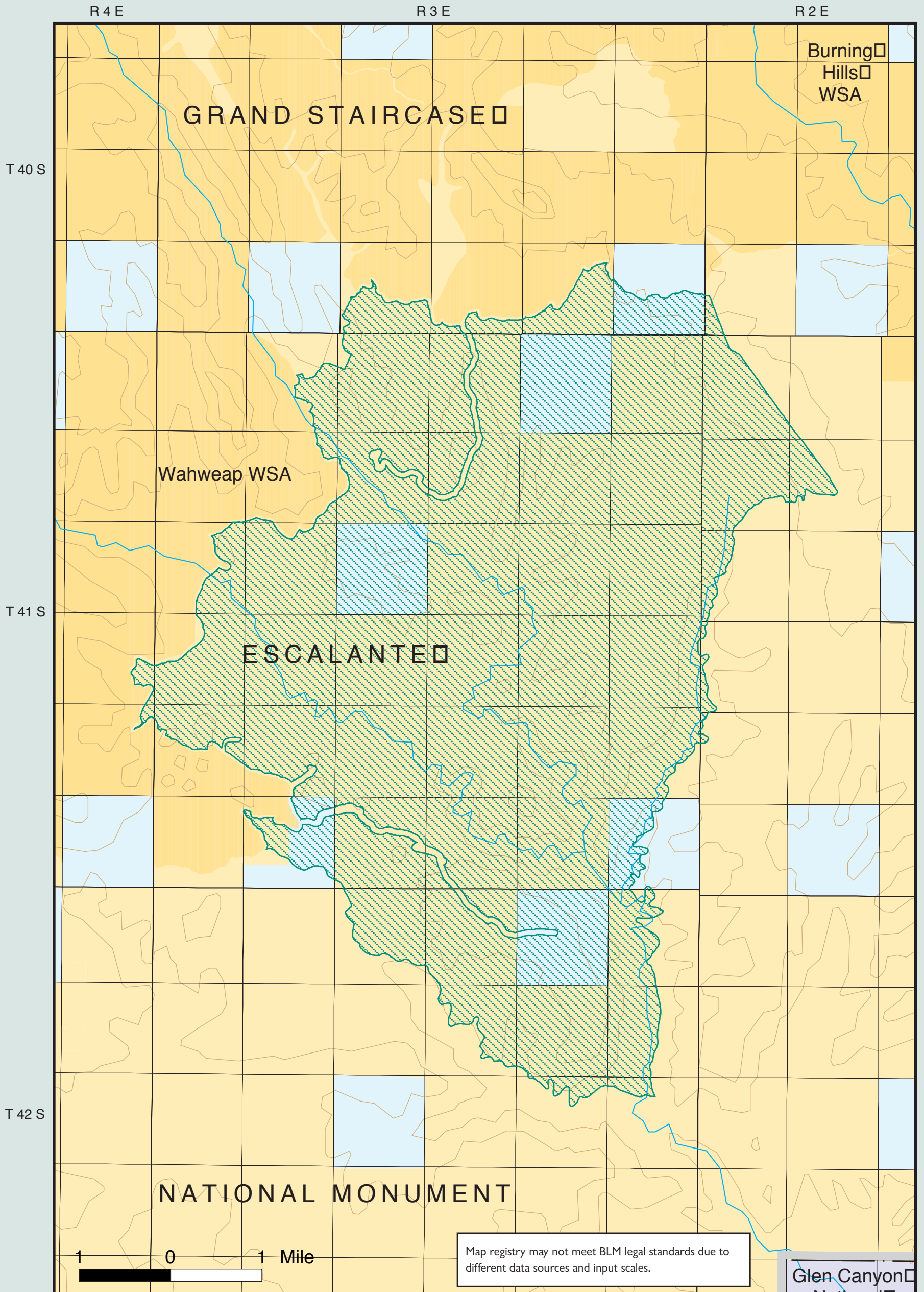
The unit contains spectacular scenic views, interesting geologic features (such as petrified wood), and significant archeological and paleontological artifacts and fossils. Spectacular views of the Kaiparowits Plateau can be enjoyed from Tibbet Bench, John Henry Bench, and Spring Point. Archeological sites from the Anazazi period may be found in the area.

WARM CREEK—A road separates the Warm Creek inventory unit on the right from the Nipple Bench unit.



Jerry Sintz

Warm Creek



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	



Squaw Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
12,800	1,900	14,700 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
12,800	1,900	14,700
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

The entire 14,700-acre Squaw Canyon inventory unit has wilderness characteristics. The mesa, cliffs, and inner canyons of the unit provide outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. The smoky-grey shale of lower badlands formations provides a dramatic scenic contrast to tall carved faces of tan sandstone pillars, buttes, and cliffs.

Several locations within the unit contain minor evidence of human activity, mainly livestock fences and vehicle ways, but these are substantially unnoticeable. Eight roads and vehicle ways have been cherry-stemmed from the unit or excluded by boundary modification. Most of these routes go to scenic overlooks of Squaw Canyon. Four of the excluded roads/ways are located along the northeast boundary.

Unit Description

The Squaw Canyon inventory unit is located near the eastern boundary of Kane County about 60 miles east of Kanab and 30 miles northwest of Page, Arizona. The unit follows the southern portion of the Kaiparowits Plateau and is within BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The unit contains three distinct geographic areas: the flat mesa-plateau tops associated with Smoky Mountain; rocky sandstone rims, benches, and deep canyons radiating from Squaw Canyon; and lower-elevation badlands, rolling hills, and washes. The unit's namesake, Squaw Canyon, is a large canyon in the center of the unit.

Sparse high desert shrubs such as blackbrush and ephedra cover the badlands and lower portions of the cliff formations. A scattered piñon and juniper woodland is predominant in the higher elevations, drainages, and mesa tops. Little human use is apparent in the unit, although evidence of mineral exploration and recreation can be found, especially in the northern region.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The Squaw Canyon inventory unit has natural character. Several locations within the unit contain minor evidence of recreational and mining activity and livestock grazing (livestock fences), but these features are substantially unnoticeable. Impacts associated with mineral exploration consist of two faint nonmaintained vehicular ways. One vehicle way is visible from the rim overlooking Kelly Grade, but this vehicle way is no longer accessible to vehicle traffic and is being reclaimed naturally. The second vehicle way is visible at ground level only by identifying the shoulder berms. Although originally constructed, these vehicle ways are largely unnoticeable on the ground and are gradually disappearing because of non-use, lack of maintenance, and natural erosional processes.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. There are many secluded areas in this diverse array of canyons and washes. Numerous high-walled side canyons radiating from Squaw Canyon provide screening and separation for visitors. The sense of isolation is reinforced by the difficult trek required to reach many of these tributary canyons. Visitors have to meander cross-country some distance by foot or horseback to reach Squaw Canyon's diverse drainage system. This factor limits the possibility of visitor-to-

visitor encounters in the central portion of the unit. The unit's size and blocked shape (averaging six miles by five miles) also contribute to solitude opportunities. Satisfactory screening is provided by the scattered piñon and juniper woodlands on the upper mesas and plateaus, ensuring solitude for visitors in these locales.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation are outstanding. Eroding vehicle ways and washes provide a natural trail system leading to many of the side canyons. Hikers can spend a great deal of time venturing through Squaw Canyon and its numerous tributary canyons. The colorful shale and erosional clay soils of the badlands provide outstanding photographic opportunities. Scenic vistas along the rim above Squaw Canyon provide a miniature "Grand Canyon" impression on visitors. The variety of canyon, plateau, and mesa landforms is outstanding; the area's rugged sandstone cliffs, deep canyons, and miles of canyon rims and plateaus provide fine sightseeing opportunities.

Supplemental Values

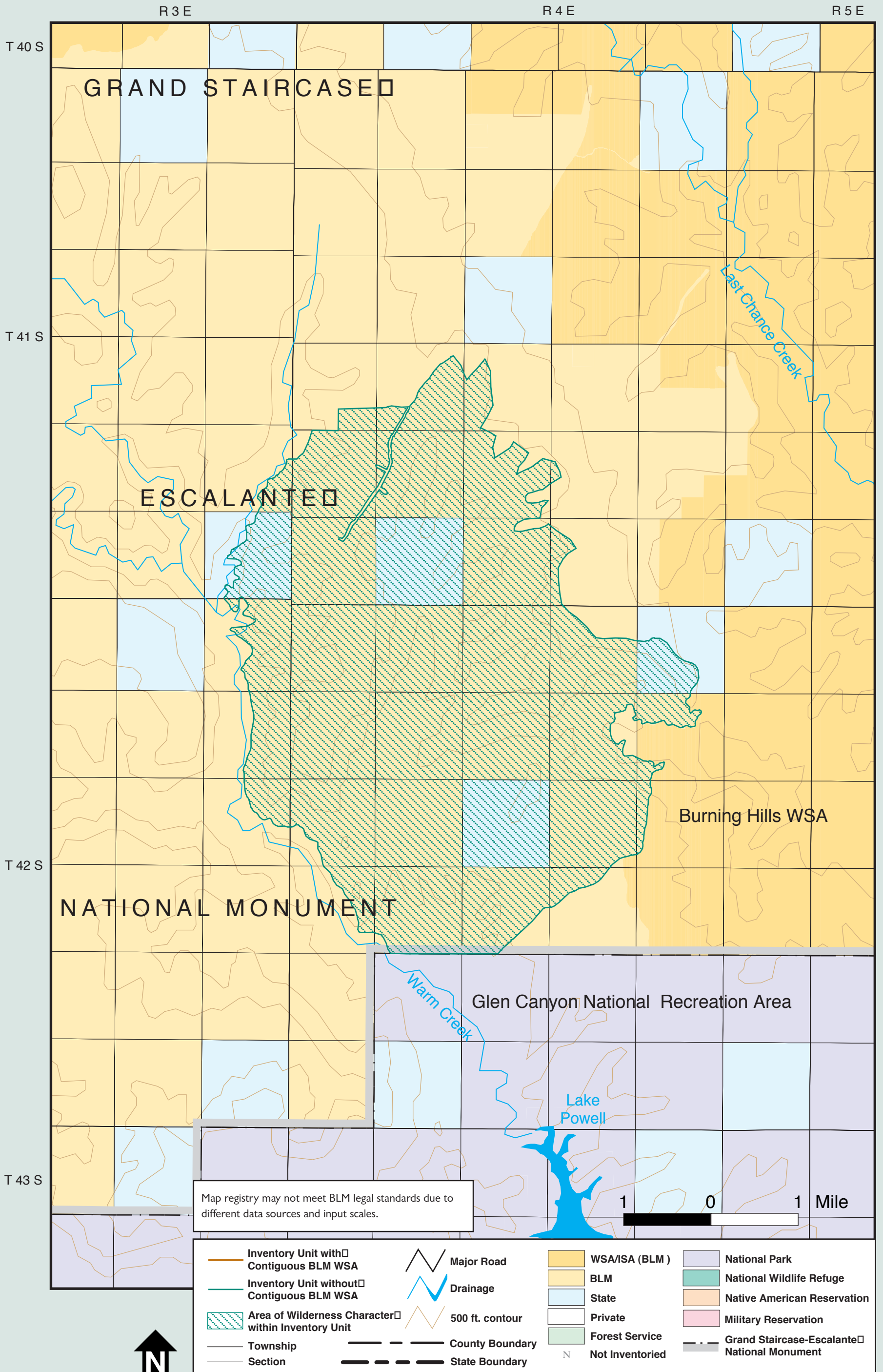
Sweeping and picturesque scenic views to the south, east, and west can be enjoyed from the canyon rims above Squaw Canyon, including vistas of Lake Powell, Navajo Mountain, and a miniature "Grand Canyon" view to the west toward Smoky Hollow and Tibbet Bench. Interior vistas are also superb. The area's rugged sandstone cliffs and deep canyons, coupled with its convoluted canyon rims and plateaus, provide spacious views of natural rocky canyons. In lower elevations, giant cliff faces stand above a sea of gray shale badlands.

SQUAW CANYON—The smoky-grey shale of lower badlands formations provides a dramatic scenic contrast to the tall, carved faces of sandstone pillars, buttes, and cliffs.



Jerry Sintz

Squaw Canyon



Burning Hills

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
8,690	3,980	12,670 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
8,690	3,980	12,670
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Burning Hills WSA (UT-040-079)		61,550

The thirteen Burning Hills inventory units surround the Burning Hills Wilderness Study Area (WSA) located on the Kaiparowits Plateau. All of the inventory units (12,670 acres) have wilderness characteristics, are roadless and natural, and are contiguous to the larger Burning Hills WSA. The outstanding opportunities for solitude found within the WSA extend to the units. Many of the units also have supplemental features, including natural coal fires with their associated colorations, deep rocky canyons, scenic geologic formations, and scenic overlooks.

The boundaries of the inventory units have been drawn to eliminate graded roads, mineral exploration impacts, coal fire rehabilitation impacts, and vehicle routes receiving regular and continuous use.

Unit Description

The Burning Hills inventory units are located in southeastern Kane County about 30 miles south of Escalante. They are entirely within BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

The terrain is characterized by undulating benchlands with scenic overlooks into steep and rugged drainages and canyons. The high-elevation benchlands are covered with dense piñon and juniper forests, while the lower elevations contain desert shrubs, grasslands, and some riparian vegetation in the creeks and canyons.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The Burning Hills inventory units retain their natural character. Units 5 and 6 appear completely natural and untouched by human activity. Eight of the inventory units appear natural but contain some substantially unnoticeable evidence of past human activity, including 25 vehicle ways totaling 23.5 miles and eight drill pads. Most of the vehicle ways are from mineral exploration, seismic lines, and recreational access to woodcutting sites. Extensive ground-truthing revealed that most of these have been abandoned, are revegetating, and are substantially unnoticeable. The single-pass bulldozer routes found on Window Sash Bench, Burning Hills, Smoky Mountain, and elsewhere are rapidly being reclaimed because of non-use and natural erosion processes.

Boundaries of seven inventory units have been drawn to eliminate substantially noticeable disturbances, including graded roads, mineral exploration impacts, coal fire rehabilitation impacts, and vehicle routes receiving regular and continuous use. The road on Window Sash Bench (Unit 2), the road spurs in the Burning Hills (Unit 4), the scenic overlook road and coal fire access road (Units 7 and 8), the Shute Bench and Needle Eye Water roads (Unit 9), and the roads on Dry Bench (Unit 11) and at Petes Cove (Unit 12) have been cherry-stemmed from the inventory units.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory units are contiguous to the Burning Hills WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for solitude. They increase the size and improve the configuration of this WSA, as well as having a combination of topographic and vegetative screening that greatly enhances prevailing opportunities for solitude within the WSA. The inventory units containing lands located on Window Sash Bench (Units 1, 2), on the Burning Hills (Units 3, 4, 5, 6), on

Smoky Mountain bench (Units 7, 8, 9), in Whities and Needle Eye Canyons (Unit 9), along Last Chance Creek (Unit 10), in Dry Wash (Unit 11), and at Petes Cove (Units 12, 13) possess the same outstanding opportunities for solitude as the adjacent landscapes within the neighboring WSA.

The piñon/juniper forests on the benches provide sufficient vegetative screening to separate users and create a feeling of seclusion. The topographic relief found in the canyons and deep drainages, along with the area's remoteness and natural quietness, further intensify the feeling of isolation from humans and their activities.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory units are contiguous to the Burning Hills WSA, which has no identified outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. However, opportunities for hiking, camping, backpacking, and horseback riding can be found in nearly all of the units.

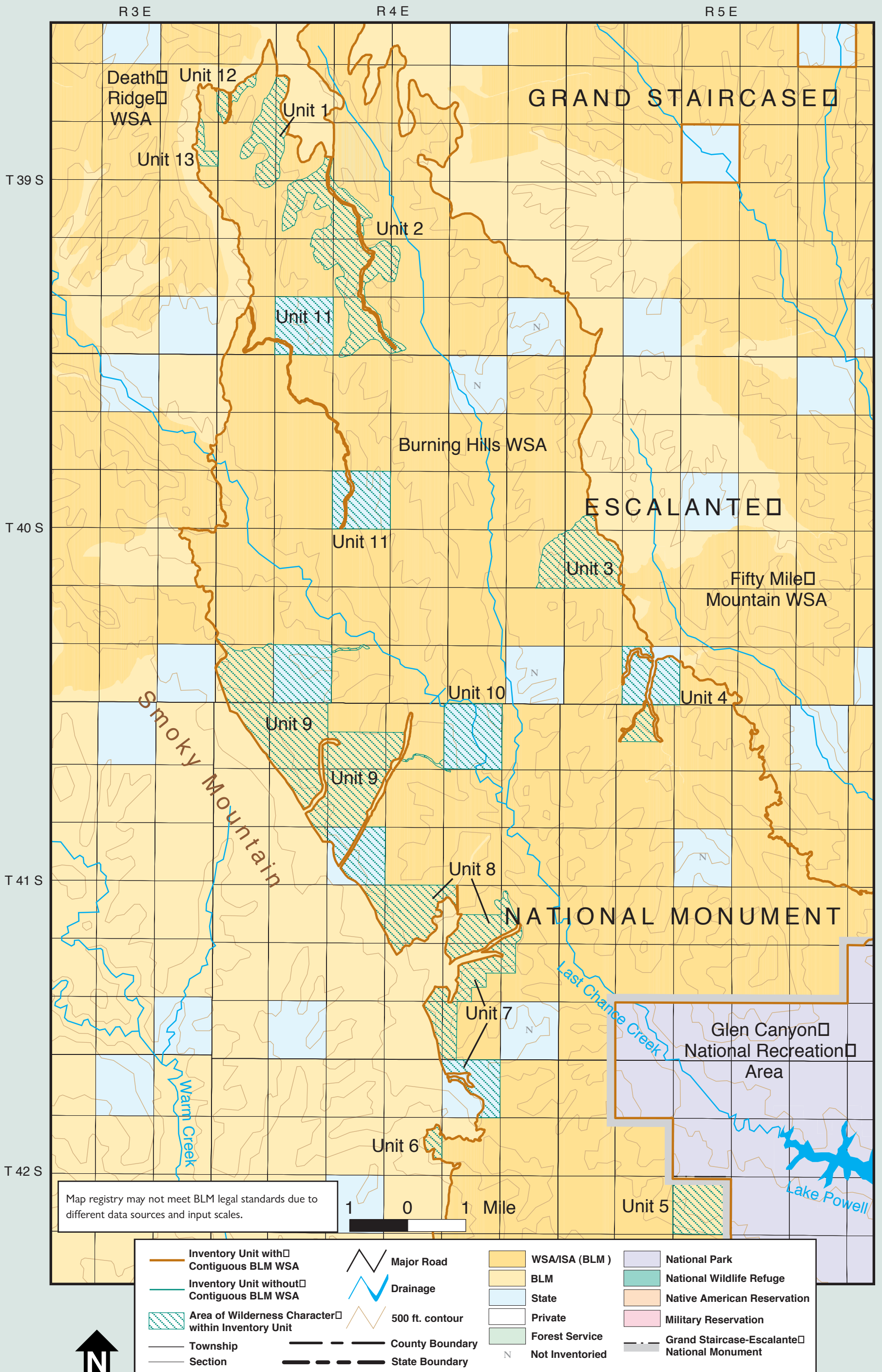
Hiking and ecological study opportunities are good in the expansive piñon/juniper forests found on Window Sash Bench (Units 1, 2, 3), in the canyons of Whities Canyon (Unit 9) and Last Chance Creek (Unit 10), and in the drainage of Dry Wash (Unit 11). In addition, opportunities for sightseeing and photography can be found in seven inventory units (2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and 12).

Supplemental Values

Nearly all of the inventory units possess at least one or more ecological, geological, scientific or scenic values. There are opportunities for ecological study of piñon/juniper forests and their associated wildlife on Window Sash Bench (Units 1, 2, 3).

The units with special geologic and scientific study opportunities include those with the visually striking red colorations caused by naturally occurring coal fires and associated with the deep rocky canyons (Units 5, 7, 8, 10, 11). Several of the units contain particularly scenic geologic formations or overlooks with scenic views (Units 4, 6, 9, 10, 11).

Burning Hills



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—Burning Hills

Fiftymile Mountain

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
27,410	4,470	31,880 (87%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
4,100	500	4,600 (13%)
Inventory Unit Total		
31,510	4,970	36,480
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Fifty Mile Mountain WSA (UT-040-080)		146,143

About 31,880 acres of the nine Fiftymile Mountain inventory units have wilderness characteristics; specifically, Units 1-6 and 9 have wilderness characteristics. However, portions of Units 7 and 8 (4,600 acres) are lacking in wilderness characteristics. The areas with wilderness characteristics appear primarily natural and provide visitors with outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. These areas also enhance the natural integrity of the landforms and resource values within the contiguous Fifty Mile Mountain Wilderness Study Area (WSA). In addition to their wilderness attributes, the units have scenic, historic, and archaeological values.

Unit Description

The units are located almost entirely within Kane County, although most of Unit 7 extends into southern Garfield County. The topography and vegetation within the units are extremely varied since the units are on the periphery of the vast Fifty Mile Mountain WSA. The western units are in the south-central portion of the Kaiparowits Plateau and are characterized by vegetation that ranges from the cactus, yucca, and blackbrush typical of the northern Mojave Desert, to piñon and juniper woodland and ponderosa pine forest. Riparian vegetation is found in the labyrinthine canyons. The eastern units consist primarily of sagebrush, blackbrush and grasslands. Juniper trees are sparsely distributed throughout these benchlands, while occasional thick stands of piñon and juniper lie near the eastern WSA boundary.

The western Units (1-6) are geological continuations of the principal canyons represented in the contiguous WSA, including both the upper headwaters and tributaries. On the other hand, the sagebrush benchlands of the eastern Units (7-9) that lie beneath the striking eastern face of Fiftymile Mountain and the Straight Cliffs represent landscapes not contained in the WSA.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the units retain their natural character. Units 1, 2, and 5 are nearly pristine, while Units 3, 4, 6, 7, and 9 are mostly natural and pristine in portions. Evidence of human impacts on the western Units (1-6) is limited to those caused by previous exploration for coal, oil, and gas; these disturbances are now largely rehabilitated and returning to a natural appearance. Vehicle ways associated with mineral exploration, range activities, recreation, and woodcutting have been documented in some units, along with unauthorized blading of vehicle routes. Units 7, 8, and 9 on the eastern side of the Fifty Mile Mountain WSA also retain most of their natural character, although there is evidence of extensive grazing activities, especially in Unit 8, and seismic lines, along with associated roads and vehicle way access. Cattle grazing is perhaps the most apparent impact in these units, with its attendant fencing, earthen stock ponds, salt locations, pipelines, and supplemental feed locations. Other human impacts include old seismic lines that are mostly overgrown by vegetation and some lightly used vehicle ways.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The western Units (1-6) have the same combination of topographic and vegetative screening and relative isolation from human activity that provide outstanding opportunities for solitude in the contiguous Fifty Mile Mountain WSA. Units 3 and 6, in particular, provide outstanding solitude opportunities because of dense woodlands, deep canyons, and rugged uplands. The eastern units, including the Black

Ridge and Batty Pass areas, also provide an extension of the solitude opportunities found in the contiguous WSA. Although the landscapes of Units 7, 8, and 9 are open, with less topographic and vegetative screening, the units front the expansive and dramatic eastern face of Fiftymile Mountain and the Straight Cliffs, evoking feelings of isolation.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The western Units (1-6) offer outstanding opportunities for hiking, backpacking, hunting, horseback riding, photography, and sightseeing similar to those found in the adjacent Fifty Mile Mountain WSA. The same landscapes and associated outstanding opportunities in the WSA extend into these contiguous units. The eastern Units (7-9) are sagebrush benchlands with scattered juniper woodlands; these landscapes are less rugged and more open. The primitive recreation opportunities here are both individually and as a group less diverse and less challenging than those afforded within the Fifty Mile Mountain WSA. Three unquestionably outstanding opportunities exist in all three units—photography, geologic study, and viewing the abrupt rise of the Fiftymile Mountain and Straight Cliffs escarpments.

Supplemental Values

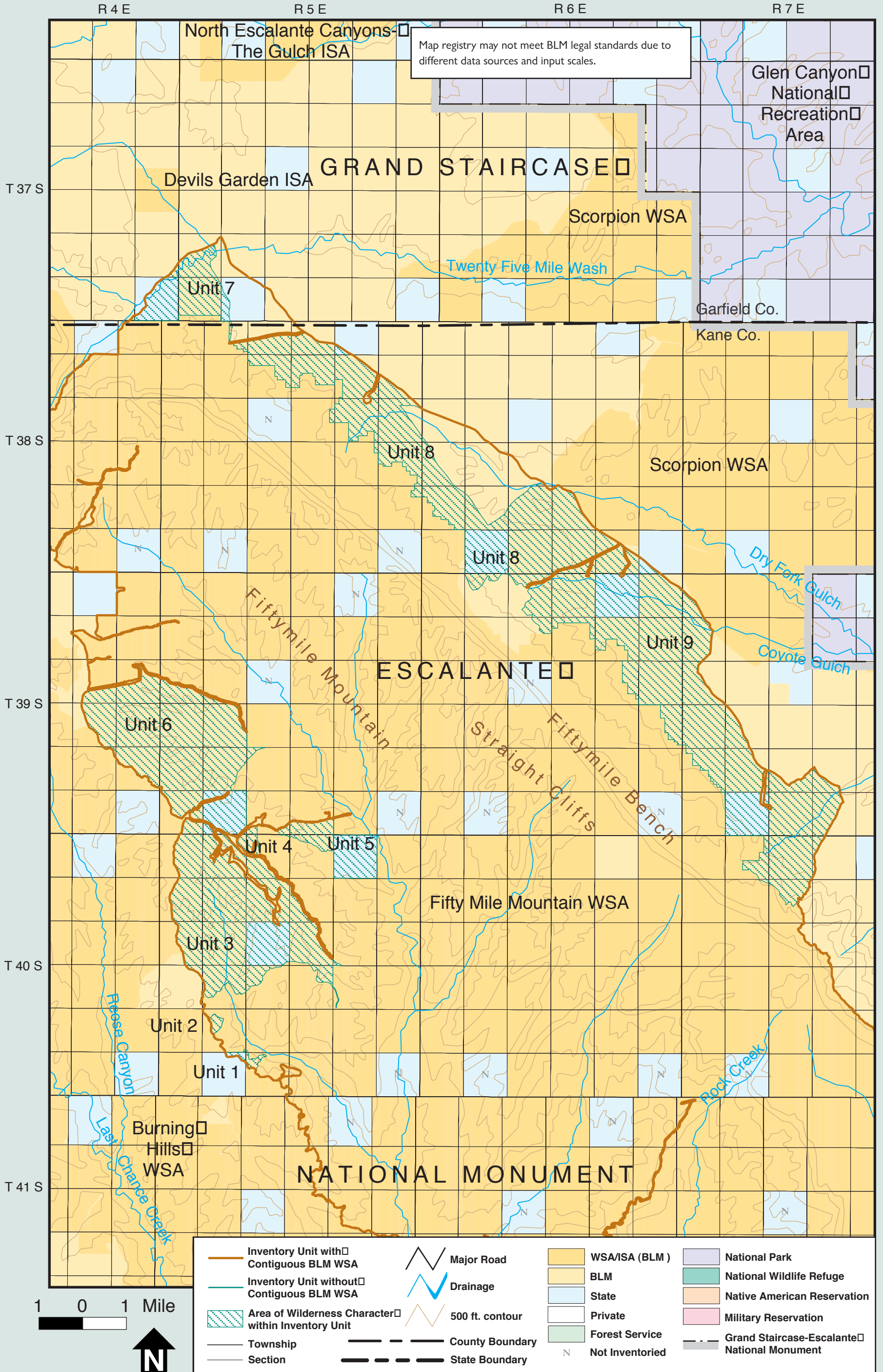
Units 1-6 contain the upper reaches of the canyons of the contiguous Fifty Mile Mountain WSA. Some of these tributaries are themselves picturesque and are likely to have archaeological sites or features of interest or significance. The Fiftymile Mountain area is recognized as a valuable archaeological resource for scientific and education purposes. Units 8 and 9 include segments of the historic Hole-in-the-Rock Trail. The desert benchlands in Units 7, 8, and 9, lying below the Straight Cliffs and Fiftymile Mountain promontories, provide unsurpassed views of the skyscraper-like rise of this escarpment.

FIFTYMILE MOUNTAIN—Fiftymile Mountain within the contiguous WSA looms in the background in this typical view of the open benchlands found in Units 8 and 9.



BLM photo

Fiftymile Mountain



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—Fiftymile Mountain

Fiftymile Bench

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
12,500	300	12,800 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
12,500	300	12,800
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

The entire Fiftymile Bench inventory unit (12,800 acres) has wilderness characteristics. The boundary of the unit has been drawn to eliminate several developments, including a spring development, water catchments, a water tank, a communication site, stock ponds, and heavily used camping areas near Sooner Rocks. The unit appears natural and provides visitors with outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive recreation. Sooner Rocks is a renowned and easily reached scenic and rock climbing attraction featured in many regional guides. In addition to climbing, other outstanding primitive recreation opportunities include hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, sightseeing, and photography. Only a primitive dirt road separates the unit from the adjoining Fiftymile Mountain Wilderness Study Area.

Unit Description

The unit is within the BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Fiftymile Bench is a prominent 1,000-foot escarpment, above the Hole-in-the-Rock Road and below the Straight Cliffs and Fiftymile Mountain.

Fiftymile Bench offers views of the southern part of the Escalante Canyons to the Colorado River, the Waterpocket Fold, the Henry Mountains, Bears Ears, the San Juan Triangle, and Navajo Mountain. The lower bench near the Hole-in-the-Rock

Road contains the weirdly eroded Sooner Rocks sandstone outcrops. Vegetation on Fiftymile Bench is predominantly piñon-juniper woodland and sagebrush, while the lower bench is mainly blackbrush, sagebrush, and rabbitbrush.

Evidence of oil and gas exploration can be found throughout the unit, especially in the northern portion, but the impacts are fading. There are a series of grazing developments on Fiftymile Bench and a couple of spring developments on the lower bench. Some recreational use, mainly hunting, occurs on Fiftymile Bench.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Overall, the unit appears natural and has wilderness characteristics. Human impacts are substantially unnoticeable and rapidly being reclaimed through natural processes. Evidence of past oil and gas exploration (seismic lines and two drill pads) has largely disappeared and is unnoticeable to casual observers. Most identified vehicle ways are from past seismic exploration lines, many of which are washed out and impassable. Several stock ponds and their associated access routes on Fiftymile Bench appear to be abandoned or are substantially unnoticeable.

The boundary of the unit has been drawn to eliminate some small areas found to lack wilderness characteristics because of a spring development, two catchments and water tanks, five stock ponds, and a communication site. Heavily used and impacted camping areas adjacent to the Hole-in-the-Rock Road and Sooner Rocks also lack naturalness. Five routes servicing range and communication developments have been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude because of vegetative and topographic screening. The rim of Fiftymile Bench is densely forested and screened with piñon and juniper, offering visitors isolation from each other while viewing a largely uninhabited landscape. Much of the area below the escarpment, although unforested, has enough topographical variation to provide screening. The unit's remoteness adds a sense of seclusion in an area of wide-open spaces and expansive vistas.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The entire unit provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. This is an excellent area for travel by foot or horseback. There are opportunities for rock climbs and scrambles among the eerily eroded potholes of Sooner Rocks and colorful hoodoo areas. From the rims, visitors are treated to unsurpassed vistas of the canyon country, including views of the southern Escalante Canyons to the Colorado River, the Waterpocket Fold, the Henry Mountains, Bears Ears, the San Juan Triangle, and Navajo Mountain.

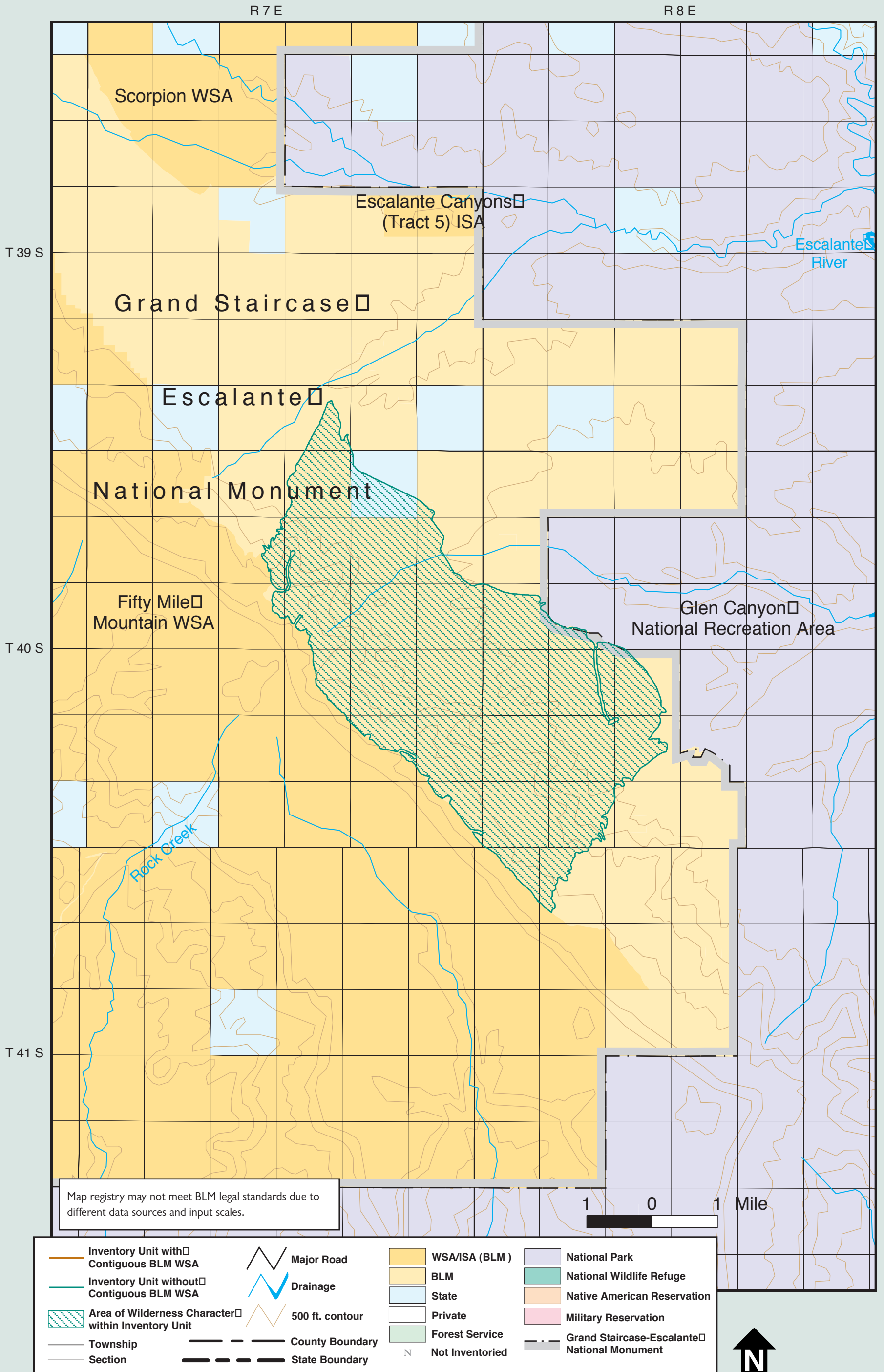
Supplemental Values

The cliffs supporting Fiftymile Bench are a striking feature for visitors on the Hole-in-the-Rock Road. The cliffs contain many clusters of balanced or pedestal rocks, known as hoodoos. Sooner Rocks provides outstanding examples of the "mega-potholes" found in some of the sandstone formations in the Glen Canyon area; this site is easily accessible to the public from the Hole-in-the-Rock Road.



FIFTYMILE BENCH— Outstanding opportunities for rock climbing and scrambling are possible among the eerily eroded potholes of Sooner Rocks.

Fiftymile Bench



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—Fiftymile Bench

Cave Point

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
5,900	0	5,900 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
5,900	0	5,900
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area; Fifty Mile Mountain WSA (UT-040-080)		146,143

The entire Cave Point inventory unit (5,900 acres) has wilderness characteristics. The area appears natural and provides visitors with outstanding opportunities for hiking, rock climbing, horseback riding, sightseeing, and photography. Trails to scenic vistas and Fiftymile Mountain originate in or pass through the unit. The Cave Point promontory, pedestal rocks, hoodoos, caves, and potholes provide superb geological sightseeing. Outstanding vistas of the Escalante Canyons and the Straight Cliffs are available in all directions.

The unit is contiguous to BLM's Fifty Mile Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA), portions of which have been administratively endorsed for wilderness. The Cave Point inventory unit is an extension of the natural landscapes and wilderness values on these adjoining lands.

The boundary of the unit is drawn to exclude three small areas lacking wilderness characteristics because of substantially noticeable range developments. Two roads have been cherry-stemmed out of the unit.

Unit Description

The Cave Point inventory unit is located in southeastern Kane County about 50 miles southeast of Escalante. It is composed entirely of public land within the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Glen Canyon NRA borders on the east and south. The area is a geographic extension of and indistinguishable from adjoining lands found in the Glen Canyon NRA and the Fifty Mile Mountain WSA.

The unit is made up of two distinct geographic areas: Fiftymile Bench and the lower bench. Both benches are divided by a prominent 1,000-foot escarpment. The base of the escarpment near the Hole-in-the-Rock Road contains the highly eroded, cave-like sandstone outcrops of Cave Point, giving the unit its name. The escarpment includes areas of large landslide deposits and areas containing pedestal rocks or hoodoos. Vegetation on Fiftymile Bench is predominantly sagebrush and piñon-juniper woodland, while the lower bench is mainly blackbrush, sagebrush, and rabbitbrush.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The Cave Point inventory unit is natural. Grazing developments, campsites, vehicle ways and a segment of the Soda Slide Pack Trail are present, but these human imprints have a negligible influence on the landscape. Three small areas outside the unit are unnatural because of substantially noticeable grazing developments. One of these unnatural areas, encompassing Pole Well (reservoir and trough) and a line camp with an associated corral, has been cherry-stemmed from the unit at the end of cherry-stemmed roads. A

stock pond and catchment along the southwestern boundary road are also substantially noticeable maintained developments. The boundary of the unit has been drawn to exclude these as well.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The Cave Point inventory unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude because of its vegetative and topographic screening, rugged escarpments, and remote location. In addition, the unit is contiguous to both the Glen Canyon NRA and Fifty Mile Mountain WSA, areas possessing outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

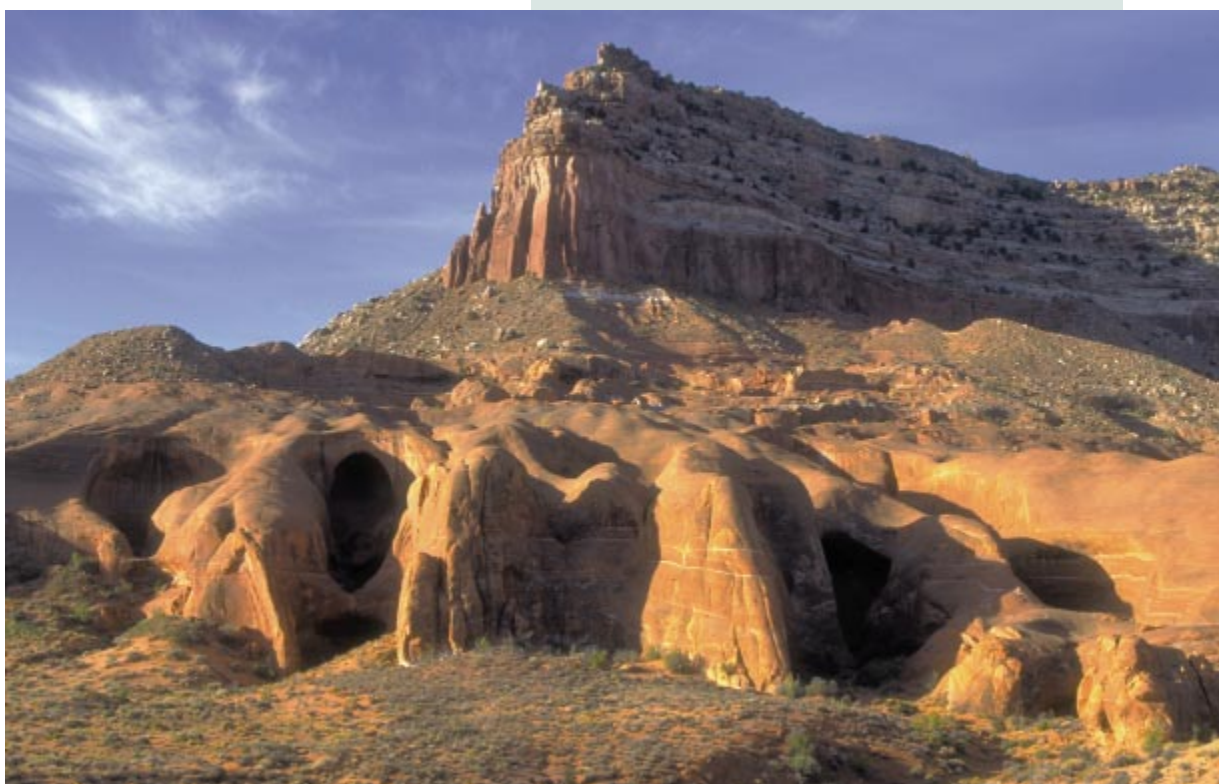
The Cave Point inventory unit provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The unit is a focal point for primitive recreation, providing access to trails on Fiftymile Bench and Fiftymile Mountain and containing part of the Soda Slide pack trail. The unit provides opportunities for hiking, hunting, photography, rock climbing, and horseback travel. Visitor attractions include scenic overlooks, balanced rocks, hoodoos, and other erosional features. Moreover, Cave Point is contiguous to both the Glen Canyon NRA and Fifty Mile Mountain WSA, providing a continuation of the primitive recreation opportunities present in those areas.

Supplemental Values

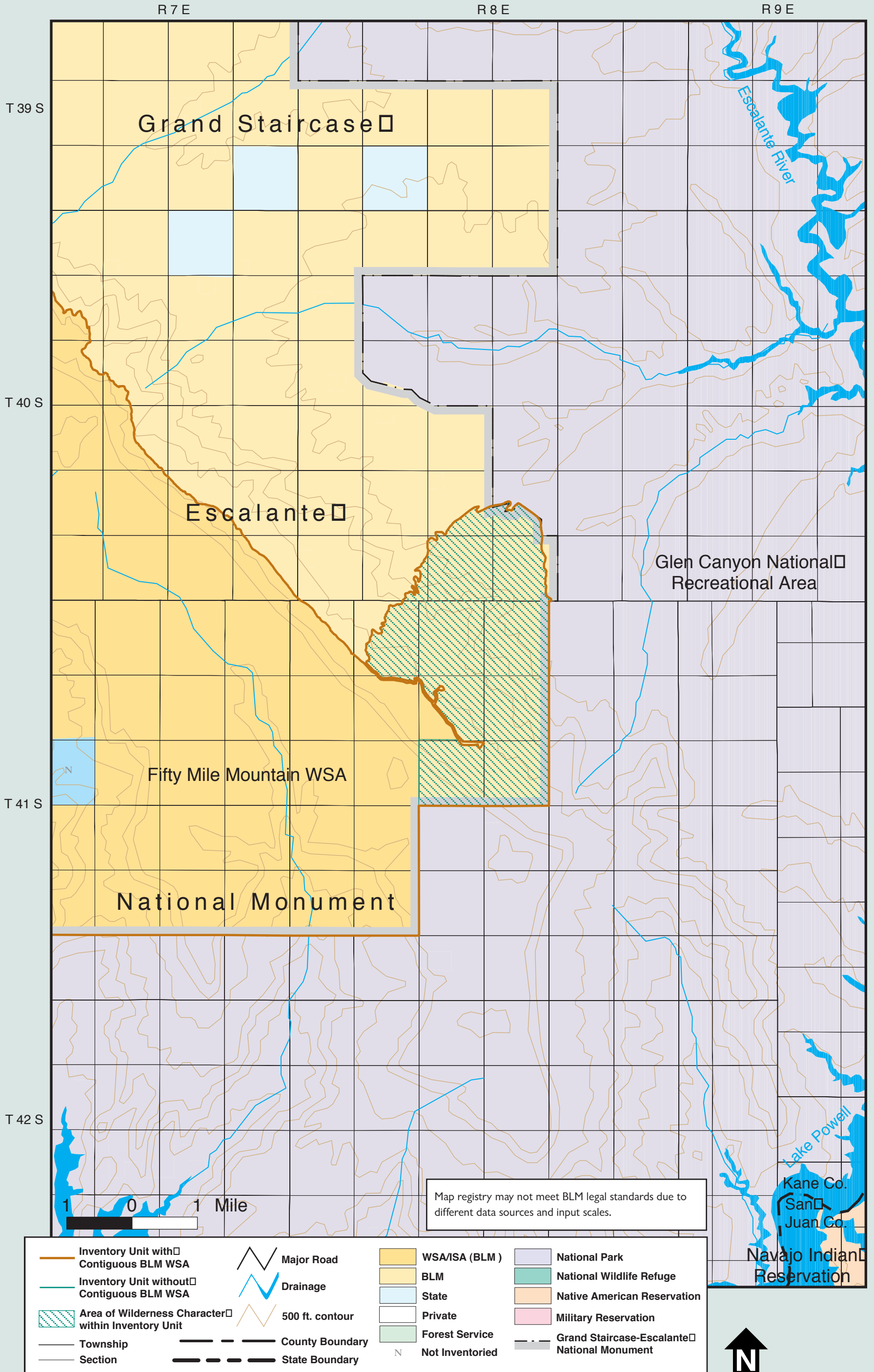
The promontory cliffs at Cave Point are striking features observed by visitors on the Hole-in-the-Rock Road. The cliffs themselves contain balanced or pedestal rocks, known as hoodoos. The base of Cave Point contains myriad caves and potholes, giving the unit its name. From Fiftymile Bench, there are outstanding views of the Escalante Canyons, the Straight Cliffs of Fiftymile Mountain, and much of the surrounding country.

CAVE POINT— The base of Cave Point contains myriad caves and potholes, giving rise to the area's name and adding to its appeal to visitors.

Jerry Sintz



Cave Point



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—Cave Point

Carcass Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
27,400	6,440	33,840 (97%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
650	480	1,130 (3%)
Inventory Unit Total		
28,050	6,920	34,970
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Carcass Canyon WSA (UT-040-076)		46,711

The greater portion of six out of the seven Carcass Canyon inventory units (33,840 acres) have wilderness characteristics. These areas are natural in appearance and nearly free of human intrusions. Only minor human impacts, including some old seismic lines and grazing developments, are present. The six units with wilderness characteristics are similar to, and largely inseparable from, the contiguous Carcass Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA). The units with wilderness characteristics include the upper or lower reaches of principal canyons within the bordering WSA, so many of the outstanding solitude and primitive recreation opportunities provided by the WSA's canyon and rim-rock topography continue into the six units.

However, all of Unit 2 and small parts of Units 1, 3, 4, 5, and 7 (1,130 total acres) have been impacted by human activity and are unnatural. These areas contain chainings, stock ponds, corrals, fences, roads, seismic lines, oil drill pads, and an off-road vehicle (OHV) play area. More than six miles of roads and vehicle ways have been cherry-stemmed from the units.

Unit Description

The units are located almost entirely within Garfield County. The western Units (1-6) are in the northern Straight Cliffs portion of the Kaiparowits Plateau and contain vegetation ranging from piñon pine and juniper forests on the plateaus and benches, to ponderosa pine and riparian vegetation in the labyrinthine canyons. Unit 7 consists primarily of sagebrush and grassland-covered benchlands and mesas. The benches at the foot of the Straight Cliffs in this unit are distinctive in color and varied in topography, adding striking contrast to the towering scenic backdrops of the WSA. Well-known features like the large Cedar Wash Arch, the Covered Wagon Natural Bridge, and several segments of the historic Hole-in-the-Rock Trail are also in Unit 7. All of the units receive some hunting use. Portions of

Units 1, 2, 4, 5, and 7 have been chained and seeded for livestock grazing. Cattle grazing also occurs in the western units, primarily on the chained and seeded areas. The eastern portion of Unit 7 is used extensively for grazing cattle. Some past seismic exploration has occurred in Unit 4.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Unit 6 is pristine, and most of Units 1, 3, 4, 5, and 7 are natural even though they contain some widely scattered and inconspicuous fences, earthen stock reservoirs, corrals, salting locations, overgrown seismic lines, and about 18 miles of lightly used vehicle ways. However, these features, both individually and collectively, are substantially unnoticeable in the area as a whole. Unit 2 is completely chained and is therefore not natural. Small portions of Units 1, 3, 4, 5, and 7 are also unnatural. Units 1, 4, and 5 have chained areas. The Hardhead stock tank and excavation are located in Unit 3. Lands generally south of the Cedar Wash Road in Unit 7 are natural. However, Unit 7 has been affected by human activity near Escalante, by chainings in the Cedar Wash area, by roads and stock developments, and by recreation intrusions.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The western units include the same combinations of topographic screening, landforms, vegetation, and relative isolation from human activity that provide opportunities for solitude in the contiguous

WSA. Furthermore, Units 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6 all contain outstanding solitude opportunities on their own, given their dense woodlands, deep canyons, and rugged uplands. Visitors have opportunities to seek secluded spots equal to those in the WSA. The southeast portion of Unit 7 contains outstanding opportunities for solitude in the bench and mesa areas because of topographic and vegetative screening. However, opportunities for solitude diminish in the Ten Mile and Seep Flat areas and are not of the caliber provided by the contiguous WSA. These lands are open and exposed, lacking vegetative cover and topographic screening. Opportunities are also poor on the Unit 7 lands near the town of Escalante.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The western Units (1, 3, 4, 5, and 6) offer outstanding opportunities for hiking, backpacking, hunting, horseback riding, photography, and sightseeing similar to opportunities provided within the WSA. Outstanding opportunities for exploring, hunting, hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, photography, and sightseeing are also individually and cumulatively challenging and rewarding in Unit 7.

Supplemental Values

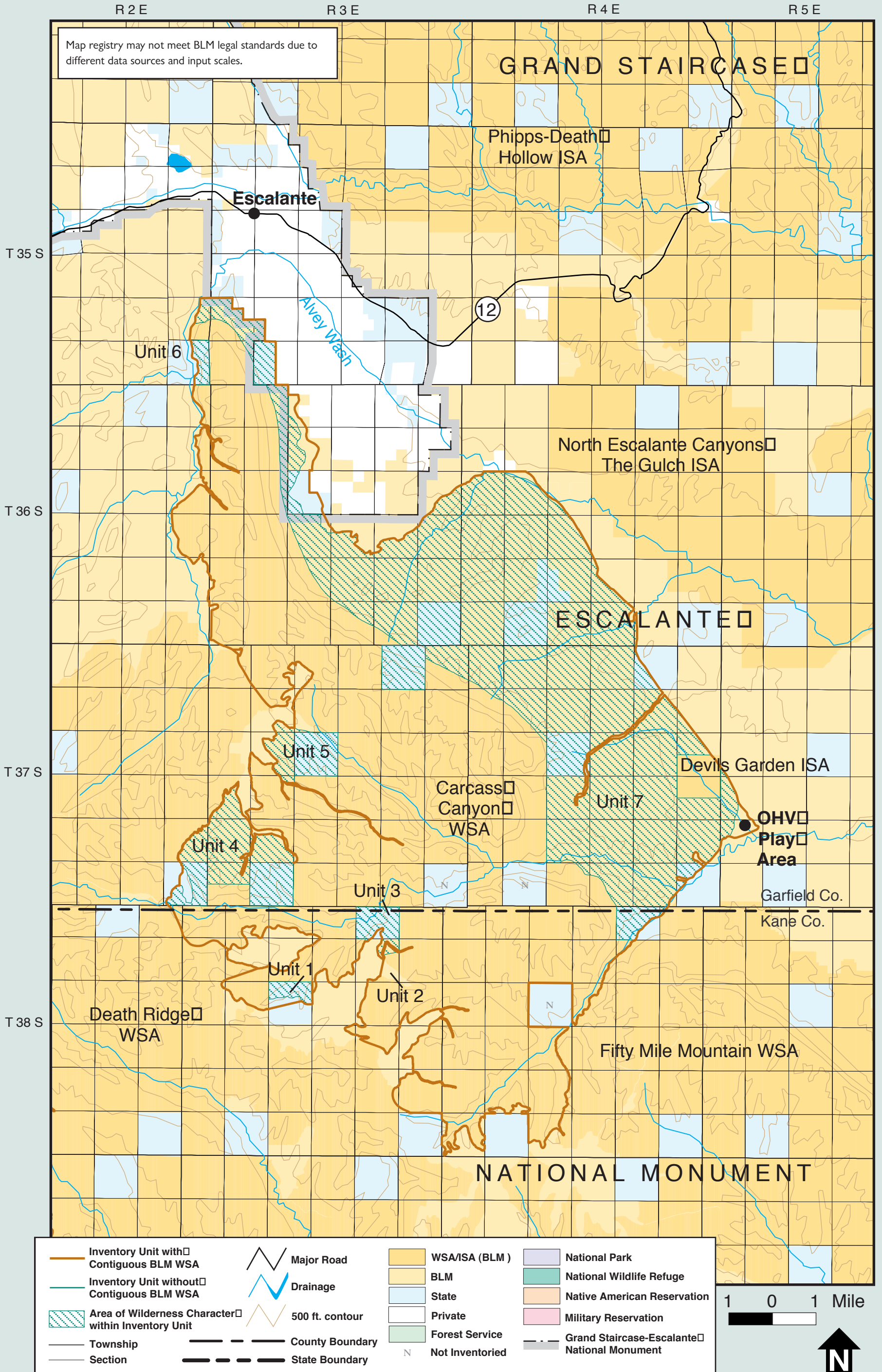
Some of the smaller canyons, benches, and plateaus are quite breathtaking. The benches at the foot of the Straight Cliffs in Unit 7 are colorful and varied, adding contrast to the towering cliffs to the west. The large Cedar Wash Arch, the Covered Wagon Natural Bridge, and several parts of the historic Hole-in-the-Rock Trail are all within Unit 7. Several archaeological sites have been recorded: open campsites, lithic scatters, petroglyphs, and cave habitation sites. Some paleontological values also exist.

CARCASS CANYON—Piñon and juniper woodlands and grassland flats of Unit 7 add striking contrast to the Carcass Canyon WSA's distinctive and colorful Straight Cliffs in the background.



Jerry Sintz

Carcass Canyon



Horse Spring Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
28,300	3,500	31,800 (91%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
3,100	0	3,100 (9%)
Inventory Unit Total		
31,400	3,500	34,900
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

About 31,800 acres of the Horse Spring Canyon inventory unit have wilderness characteristics, while 3,100 acres do not. The area with wilderness characteristics is natural and roadless, with slight evidence of human activity. Most human intrusions are located near the boundaries; much of the unit's interior is pristine. More than 80 miles of incised and forested canyons, paired with densely wooded benches and mesas, result in outstanding opportunities for solitude throughout. Opportunities for primitive recreation are equally outstanding. Canyons, creeks, and their tributaries chisel through mountainous countryside. These canyons present the hiker, backpacker, hunter, and equestrian with complexity, choice, and unconfined opportunities to explore a natural landscape, study archaeological resources, see Horizon Arch, or climb to forested overlooks.

Three areas lack wilderness characteristics because of the cumulative effect of roads, vehicle ways, off-highway vehicle (OHV) and all-terrain vehicle (ATV) play areas, a borrow pit, corrals, a power line, trash dumping, wood cutting, grazing developments, and a water pipeline. Nine roads and one vehicle way have been cherry-stemmed from the inventory unit.

Unit Description

The Horse Spring Canyon inventory unit is located in Garfield County two miles southwest of the town of Escalante. Situated within the BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, the unit lies on the extreme north end of the Kaiparowits Plateau. Mitchell Canyon, Willow Creek, Coal Bed Canyon and Horse Spring Canyon, all moderately deep canyons cut southwest to northeast, wind through the unit. Vegetation consists of piñon, juniper, and ponderosa woodlands, along with understory shrubs and sage.

Grazing management facilities are distributed around the unit, mostly along the boundary, and there is some minor evidence of coal prospecting. Oil exploration and production sites are present in the Upper Valley oil field to the west and southwest. Woodcutting, OHV and ATV driving, hunting, camping, and target shooting occur along the northeastern side close to the town of Escalante. Recreation use on the remainder of the unit is light.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the inventory unit retains its natural character. A number of intrusions have been chronicled, but any of consequence are located on the unit's boundary. There are almost no human intrusions within the interior of the unit. Unitwide documented intrusions include 21 vehicle ways, seven range fences, a corral, four stock ponds/reservoirs, portions of a water pipeline and affiliated drinkers, woodcutting sites, dispersed camping and "party" areas, trash dumps, a gravel pit, OHV and ATV play areas, some coal prospects, three oil and gas drill pads, and a chaining and seeding project. Three areas on the northeast, southeast, and southwest sides of the unit

were determined to be unnatural because of the cumulative effects of these human activities.

The portion of the unit considered natural in appearance has a few substantially unnoticeable imprints. The principal human imprints include 13 vehicle ways and some 1.2 miles of fence line. With the exception of the Mitchell Canyon and Coal Bed Canyon vehicle ways, all imprints are near the unit's border.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The entire unit provides outstanding solitude, with ample opportunities to avoid the sights, sounds, evidence, or presence of others in the area. About 49 square miles of rugged landscape, broken by miles of extensive canyons and their tributaries, provide visitors with scores of secluded locations and travel routes. Dense piñon, juniper, and ponderosa woodlands, with thick brush and sage understory, ensure visual separation between visitors and uninterrupted opportunities for outstanding solitude throughout the unit.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Outstanding opportunities exist for primitive and unconfined recreation, including day hiking, overnight backpacking, hunting, horseback riding, and archaeological and geologic sightseeing. These opportunities are outstanding because of their quality, challenge, complexity, and variety. Mitchell, Coal Bed, and Horse Spring Canyons; Willow and Canaan Creeks; and their associated tributaries cut through a torturous mountain landscape, offering the hiker, backpacker, hunter, and equestrian more than 80 miles of potential canyon and wash travel routes. There are many opportunities for the knowledgeable backcountry traveler to study Kaiparowits Plateau geology or contemplate the cultural remnants of Native American peoples.

Supplemental Values

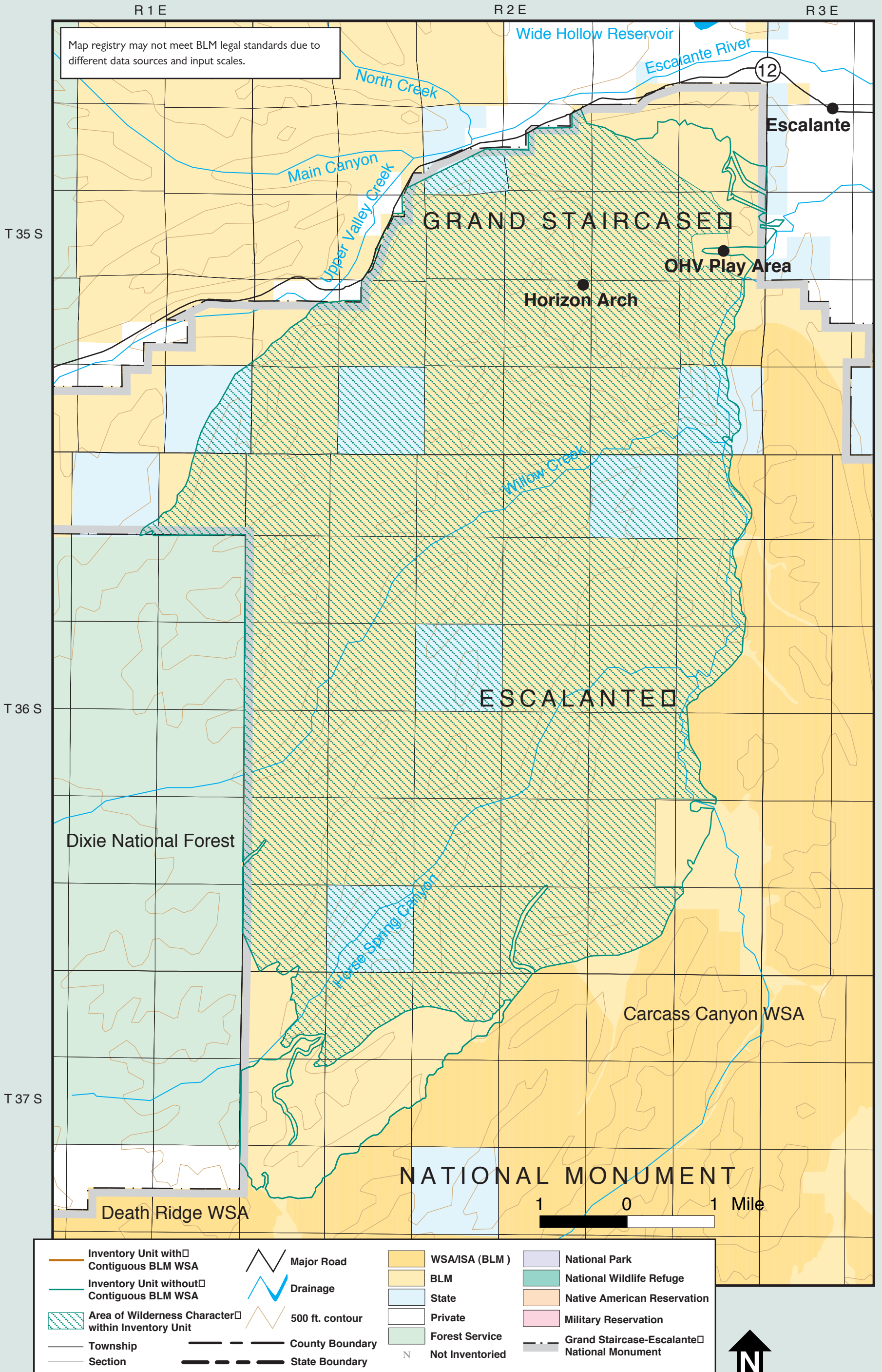
Geological features include Horizon Arch, petrified wood, and fossils. Archaeological features include petroglyphs, pictographs, granaries, cave habitation sites, and open camping areas.

HORSE SPRING CANYON—
Nearly 80 miles of extensive canyons and their tributaries and 49 square miles of rugged terrain offer the hiker, backpacker, hunter, and equestrian nearly endless opportunities and experiences.



Jerry Sintz

Horse Spring Canyon



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—Horse Spring Canyon

Lampstand

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
3,500	0	3,500 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
3,500	0	3,500
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Capitol Reef National Park		

All 3,500 acres of the Lampstand inventory unit are natural and have wilderness characteristics. The unit is contiguous to Capitol Reef National Park and the Dixie National Forest. Neighboring lands in Capitol Reef National Park have been administratively endorsed for wilderness by the National Park Service (NPS). The finding of wilderness characteristics in this unit is based upon consideration of the contiguous federal lands that also have wilderness characteristics.

Unit Description

The Lampstand inventory unit is located in eastern Garfield County about 40 miles northeast of Escalante. It is composed of public lands located between the Dixie National Forest and Capitol Reef National Park.

The unit is within BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The most prominent natural feature of the area is the Circle Cliffs, which skirt the unit's western and northern boundary. Piñon and juniper forest is the predominant vegetation on the two distinct benchlands, with the valley floor consisting primarily of sagebrush and desert shrubs. Marginal evidence of past mineral exploration can be found on the benchlands below the Circle Cliff escarpment. Some recreational use occurs mainly on the benchlands, with hunting and four-wheel driving appearing to be the main pursuits.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The Lampstand inventory unit retains its natural character. Human impacts are

substantially unnoticeable and rapidly being reclaimed by natural means. Little surface-disturbing activity has occurred. Bulldozer scars from past uranium drilling exploration cross parts of the unit, but these cuts are naturally rehabilitating. The access routes that were originally bladed are eroding. Given the area's rugged terrain, these ways and blade cuts do not affect the unit's natural character as a whole. One road has been cherry-stemmed from the unit (not visible on map due to its short length).

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory unit provides opportunities for solitude. Screening created by the canyons, drainages, rugged escarpments, remote benchlands, and dense piñon and juniper forest contributes to these opportunities. Because of the unit's size and configuration, opportunities for solitude are outstanding only when considered in conjunction with the contiguous NPS lands.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit's rugged terrain, remote location, and minimal visitation provides the setting for a primitive and unconfined recreation

experience, although this area has not been a focal point for primitive recreation. From all evidence, hunting has been the primary recreational use. However, there are opportunities for general sightseeing and photography of the surrounding Circle Cliffs region.

Day hiking and backpacking opportunities exist, including treks up pristine drainages, rock scrambling into canyons created by the cliffs, and hikes to dramatic overlooks with views of the Circle Cliffs. Visitors may explore the deep drainages, mesas, and ridges, all without the aid of a trail network. However, these opportunities are outstanding only when considered in the context of the contiguous NPS lands.

Supplemental Values

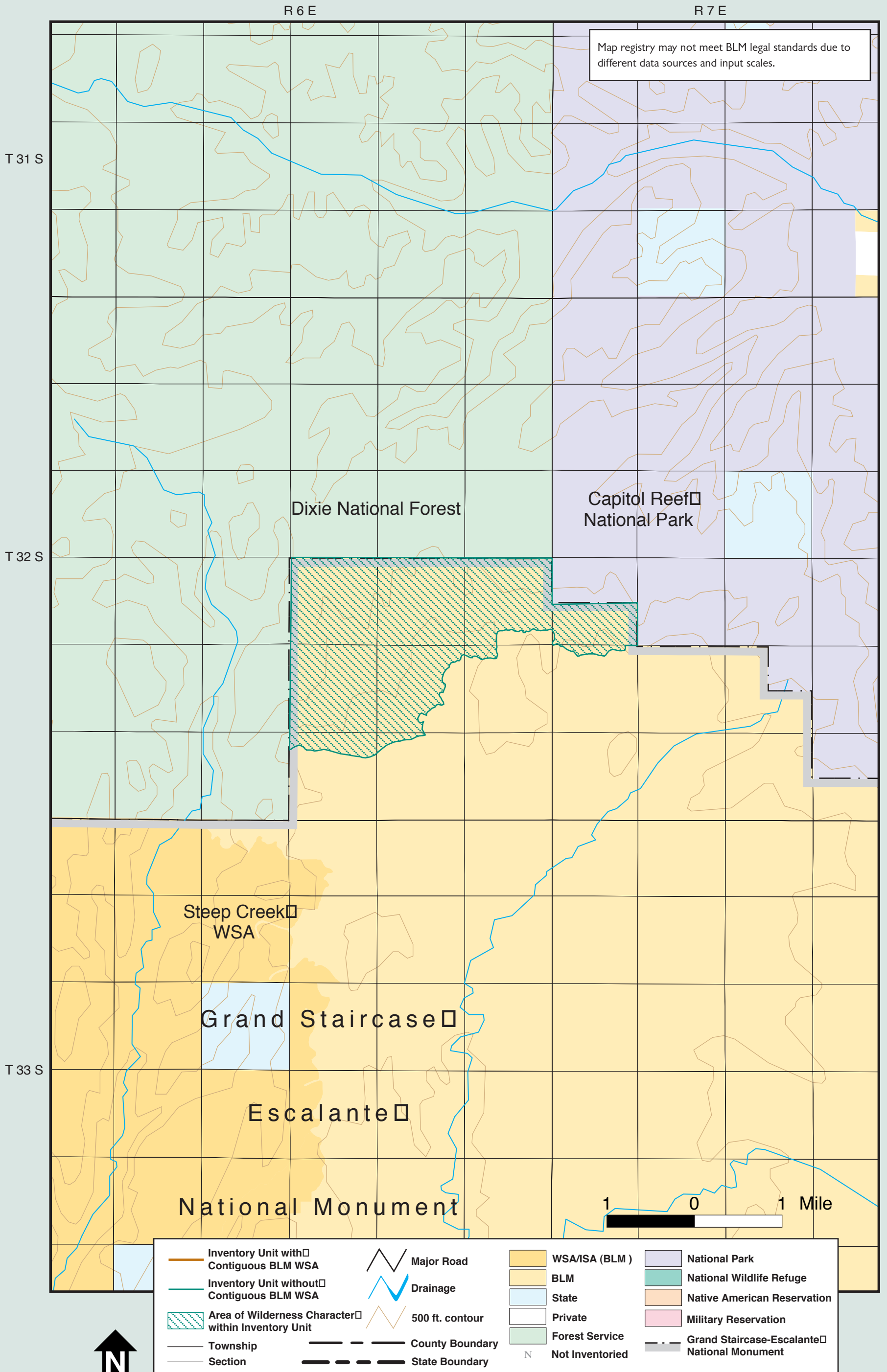
The most striking geological feature is the Circle Cliffs, which wind around the north side of the unit. Prominent red rock cliffs, spires, mesas, canyons, and mountains are all unique features of the Circle Cliffs. Points along the top of the Circle Cliffs provide unsurpassed views of the surrounding landscape, including other portions of the Circle Cliffs, Boulder Mountain, Capitol Reef National Park, Navajo Mountain, the Henry Mountains, and the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. In addition, the unit supports a small resident population of elk. Evidence also exists of prehistoric human occupation.

LAMPSTAND—The Circle Cliffs, which wind around the north side of the unit, are a striking geological feature.



BLM photo

Lampstand



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—Lampstand

North Escalante Canyons

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
19,700	6,300	26,000 (96%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
1,220	10	1,230 (4%)
Inventory Unit Total		
20,920	6,310	27,230
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
North Escalante Canyons/The Gulch ISA (UT-060-054 & UT-060-67)		119,752
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area		

The eleven North Escalante Canyons inventory units surround the North Escalante Canyons/The Gulch Instant Study Area (ISA). Most of the inventory units (26,000 acres) have wilderness characteristics. Several of the units contain evidence of mineral exploration, range developments, and vehicle ways, but these imprints are largely inconspicuous or are being reclaimed by nature. The wilderness characteristics of these eleven units is enhanced by the contiguous ISA. They contain canyons, benches, and tributaries that are all geological and ecological components of the central Escalante River Canyon. These landscape features unite and seamlessly blend with the lands proposed for wilderness within the contiguous ISA and the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA).

Although cherry-stemmed roads and boundary adjustments exclude most significant human imprints, minor portions of the area (1,230 acres) do lack wilderness characteristics because of noticeable human developments such as communication sites and range developments. Several roads to range facilities have been cherry-stemmed from Unit 8. Other range-related features are inconspicuous and have little influence on the unit's natural appearance.

Unit Description

The North Escalante Canyons inventory units are located in eastern Garfield County northeast, east, and southeast of Escalante. All eleven units lie entirely within BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The units encompass a variety of terrain, ranging from benchlands to the spectacular scenery of Wingate Formation escarpments. The predominant vegetation type covering the rough hills, steep-sided buttes, and benches is piñon and juniper woodland, while sagebrush and shrub are found in the

lower elevation valleys. The units' washes and drainages form a linked network, providing a variety of routes to and from the Escalante River. Units 5, 8, 9, and 11 contain intrinsic parts of this pattern. Although the Escalante River and several other canyons are probably the major objectives of current backpacking use, the benches, flats, and sandstone escarpments in the units are also pathways and destinations.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the North Escalante Canyons inventory units retain their natural character. Some surface-disturbing activity has occurred in the past, but these human impacts are substantially unnoticeable and are being reclaimed naturally. Most of the identified impacts are single-pass bulldozer routes associated with mineral exploration activities conducted some 30-40 years ago; these are rapidly being reclaimed because of non-use and natural erosion processes. For example, part of an airstrip within Unit 3 created during the mineral exploration boom is now completely revegetated and unnoticeable to all but the most determined and knowledgeable observer. Several grazing stock ponds, vehicle ways, and abandoned drill pads remain within the natural portion of the units, but these too are substantially unnoticeable.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory units are natural extensions of the North Escalante Canyons/The Gulch ISA and the Glen Canyon NRA, lands that possess outstanding solitude opportunities. In conjunction with the opportunities provided by The Gulch and the Escalante River canyon complexes, opportunities for solitude provided by the inventory units are also outstanding. Moreover, Units 5 and 8 clearly provide some outstanding opportunities for solitude on their own, given their diverse landscapes, vegetative screening, and size. The lands on top of the benches within Units 1, 3, and 4 are lonely and remote; these hidden benchlands are unseen both from the ISA and from the boundary roads below.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The units are extensions of wild lands within the Glen Canyon NRA and the North Escalante Canyons/The Gulch ISA, lands that possess outstanding primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities.

The primitive recreation opportunities in the inventory units are outstanding when associated with the nationally celebrated primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities found in the ISA and the NRA. Each inventory unit offers similar opportunities for backpacking, day hiking, horseback riding, camping, sightseeing, and photography. In addition, the areas have outstanding opportunities for the study of geological, historical, and archaeological features.

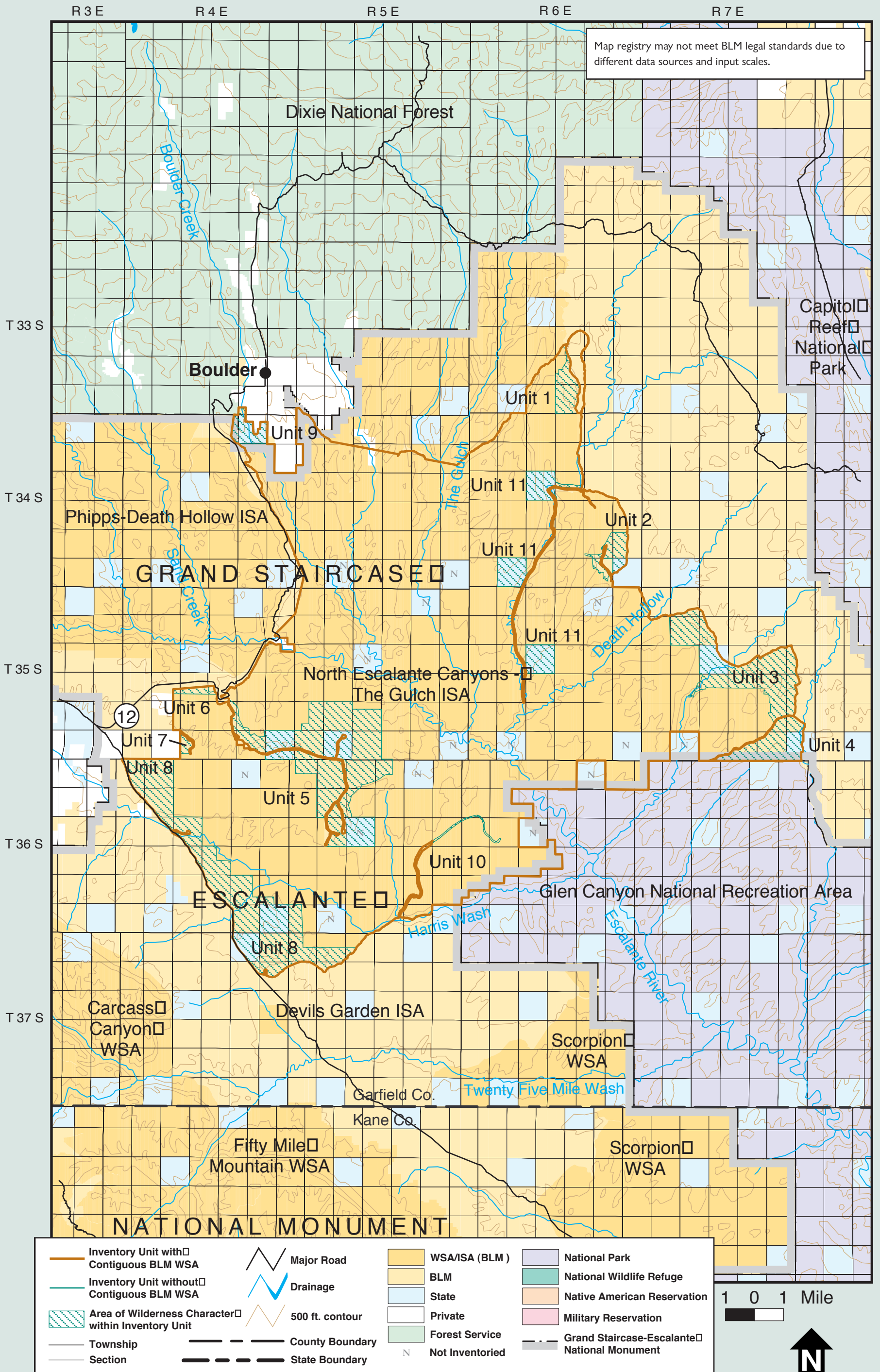
Spectacular views of the sandstone Wingate Formation outcrops of the Wolverine Bench, the Circle Cliffs, and Silver Falls Bench can be experienced in Units 1, 2, 3, and 4. People hiking up to the bench tops are rewarded with even more magnificent views of the Studhorse Peaks, Capitol Reef National Park's Waterpocket Fold, and the Circle Cliffs. Hikes to the Escalante River area are available from Units 5, 8, and 9. Examples include the route from Big Spencer Flat to the Escalante River and another from Little Spencer Flat to Phipps Wash, both in Unit 5. Hiking in scenic Wolverine Canyon within Unit 11 is especially dramatic. The many washes and drainages form a linked trail net, providing a choice of hikes to and from the river.

Supplemental Values

The inventory units possess scenic, geological, and ecological values. Spectacular scenic views of the Circle Cliffs, Capitol Reef National Park, and North Escalante Canyons can be enjoyed by those willing to hike to the top of Silver Falls Bench, or the other mesas in Units 1, 2, 3, and 4. These four units also contain the Wingate, Chinle, and Moenkopi landforms. The Chinle formation contains petrified wood deposits, primarily in Units 1 and 3.

Splendid scenic landscapes are found in Units 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, and 11. Units 1, 2, 3, and 4 contain dramatic cliff lines, escarpments, and buttes making up the west and south sides of the Circle Cliffs area. Unit 9 contains Dry Hollow, while Unit 11 contains part of Wolverine Creek and Wolverine Bench. Units 5, 6, 7, and 8 may have archaeological sites. The historic Old Sheffield Road in Unit 5 and the Hole-in-the-Rock Road in portions of Unit 8 have National Register nomination status.

North Escalante Canyons



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—North Escalante Canyons

Little Egypt

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
19,900	2,500	22,400 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
70	0	70 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
19,970	2,500	22,470
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area; North Escalante Canyons/The Gulch ISA (UT-060-054 & UT-060-67)		119,752

Most of the Little Egypt inventory unit (22,400 acres) has wilderness characteristics. It is highlighted by the presence of active sand dunes, the Little Valley badlands, sculptured sandstone areas, slot canyons, and the sandy expanse of Allen Dump. The unit is natural, providing visitors with good opportunities to photograph, hike, or ride to an assortment of landscapes in one locale. Solitude opportunities are enhanced by the unit's size, rolling topography, and diverse landforms.

In addition, the Little Egypt inventory unit enhances the wilderness values within the bordering Glen Canyon National Recreation Area and the North Escalante Canyons/The Gulch Instant Study Area (ISA). The unit is a continuation of the Egypt Bench, Twenty-Five Mile Wash, and Harris Wash landforms of the Escalante River canyons. It shares a 5.5-mile boundary with the National Recreation Area's wilderness proposal and a 1.5-mile boundary with the Instant Study Area.

About 70 acres of the inventory unit are unnatural, lacking wilderness characteristics because of roads and range developments. Six routes have been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

Unit Description

The Little Egypt inventory unit is in south-central Garfield County approximately 20 miles southeast of Escalante, and lies within BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The landscape is a mixture of badlands, sandstone formations, sandy-soil grassland, and sand dunes. Spotty stands of piñon and juniper woodland are found along the periphery.

The unit is currently used for livestock grazing and by recreationists. Until recently, it was used regularly by a Utah-based therapeutic wilderness program for troubled youth.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the unit retains its natural character, given the absence of noticeable human imprints. There are six vehicle ways, two fence lines, two seismic lines, a spring and stock tank development, and several grazing associated salt lick areas. However, all of these human features were determined to be substantially unnoticeable.

Vehicle use in the unit has been restricted to mostly faint two-track vehicle ways extending beyond maintained portions of roads. One vehicle way across the Allen Dump, which leads to a spring and stock watering development, is used occasionally and has been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

Portions of the unit were found to lack naturalness because of substantially noticeable impacts from grazing facilities, recreation use, and associated vehicle access. Four roads and two vehicle ways have been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Buckaroo Flat, Little Valley, Allen Dump, the sand dune fields, and the Egypt Bench are diverse landscapes offering visitors many opportunities to experience seclusion from others. The unit is a vast and lonely place, with screening provided by space and topography. In some areas screening and isolation is provided by a juniper woodland. The unit is contiguous to Glen Canyon National Recreation Area and the North Escalante Canyons/The Gulch Instant Study Area, lands possessing outstanding solitude opportunities.

Solitude opportunities in Little Egypt are indisputably outstanding when associated with the vast area of the Egypt Bench, Escalante Canyons, Harris Wash, and Twenty-Five Mile Wash directly to the east and north.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Buckaroo Flat, Little Valley, Allen Dump, slot canyons, the sand dune fields, the badlands, and Egypt Bench all offer visitors opportunities for day hiking, backpacking, and horseback riding. Opportunities for photography are exceptional in the active sand dune fields, erosional sandstone areas, and various badlands.

The unit is contiguous to wild lands within the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area and the North Escalante Canyons/The Gulch Instant Study Area, lands possessing outstanding and renowned primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities. The primitive recreation opportunities in the Little Egypt inventory unit are undeniably outstanding when associated with the Escalante River Canyon country of the Instant Study Area and the National Recreation Area, directly to the east and north.

Supplemental Values

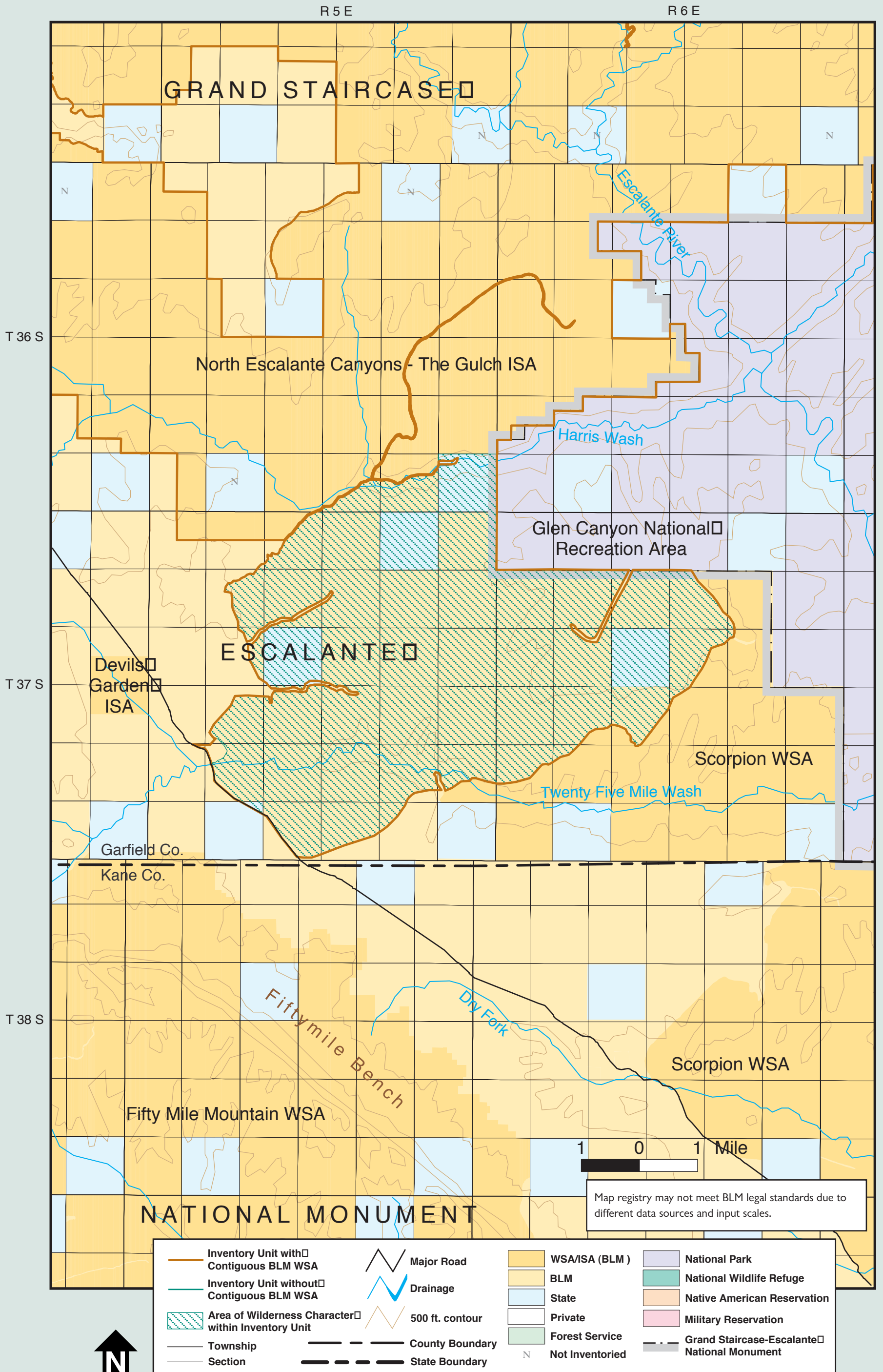
Scenic quality is high throughout this unit. Even flatlands within Buckaroo Flat and Allen Dump offer outstanding panoramic views of surrounding badlands, sand dunes, sandstone formations, and Fiftymile Mountain. Narrow slot canyons weave their way through the sandstone formations, providing an element of suspense. Three areas offer good opportunities for geologic sightseeing, including Little Bryce Valley or Sunset Valley (encompassing an area with highly eroded badlands), an area resembling Devils Garden, and active sand dunes south of Buckaroo Flat.

LITTLE EGYPT—The slanted light of morning and late afternoon will please photographers who venture into the active sand dune and badlands region of this unit.



Jerry Sintz

Little Egypt



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—Little Egypt

Scorpion

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
9,570	4,840	14,410 (99%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
200	0	200 (1%)
Inventory Unit Total		
9,770	4,840	14,610
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Scorpion WSA (UT-040-082)		35,884

The Scorpion inventory unit consists of five separate units around the periphery of the Scorpion Wilderness Study Area (WSA). The vast majority of these units (14,410 acres) have wilderness characteristics. Each of the five units appears natural overall and augments the wilderness values of the adjoining Scorpion WSA. The units contain Early Weed Bench, the rolling Cat Pasture badlands, and the eroded colorful badlands of the Twenty-five Mile Wash watershed—features also contained within the contiguous Scorpion WSA. These units offer primitive recreation and solitude opportunities and supplemental values comparable to the Scorpion WSA.

The units contain some minor range developments, vehicle ways, small campsites, and old seismic lines, but these imprints are inconsequential and have little influence on naturalness or associated wilderness qualities. Small portions of Unit 1 (200 acres) do lack wilderness characteristics because of range developments, past mineral exploration, and associated access. Four roads have been cherry-stemmed from the units.

Unit Description

The Scorpion inventory units are located in northeastern Kane County about 25 miles southeast of Escalante. The units are within BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The terrain varies from benchlands and rolling hills to steep, highly eroded drainages and deep sandstone canyons. The sandy flats give way to colorful badlands and cross-bedded sandstone bluffs. Vegetation on the benchlands is primarily desert shrubs, grass, and juniper. The drainages and wash bottoms are lined with riparian vegetation.

The units are used for ranching and contain several vehicle ways that access water

developments and salt licks. Four roads, including roads to the popular Dry Fork Coyote Gulch trailhead and an overlook of Twenty-five Mile Wash, have been cherry-stemmed from the units. Evidence of mineral exploration exists in Units 1, 2, and 3.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the Scorpion inventory units retain their natural character. Human impacts are substantially unnoticeable, with little surface disturbance occurring in the five units as a whole. There are some seismic lines, range developments (about four miles of buried pipeline and associated watering troughs), 14 vehicle ways totaling about 20 miles, several campsites, and a pack or hiking trail. However, these features are substantially unnoticeable. Two small areas near the boundary of the unit lack naturalness because of bladed road alignments and major range developments. Four roads have been cherry-stemmed from the units.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The portions of the units that extend into the Twenty-five Mile Wash and its various side canyons, along with Early Weed Bench and the Cat Pasture badlands, contain the same combinations of topographic screening and vegetation that provide outstanding opportunities for solitude in the adjacent Scorpion WSA. All five units are natural extensions of the contiguous WSA, and all five units either provide

opportunities for solitude or enhance existing opportunities.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Portions of the units have the same outstanding opportunities for backpacking, horseback riding, hiking, sightseeing, and photography that exist in the contiguous Scorpion WSA, offering extensions of the values within the WSA. The best opportunities for hiking and geologic sightseeing are experienced by exploring the lands south of Twenty-five Mile Wash and the eroded and intensely colored rock and washes of the Cat Pasture badlands (Unit 1), as well as by walking the canyon rims and sandstone benches above both Twenty-five Mile Wash (Unit 2) and the Dry Fork of Coyote Gulch (Unit 4). Unit 5 provides primitive recreation opportunities only in conjunction with the contiguous WSA.

Supplemental Values

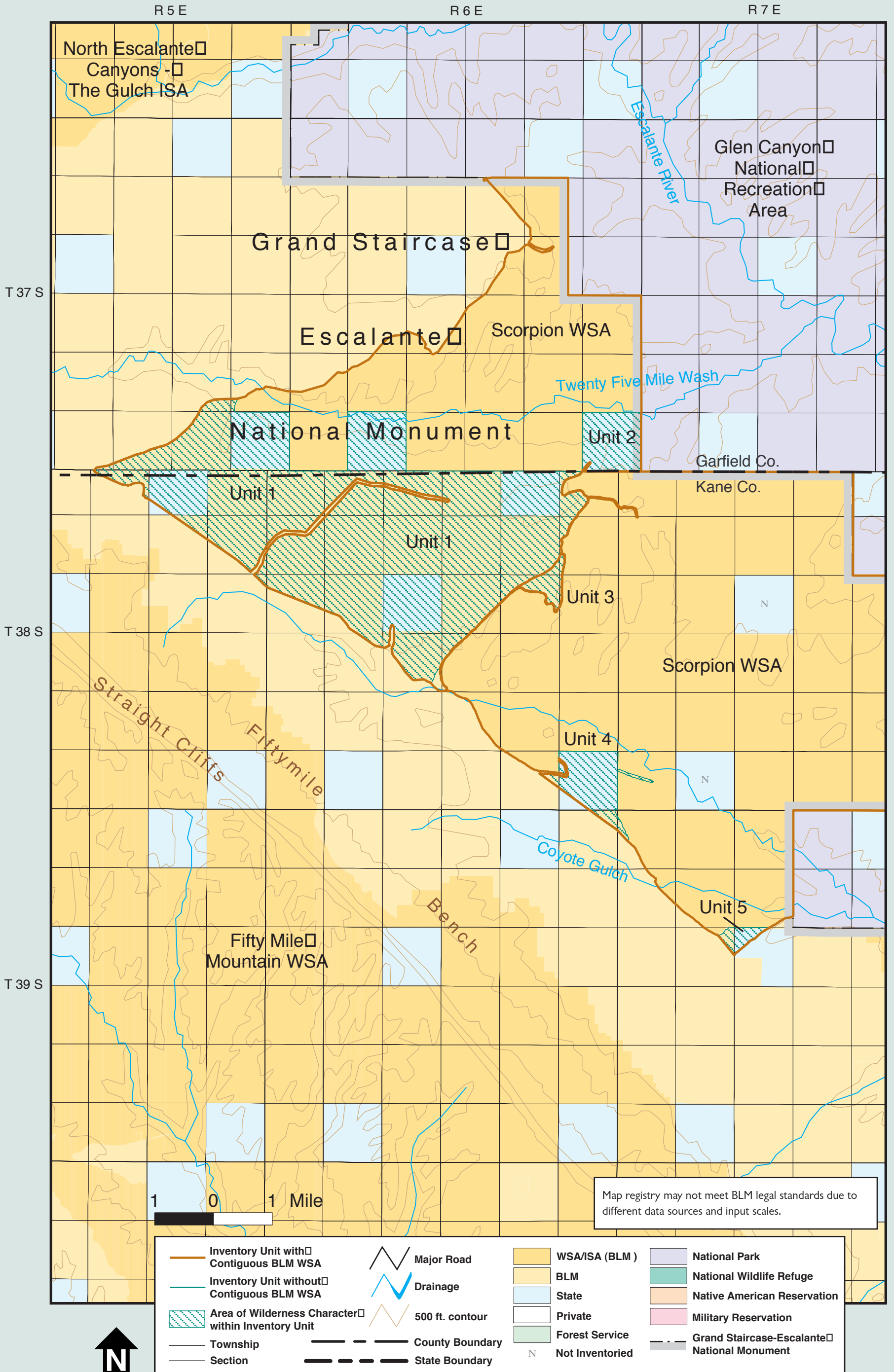
The units possess scenic, geologic, and archaeological values that supplement existing wilderness characteristics. Numerous spectacular scenic views into Twenty-five Mile Wash can be enjoyed from Units 1 and 2, while views into the Dry Fork of Coyote Wash can be seen from Unit 4. There are several spectacular areas of exposed sandstone and deep-sided canyons within Units 1, 2, and 4. Twenty-five Mile Wash within Units 1 and 2 is entrenched in a large basin below the exposed sandstone of the Early Weed Bench-Scorpion cliff line. The sandstone cliffs in Unit 4 overlook the extremely narrow and tortuous side canyons of the Dry Fork of Coyote Gulch. There are prehistoric archaeological sites present that are attributed to the Kayenta Anasazi occupation.



SCORPION—A rainbow illuminates the sky over Early Weed Bench.

BLM photo

Scorpion



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

Hurricane Wash

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
8,000	1,100	9,100 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
8,000	1,100	9,100
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Escalante Canyons (Tract 5) ISA		760
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area		

All 9,100 acres of the Hurricane Wash inventory unit have wilderness characteristics. Seven routes and associated line cabins, along with corrals, a pipeline, reservoirs, and trailheads, have been cherry-stemmed from the unit. The unit contains three miles of Hurricane Wash and offers opportunities for primitive recreation and solitude comparable to the contiguous Escalante Canyons (Tract 5) Instant Study Area (ISA) and the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA). Outstanding primitive recreation opportunities are experienced by hiking Hurricane Wash, or by taking the Jacob Hamblin Arch trail into the renowned Coyote Gulch, the Dry Fork of Coyote Gulch, and the Escalante River. The unit has natural character but is not pristine, given an assortment of old seismic lines, fence lines, an abandoned airstrip, and some vehicle ways. However, these imprints are inconsequential, having little influence on the area's naturalness or associated wilderness qualities.

Unit Description

The unit is located in Kane County about 37 miles southeast of Escalante. All public lands are within BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. It is composed of two distinct geographic areas: Hurricane Wash itself and the gently sloping desert benchlands north and south of the drainage. Hurricane Wash crosses the unit's center west to east, cutting through two sandstone formations. The wash enters the unit just east of the Hole-in-the-Rock Road. The further east one travels, the more scenic and incised Hurricane Wash becomes. The wash crosses the unit for about three miles before it enters the Glen Canyon NRA. The benchlands are open and offer a sand dune type of environment, with low shrubs and expansive views. The benchlands slope moderately downward toward Hurricane Wash. The monotonous rise of the northern bench is interrupted only by the abrupt appearance

of the 150-foot Chimney Rock, an isolated sandstone spire. The benchlands are covered with low-growing desert shrubs and grasses. The area is currently used for day hiking, backpacking, camping, hunting, geological study, sightseeing, and four-wheel drive vehicle travel.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The units retain their natural character, even though old human imprints are scattered throughout. Most imprints consist of one-time seismic line passes, fence lines, and vehicle ways. There are ten seismic lines, three fence lines, one abandoned fence line, and eight vehicle ways. An abandoned jeep trail once extended down Hurricane Wash, and an overgrown and abandoned airstrip is next to the Hole-in-the-Rock Road. Some seismic lines stretch for 10 miles from the base of Fiftymile Mountain through the unit to the NRA boundary. These look highly intrusive and easily driven when viewed from aircraft and inventoried by photo interpretation. However, ground investigation reveals a different perspective: these one-time/one-pass surface scrapes are generally unnoticeable and are being naturally reclaimed with desert shrubs and grasses. The vehicle ways are little used and have little impact on the area's natural character, although they are occasionally used by recreationists and livestock managers. Seven roads and adjacent facilities have been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit is an extension of the Glen Canyon NRA and the Escalante Canyon

(Tract 5) ISA, which have outstanding solitude opportunities. The solitude opportunities in the unit are outstanding when associated with the Coyote Gulch and Escalante River Canyon complex to the east and north, although solitude opportunities in Hurricane Wash itself are limited because of the sheer amount of visitation. Hikers frequently encounter other parties in the narrow confines of the canyon.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit adjoins and is an extension of wild lands within the Glen Canyon NRA and the Escalante Canyons (Tract 5) ISA, lands that possess outstanding primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities. The primitive recreation opportunities in Hurricane Wash are outstanding when associated with the Escalante River Canyon country of the ISA and the NRA directly east and north. Portions of the unit provide the same outstanding opportunities for backpacking, day hiking, camping, sightseeing, and photography that exist in the bordering lands. The area is heavily used year-round by backpackers and hikers. In fact, the recreational opportunities available in this unit have been widely publicized in guidebooks, brochures, books, magazines, and Internet sites having regional and national circulation.

Supplemental Values

Hurricane Wash and Chimney Rock are the two chief geological features in the unit. Hurricane Wash carves through two sandstone formations: the Entrada and the Navajo. Chimney Rock is a red-hued sandstone monolith about 150 feet high. Highly scenic in its isolation, this lonely spire towers above a level shrub-covered bench.

HURRICANE WASH—A view of Chimney Rock, three miles distant, as seen from Fortymile Ridge.



BLM photo

Hurricane Wash



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—Hurricane Wash

Sunset Arch

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
4,800	600	5,400 (71%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
1,900	300	2,200 (29%)
Inventory Unit Total		
6,700	900	7,600
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area		

Most of the Sunset Arch inventory unit (5,400 acres) has retained its wilderness characteristics and is natural, offering primitive recreation and solitude opportunities that extend from the contiguous Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA). There are several seldom-used and overgrown vehicle ways, a revegetating old seismic line, and fence lines, but these imprints have little impact on the area's naturalness.

The western part of the unit (2,200 acres) does not have wilderness characteristics. This area is separated from the eastern part of the unit by a pipeline and its associated constructed maintenance route, and it does not meet the size criterion by itself. It contains the Dance Hall Rock Historic Site, Lone Rock, 2.5 miles of fence line, and a 2.2-mile remnant of seismic line.

Three roads and associated facilities have been cherry-stemmed from the inventory unit. These include a livestock water pipeline/trough system in the northeast, a major range water and line facility at Fortymile Spring, and the parking area at Dance Hall Rock.

Unit Description

The Sunset Arch inventory unit is located in Kane County about 44 miles southeast of Escalante. All public lands are within BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The inventory unit consists mainly of Fortymile Ridge and Fortymile Bench. The northern part of the unit contains the crest of Fortymile Ridge. From the crest, the benchlands below are open and look like sand dunes, with low shrubs and expansive views in all directions. The benchlands start high at the ridge and slope moderately downward toward Fortymile Gulch. The gradual fall of the bench to Fortymile Gulch is interrupted only by the abrupt appearance of scattered rock outcrops like Sunset Arch, Lone

Rock, and the Dance Hall Rocks. The benchlands are covered with low-growing desert shrubs and grasses. The area is currently used for livestock grazing, hunting, historical study, sightseeing, and hiking. Dance Hall Rock is a historic site associated with Mormon history and settlement.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The area with wilderness characteristics is natural, although a few human imprints are present. These imprints consist of a one-time seismic line pass (2.8 miles), a fence line (3.4 miles), and five vehicle ways (6.8 miles). The seismic line is a long and linear feature stretching all the way from Hole-in-the-Rock Road to a tributary of Fortymile Gulch. On-the-ground checking revealed that this one-pass surface brush is generally unnoticeable and is being naturally reclaimed with desert shrubs. The vehicle ways are nearly abandoned. They pass through deep sand, and what little use they receive is mainly by livestock managers and recreationists. These minor routes have little impact on the unit's natural character. Two roads have been cherry-stemmed from the part of the unit with wilderness characteristics.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory unit is an extension of the Glen Canyon NRA, an area with

outstanding solitude opportunities. The solitude opportunities are outstanding in conjunction with the Escalante River Canyon complex to the east. Moreover, the seven drainages and rolling hills of Fortymile Ridge offer an outstanding degree of seclusion in their own right. The ridge, while relatively open with only low sage and shrub cover, is expansive, with many swales and terrain dips. Visitors can easily distance themselves from each other.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit adjoins and is an extension of wild lands within the Glen Canyon NRA, which offers outstanding primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities. The best primitive recreation opportunity is day hiking to Sunset Arch. Navajo Mountain can be seen through Sunset Arch, presenting interesting photographic composition opportunities. Some hikes and backpacks down Fortymile Gulch and into the NRA begin in this unit, either down the gulch itself or through a scenic and incised tributary north of the canyon.

Supplemental Values

Sunset Arch is the only supplemental feature of note; this arch is located in a small outcrop of rocks near the unit's center. Some archaeological features are also present.

SUNSET ARCH—Sunset Arch provides scenic relief in the otherwise uninterrupted benchlands that slope downward from Fortymile Ridge to Fortymile Gulch.



BLM photo

Sunset Arch



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	

Phipps-Death Hollow

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
1,650	3,040	4,690 (98%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
80	0	80 (2%)
Inventory Unit Total		
1,730	3,040	4,770
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Phipps-Death Hollow ISA		42,731

Five of the six Phipps-Death Hollow inventory units (4,690 acres) possess remarkable wilderness characteristics akin to those in the contiguous Phipps-Death Hollow Instant Study Area (ISA). These units provide an extension of the wilderness opportunities found in the larger ISA and the Forest Service's nearby Box-Death Hollow Wilderness. The five natural units provide visitors with outstanding opportunities for camping, backpacking, hiking, horseback riding, and sightseeing. They enhance the opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation found within the contiguous ISA and nearby wilderness. Unit 4 (80 acres) is unnatural and lacks wilderness characteristics.

Unit Description

The Phipps-Death Hollow inventory units are in eastern Garfield County, ranging from one to eight miles northeast of Escalante. Units 1, 2, 3 and 6 are composed entirely of state land. Unit 5 is partially state land, while Unit 4 is entirely public land. All public lands are part of BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

The six units have steep-walled canyons, mesas, benches, canyon rims, natural bridges, arches, and four perennial streams, all similar to and linked with the acclaimed wild landscapes displayed in the contiguous ISA. The canyons slicing through Units 1, 3, and 5 are among the deepest in the Escalante River's drainage system. Unit 3 contains the most scenic part of Calf Creek and more than one mile of the famous hiking trail to Lower Calf Creek Falls. This trail is used by thousands of visitors annually. A scenic sandstone portion of the Escalante River

canyon's rugged north wall rises in Unit 5, and a segment of the Escalante River flows through this unit as well. Forested and deeply incised Pine Creek flows through Unit 6. The deep sandstone canyons and adjacent benches of Units 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 present spectacular landscape contrasts.

The units are currently used by a variety of commercial and noncommercial recreationists, by educational institutions, by organizations for scientific study, and by ranchers with grazing permits.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Units 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 were found to be natural, with evidence of human activity being substantially unnoticeable. However, Unit 4 was found to be unnatural; it is separated from the rest of the ISA by a telephone line and associated rights-of-way. Inventory Unit 1 is pristine. Unit 2 is traversed by the cherry-stemmed McGath Bench Road but is otherwise pristine. The popular Calf Creek hiking trail crosses Unit 3, but the unit remains natural. Two vehicle ways, one road, and grazing developments have been cherry-stemmed from Unit 5. The three vehicle ways that remain have not been maintained and are revegetating. The boundary of Unit 6 has been drawn to exclude disturbances west of Pine Creek.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The precipitous canyons, woodland-covered mesas and benches, and canyon rims extending from the Phipps-Death Hollow ISA into each of the units are natural

extensions, and enhance the solitude opportunities, of both the ISA and the nearby Box-Death Hollow Wilderness. The inventory units contain the same combination of topographic screening and plant cover that provide outstanding solitude opportunities within the ISA.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Units 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 all adjoin and are natural ecological extensions of the landforms within the Phipps-Death Hollow ISA. The ISA exhibits an uncommon collection of documented outstanding primitive recreation opportunities. Each of these five units provides the visitor with comparable camping, backpacking, hiking, horseback riding, and sightseeing for cultural and geological features.

Moreover, these units further enhance the primitive recreation opportunities already present in the ISA.

Supplemental Values

Scenic quality is outstanding in all areas, with special features including Death Hollow Canyon, McGath Bench, Calf Creek Canyon, the Escalante River, and the Antone Uplift. Red-and-white sandstone spires, knobs, deep canyons, and buttes contrast with the green vegetation and blue sky. The benches provide outstanding views of the Escalante Canyons.

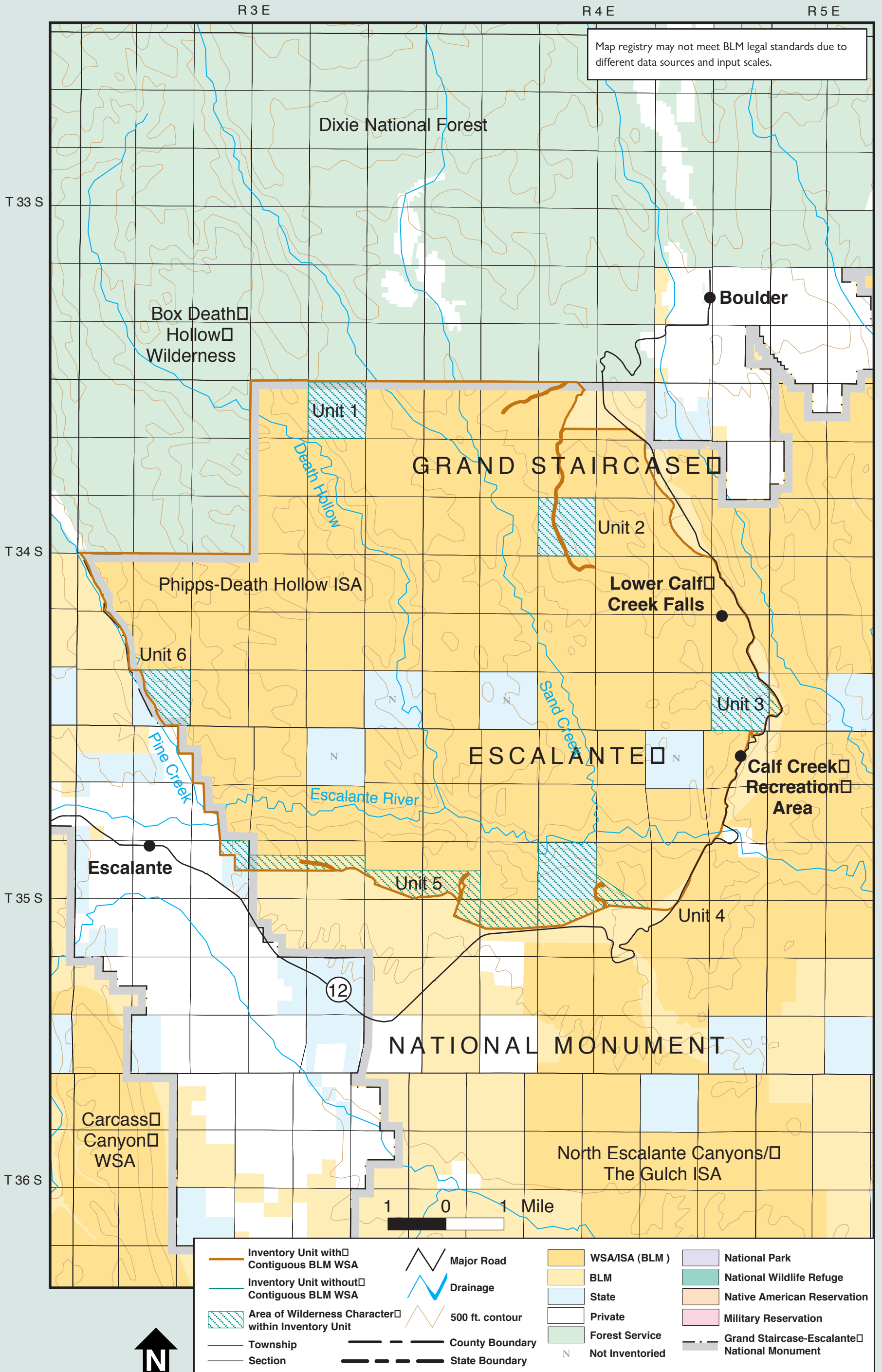
Archaeological sites are numerous in Units 1, 2, 3, and 5; Unit 3 has documented cliff dwellings, granaries, and petroglyphs. Unit 5 contains a segment of the Boynton Wagon route. This still-visible wagon route, which was constructed in 1909 as a shortcut between Escalante and Salt Gulch, may qualify for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, as might the Friendship Cove Pictograph in Unit 3.

PHIPPS-DEATH HOLLOW—A view of Unit 3 overlooking Calf Creek and the Calf Creek Falls Trail.



BLM photo

Phipps-Death Hollow



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—Phipps-Death Hollow

Steep Creek

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
8,100	0	8,100 (70%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
3,400	0	3,400 (30%)
Inventory Unit Total		
11,500	0	11,500
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Steep Creek WSA (UT-040-061)		21,896

Most of the Steep Creek inventory unit (8,100 acres) has wilderness characteristics. Although fringe areas contain range developments and other disturbances, the interior remains natural. However, several portions of the unit (3,400 acres) are unnatural and lack wilderness characteristics because of prominent range developments, vegetation manipulations, and mining disturbances. A 0.2-mile road that enters the unit off the Burr Trail has been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

From this unit there are spectacular views of the Circle Cliffs. The unit contains a portion of these cliffs, as well as deep washes that wind through colorful red-soil benches dotted with piñon and juniper. Outstanding solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities are available within these disparate landscapes.

The unit is bounded on the west by the rugged Steep Creek Wilderness Study Area (WSA), which contains colorful and dramatic portions of the Circle Cliffs north of the Burr Trail. The Steep Creek inventory unit's solitude and primitive recreation opportunities are enhanced by

the presence of the WSA, with its pristine 34 square miles of canyons and benches.

Unit Description

The Steep Creek inventory unit is located in central Garfield County about 25 miles east of Boulder, just east of the Circle Cliffs. The unit is within BLM's Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. The vegetation is predominantly piñon and juniper woodland on the benches, while the deep washes contain willows and other riparian species. The inventory unit boundary follows the Steep Creek WSA boundary on the west, drawn on a mineral exploration route from the 1950s. This route has been largely obliterated through vegetative regrowth and erosion.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Several portions of the inventory unit are unnatural because of mining, range water developments, drill seedings, and chainings. However, the unit's interior appears to be entirely natural with the exception of a barbed wire fence, an underground pipeline, and washed out vehicle ways in the western portion, all of which are substantially unnoticeable.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The Steep Creek inventory unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude.

The foremost opportunities are found within the deep winding washes in the unit's interior. Other outstanding opportunities exist on top of the benches below the Circle Cliffs and within the broad, deep canyons. The benches and rolling hills are covered by dense juniper and piñon woodland that screens visitors from each other. The inventory unit extends the size, vegetation, configuration, and topography factors that create the notable solitude opportunities provided by the Steep Creek WSA.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory unit provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. There are excellent opportunities for hiking, backpacking, camping, horseback riding, geological and cultural study, sightseeing, and photography. The area is a logical extension of the Steep Creek WSA and augments these same outstanding opportunities found within the WSA. From the higher elevations, visitors are provided with scenic vistas of the surrounding Circle Cliffs, the Lampstand area, and Capitol Reef National Park.

Supplemental Values

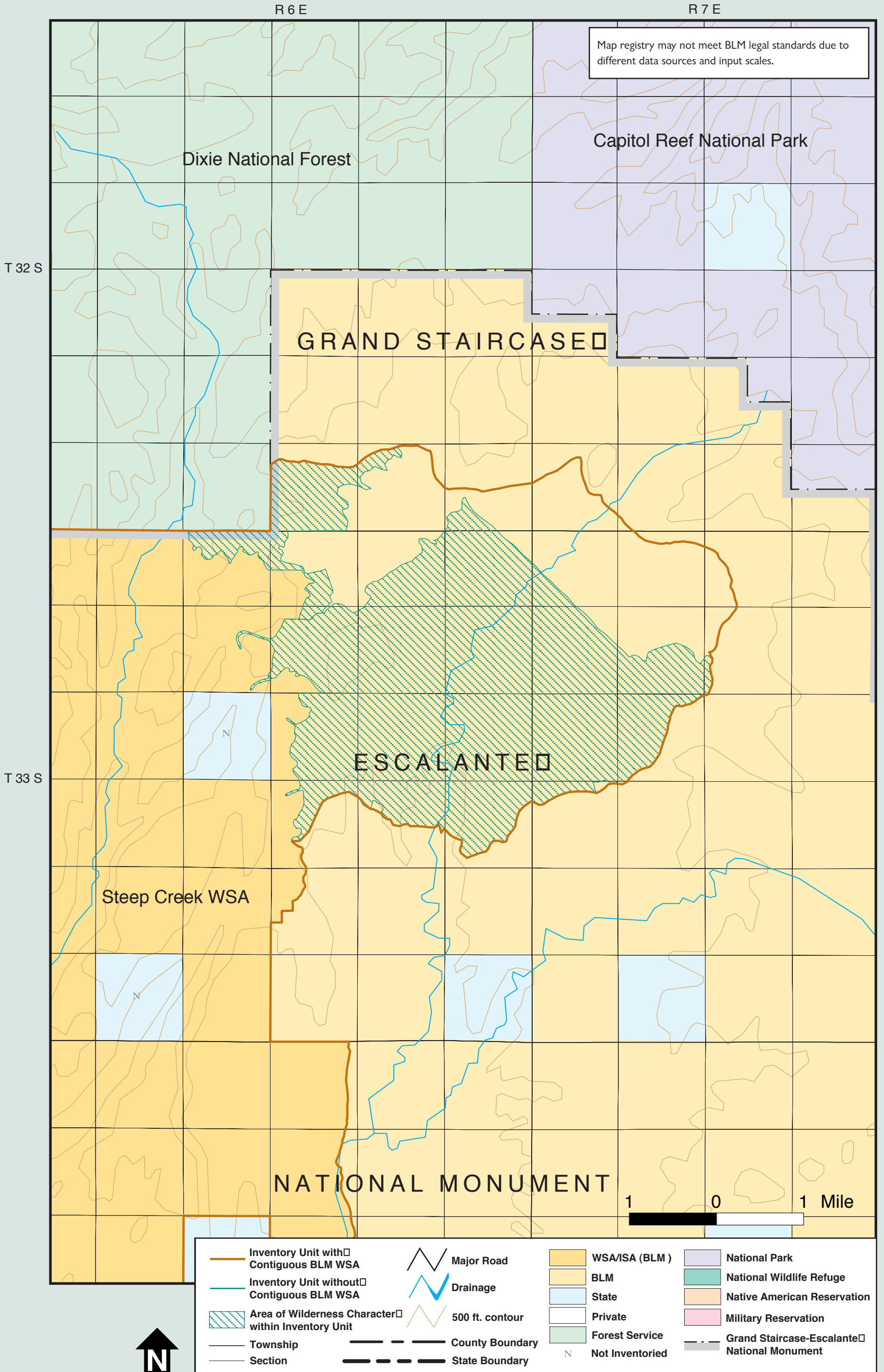
The unit is scenic and also has geologic and cultural resource values. A portion of the Circle Cliffs and the distinctive erosional Chinle formation soils beneath them are contained within the unit. Evidence of prehistoric human occupation is relatively common.

STEEP CREEK—Piñon and juniper woodlands and the unit's rugged terrain provide solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation experiences, especially when considered along with the contiguous Steep Creek WSA.



Jerry Sintz

Steep Creek



SOUTH CENTRAL REGION—Steep Creek

Studhorse Peaks

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
20,200	2,100	22,300 (90%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
2,200	400	2,600 (10%)
Inventory Unit Total		
22,400	2,500	24,900
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

The portion of the Studhorse Peaks inventory unit possessing wilderness characteristics (22,300 acres) appears natural and provides visitors with outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Expansive juniper and piñon woodlands are interspersed with peaks, buttes, mesas, washes, and canyons, presenting the primitive recreationist with a variety of landscapes and secluded locales. The Studhorse Peaks, a series of four prominent buttes, offer imposing 360-degree views of the entire Circle Cliffs region of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

Several portions of the unit (2,600 acres) lack wilderness characteristics because of the cumulative effects of mineral exploration, stock ponds, an oil well pad, woodcutting disturbance, a gravel mixing pad, a bladed fence, seismic lines, and associated access routes. Five roads have been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

Unit Description

The Studhorse Peaks inventory unit is located in eastern Garfield County about 28 miles northeast of Escalante. The area is composed of several levels of mesas and east-to-west trending canyons and drainages. The vegetation is predominantly piñon-juniper woodlands on the uplands, with sagebrush and shrubs in the lower-elevation valleys on the west side.

Evidence of past mining is found on state land, on mesas in the south, and on portions of the Studhorse Peaks. A series of grazing developments are found in the northeast.

STUDHORSE PEAKS—The distant Circle Cliffs region of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument can be viewed from the top of any of the Studhorse Peaks. Dense piñon and juniper woodland atop the buttes serves to screen and isolate visitors from each other.

Some recreational use occurs mainly around the Studhorse Peaks, with woodcutting, car camping, hunting, and hiking being the main pursuits.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The greatest part of the Studhorse Peaks inventory unit retains its natural character, with human impacts being substantially unnoticeable. Little surface-disturbing activity has occurred in this area, and what disturbance has occurred is rapidly being reclaimed by weathering and plant growth.

The three western most Studhorse Peaks have each been impacted by mineral exploration to varying degrees. Each peak's base is cut by exploration routes and bulldozer scrapes; exploration routes were cut to two of the three summits. Evidence of historic uranium drilling exploration, these intrusions are now largely reclaimed or continuing to be reclaimed through natural processes. The summit exploration routes are eroded, impassible, and overgrown with trees and bushes. All of these intrusions are screened by terrain and plants; they are unnoticeable to casual observers unless directly encountered. The remaining evidence of mechanical excavation will be eroded and overgrown over time.

Most identified vehicle ways are faint or one-time-only occurrences from woodcutting, recreation, or 30- to 40-year-old mineral exploration activities. However, parts of the unit's northeastern and southern segments were found to be unnatural and lacking in wilderness characteristics because of the cumulative effects of mining, ranching, and recreational activity.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The entire Studhorse Peaks inventory unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude, given its diverse terrain and vegetative screening. A dense piñon and juniper forest; White Canyon and other deep gorges; and rugged escarpments, mountains, mesas, washes, and uplands serve to screen or isolate visitors from each other. Pristine overlooks in the interior and on top of the Studhorse Peaks offer visitors a sense of seclusion.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The entire inventory unit provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Opportunities for general sightseeing and photography of the surrounding Circle Cliffs region are outstanding from the top of the Studhorse Peaks. Features such as balanced rock formations and archaeological remains can be discovered in this relatively unexplored area. There are day hiking and backpacking opportunities throughout the unit, including treks up pristine drainages like White Canyon and scrambles to viewpoints on the Studhorse Peaks and other mesas and buttes.

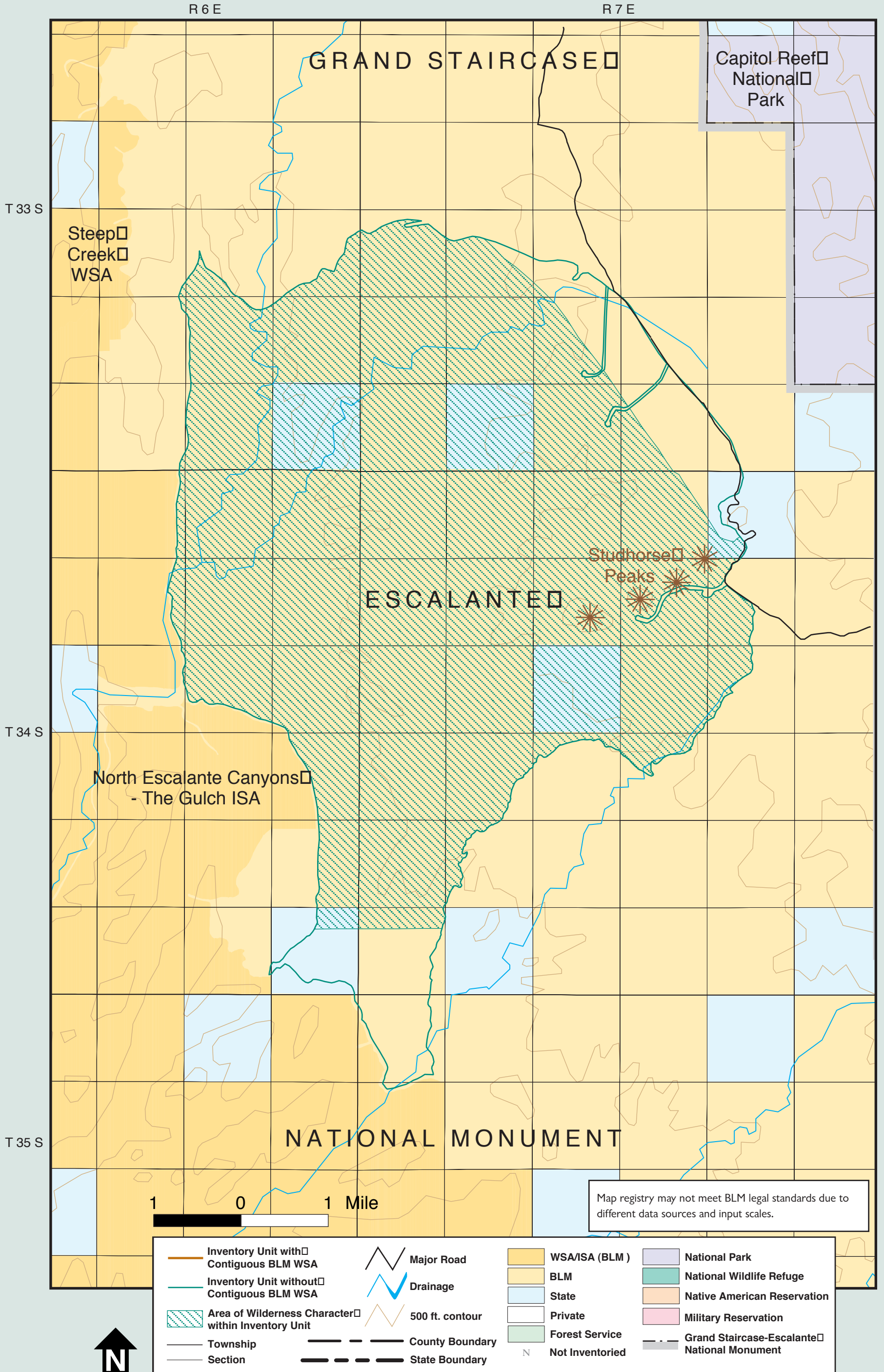
Supplemental Values

A series of prominent mesas known as the Studhorse Peaks is a striking signature feature for the unit that offers exceptional views of the surrounding Circle Cliffs and Escalante River Canyons region. A short day hike to these peaks provides panoramic vistas of prominent red-rock cliffs, spires, mesas, canyons, and mountains. Vantage points from the summits provide unsurpassed views of this unique geologic region.



Jerry Sintz

Studhorse Peaks



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA | Major Road | WSA/ISA (BLM) | National Park |
| Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA | Drainage | BLM | National Wildlife Refuge |
| Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit | 500 ft. contour | State | Native American Reservation |
| Township | County Boundary | Private | Military Reservation |
| Section | State Boundary | Forest Service | Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument |
| | | Not Inventoried | |



Colt Mesa

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
25,400	2,900	28,300 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
25,400	2,900	28,300
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Capitol Reef National Park		

The Colt Mesa inventory unit (28,300 acres) has wilderness characteristics. The area in large part appears natural and provides visitors with outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. In addition, the unit contains a portion of the Waterpocket Fold, the prominent geologic landmark within Capitol Reef National Park (CRNP). The entire 18-mile-long eastern boundary abuts portions of the CRNP that have been administratively endorsed for wilderness. The unit provides an extension to the wilderness values of those lands.

Several small portions of the unit are unnatural and lack wilderness characteristics because of abandoned structures, stock ponds, mining impacts, and vehicle routes. However, the boundary was drawn to eliminate these areas. Two roads that penetrate the unit have been cherry-stemmed.

Unit Description

The Colt Mesa unit is located in eastern Garfield County about 30 miles east of Escalante and lies within the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

Four mesas dominate the review unit: Wagon Box Mesa to the north, Deer Point to the south, and Colt and Horse Pasture Mesas in between. Piñon and juniper trees are the dominant vegetation covering the rough hills, steep-sided buttes, and benchlands. Sagebrush and other shrubs are common in the lower valleys.

COLT MESA—Mesas separated by intervening washes and valleys characterize Colt Mesa's varied and rugged natural terrain; these features support the finding that Colt Mesa has wilderness characteristics. In this view, the Colt Mesa inventory unit is in the foreground, with Studhorse Peaks in the background.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The unit appears natural and has been determined to have wilderness characteristics. The unit contains evidence of past mineral exploration and current ranching and recreation activities. However, these impacts are substantially unnoticeable in most of the unit. Most of the identified vehicle ways are single-pass bulldozer routes up the sides and across the tops of the mesas; these resulted from mineral exploration activities conducted some 30 to 40 years ago. These routes are now disappearing and are impassible because of non-use, extensive revegetation, and erosional processes. An airstrip constructed during mineral exploration after World War II is now completely revegetated and unnoticeable. Several stock ponds and an abandoned drill pad are also substantially unnoticeable.

A few areas on the edge of the unit do not have wilderness characteristics because of substantial disturbance from mining activity, stock ponds, abandoned structures, and associated access. The unit boundary was drawn to eliminate these disturbances. Two roads entering the unit have been cherry-stemmed. One road at the northern tip leads from the Burr Trail south to an area with significant disturbance from oil drill pads and spoils. Another short road west of Colt Mesa leads to an adit (this route is too short to depict on the unit map).

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. The rugged landscape features a diverse assemblage of mesas, washes, uplands, and rolling hills,

presenting a topography where visitors are easily separated from the view of others. Piñon and juniper forests on the uplands and mesas provide dense screening in some areas, isolating people from other users. Solitude is further enhanced by the area's size and ample opportunities to find seclusion in the rugged and broken terrain of the Waterpocket Fold. In addition, the area is contiguous to portions of CRNP that also have outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Outstanding opportunities exist for backpacking, horseback riding, hiking, camping, geologic sightseeing, and photography. Views of the surrounding Circle Cliffs, Escalante Canyons, and Waterpocket Fold from the summits of Wagon Box and Deer Point Mesas are spectacular. A cross-country hike to Deep Point is featured in a Utah hiking guide. In addition, the unit is contiguous to portions of CRNP that possess outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation. The unit extends the opportunities for visitors to experience, both on foot and horseback, the jagged canyons and mesas of the Waterpocket Fold.

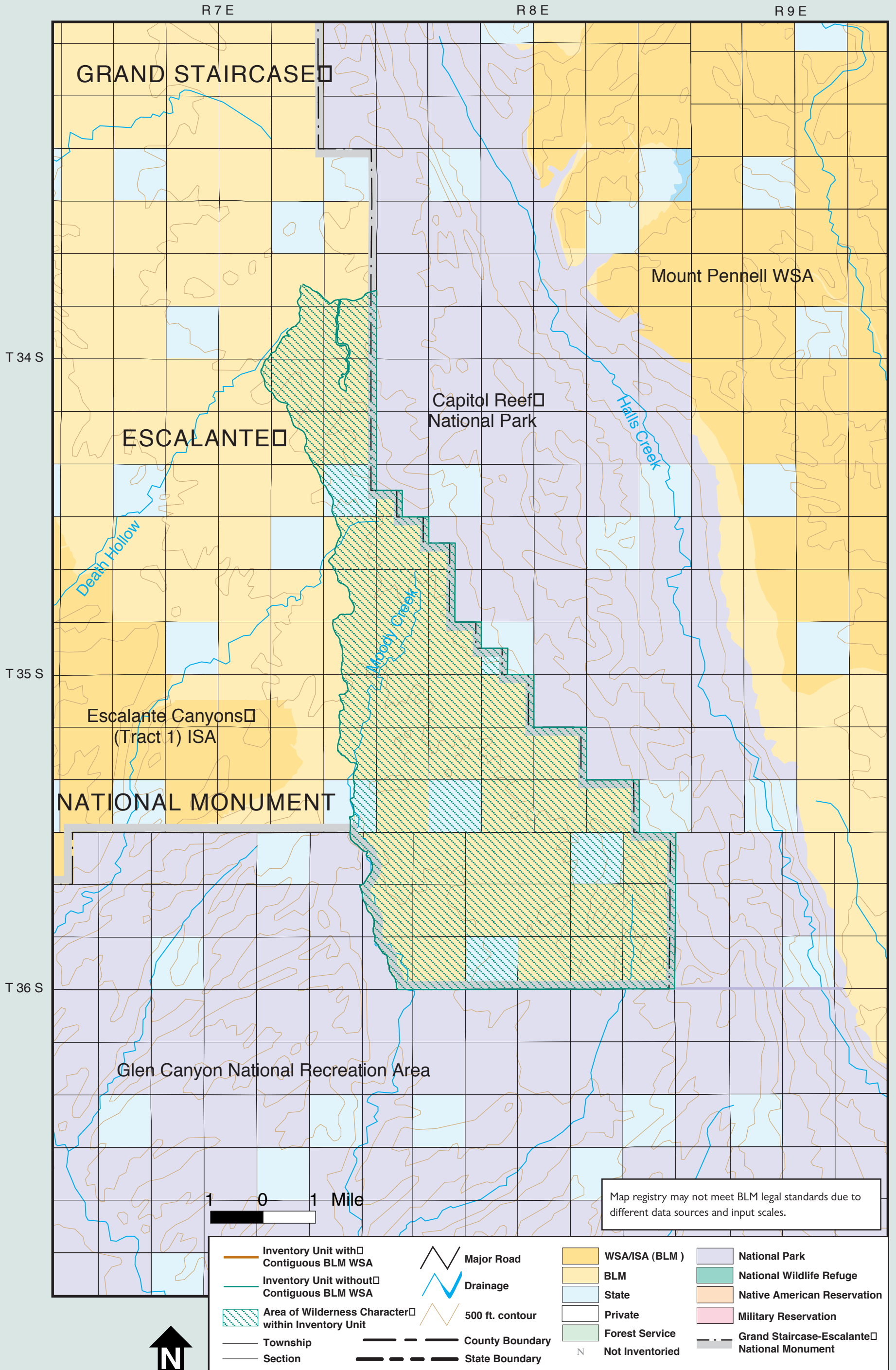
Supplemental Values

Spectacular scenic views from the unit include the Circle Cliffs portion of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument, CRNP, the North Escalante Canyons, Boulder Mountain, and the Henry Mountains. The unit also has several outstanding geological features. Deer Point is a spectacular example of the 100-mile-long Waterpocket Fold monocline. The upper reaches of the Moody Canyons are cut into Kaibab limestone and Coconino sandstone, which are some of the oldest exposed rock layers in the region.



Jerry Sintz

Colt Mesa



Fremont Gorge

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
14,600	1,400	16,000 (79%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
3,800	500	4,300 (21%)
Inventory Unit Total		
18,400	1,900	20,300
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Fremont Gorge WSA (UT-050-221)		2,540
Capitol Reef National Park		

Most of the Fremont Gorge inventory unit (16,000 acres) has wilderness characteristics. However, several locations (4,300 acres) within the inventory boundaries are not natural and lack wilderness characteristics, including the ridgetops and benchlands of Miners Mountain east of Carcass Creek and Sulphur Creek, a small area just east of the junction of Utah Highways 12 and 24, another small parcel north of Calf Canyon, and a small area on the eastern tip of Beas Lewis Flat. Three roads have been cherry-stemmed out of the inventory unit. As an extension of both the contiguous Fremont Gorge Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and a portion of Capitol Reef National Park that has been administratively endorsed for wilderness by the National Park Service (NPS), the inventory unit offers outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. The Fremont gorge contains pristine riparian habitat, providing significant recreational, educational, ecological, and scientific values. Scenery in the Fremont gorge is spectacular.

Unit Description

The inventory unit is in western Wayne County just east of the town of Torrey. The Fremont Gorge WSA is contiguous to the northern portion of the unit. The unit's northern boundary follows a maintained road along Sand Creek for approximately one mile and then follows the WSA boundary. Capitol Reef National Park forms the unit's eastern boundary south to the Wayne-Garfield County line. An area administratively endorsed by the NPS for wilderness designation lies immediately adjacent. The southern boundary follows the Wayne-Garfield County line west for about a mile. The unit's western boundary generally follows maintained roads and private ownership boundaries. The Fremont River flows from west to east through a deep scenic gorge located within unit boundaries. The gorge itself is wild, roadless, and lacks evidence of man-made intrusions. Vegetation consists of piñon and juniper, scattered ponderosa pine, and high-desert shrub species. The Fremont River and its tributaries support undisturbed riparian vegetation. The unit is currently used for livestock grazing, woodcutting, and recreation.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

While most of the inventory unit has retained its natural-appearing character, several specific locations are not natural appearing in the landscape. These include the ridge tops and benchlands of Miners Mountain east of Carcass Creek and Sulphur Creek (which contain extensive impacts from firewood cutting, Christmas

tree harvesting, chaining areas, old seismographic survey line construction, mineral exploration ways and adits, and numerous fence lines), a small area just east of the junction of Utah Highways 12 and 24, a small parcel north of Calf Canyon (which contains several dump sites, a commercial flagstone quarrying operation, and dispersed recreation sites), and a small area on Beas Lewis Flat (which contains Torrey Allotment Reservoir No. 2 and associated intrusions). Three roads have been cherry-stemmed out of the inventory unit: one extending to Torrey Allotment Reservoir No. 2 on Beas Lewis Flat, a second extending to the confluence of Carcass Creek and the Fremont River, and a third extending to and beyond Wide Hollow Reservoir.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory unit is contiguous to and is an extension of the Fremont Gorge WSA as well as the administratively endorsed wilderness acreage within Capitol Reef National Park. Both of these contiguous areas provide outstanding opportunities for solitude; in combination with them, the inventory unit does as well. Where present, dense stands of piñon and juniper provide excellent screening below canyon rims. The riparian vegetation along the Fremont River also provides screening and enhances opportunities for visitor solitude.

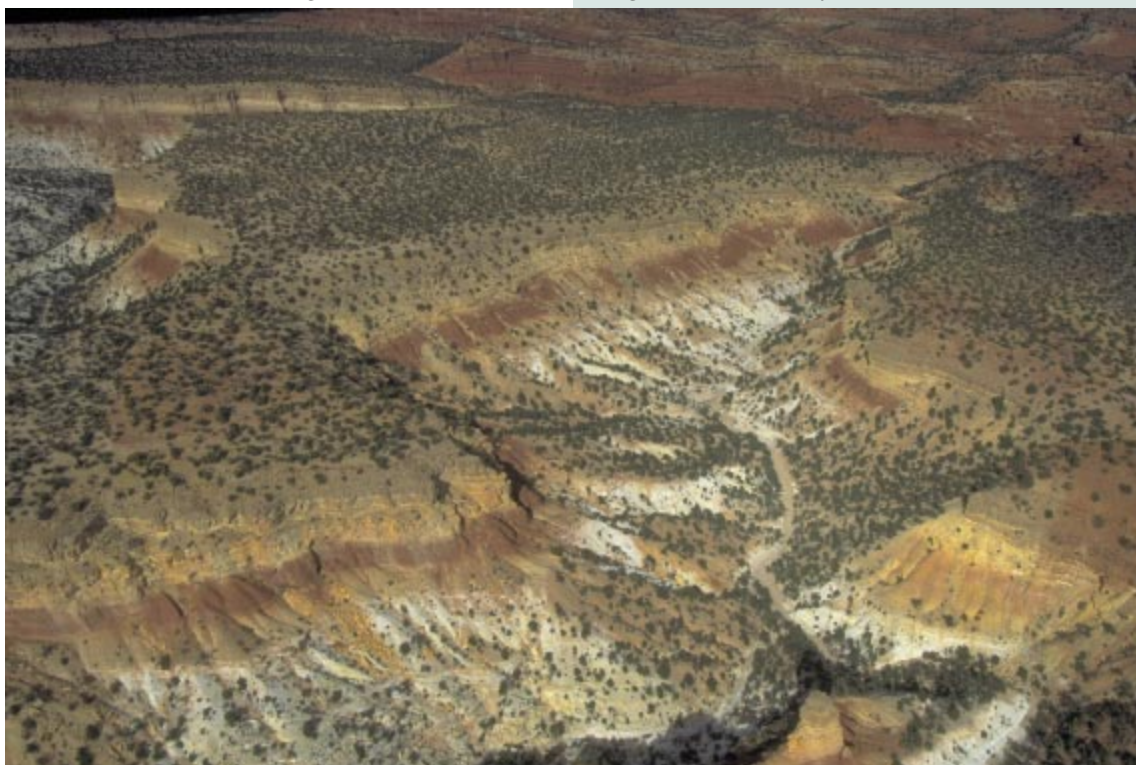
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory unit is contiguous to and is an extension of the Fremont Gorge WSA as well as the administratively endorsed wilderness acreage within Capitol Reef National Park; both provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. In combination with this WSA and NPS acreage, the inventory unit provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Hiking, backpacking, photography, and sightseeing are popular recreational activities. The Fremont gorge provides outstanding hiking and fishing opportunities along a major river.

Supplemental Values

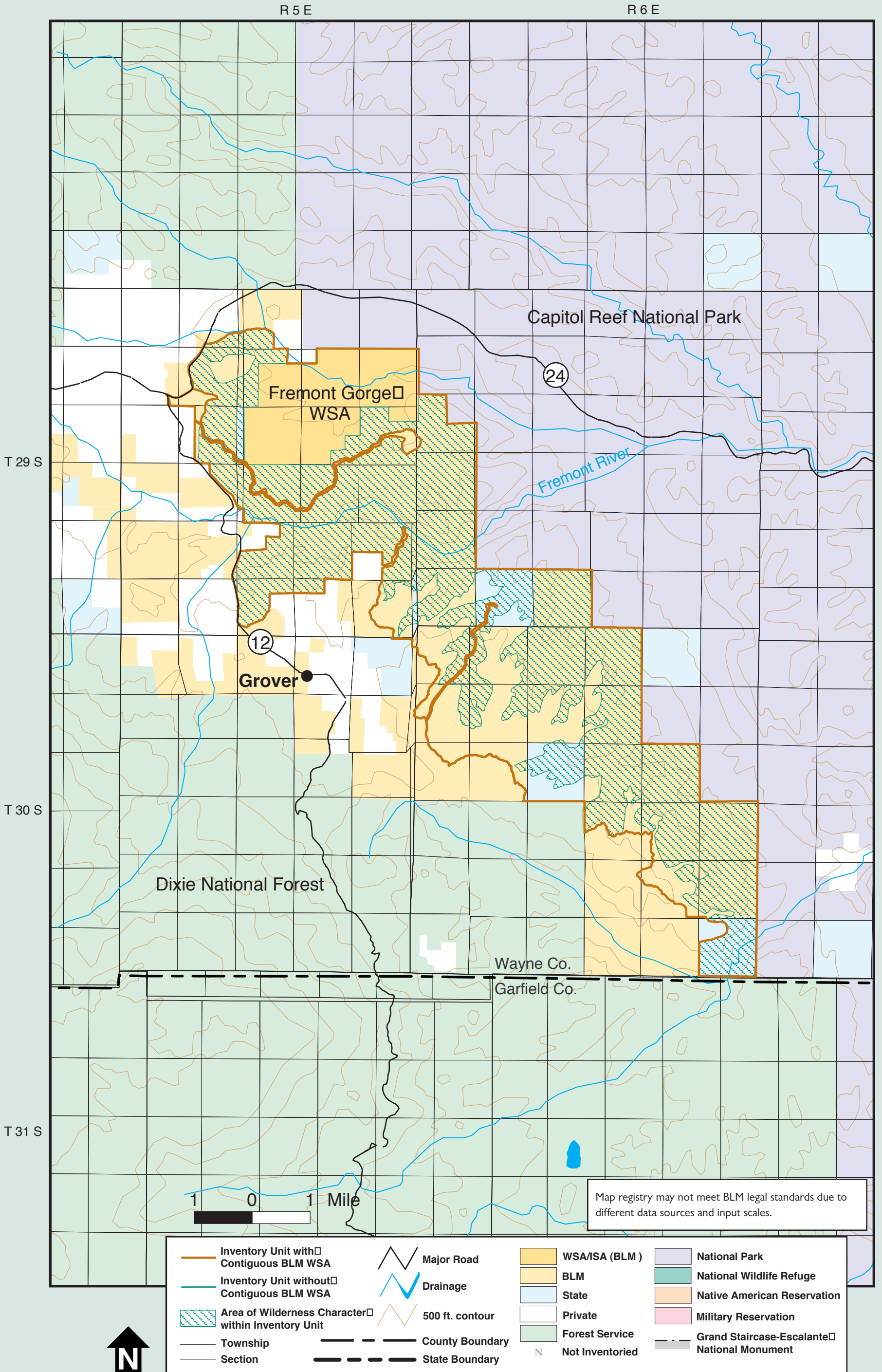
The Fremont River area through the gorge contains pristine riparian habitat and provides significant ecological, educational, and scientific values. The Fremont River is eligible for inclusion as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System because of its outstanding recreational values. Scenery in the Fremont gorge is spectacular.

FREMONT GORGE—The edge of Miner's Mountain, looking into the inventory unit.



Jerry Sintz

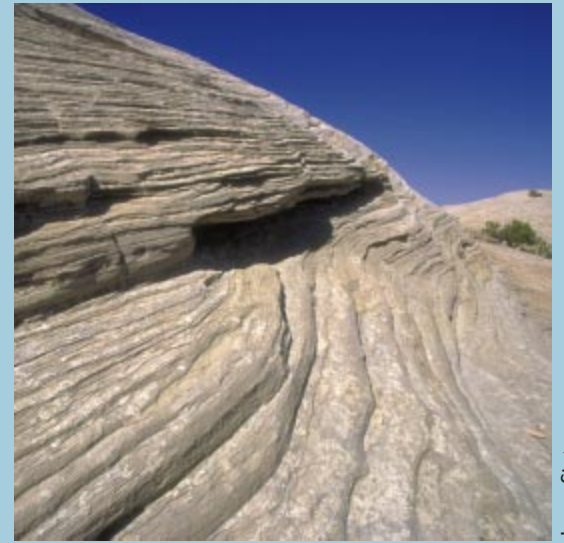
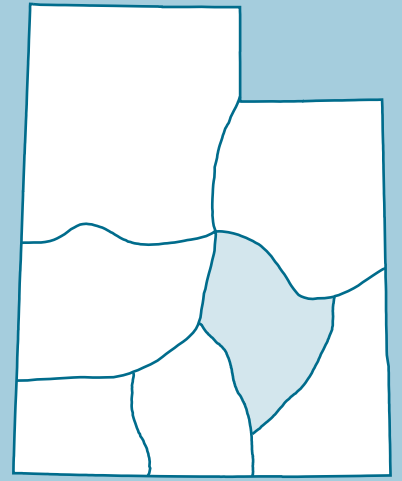
Fremont Gorge



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

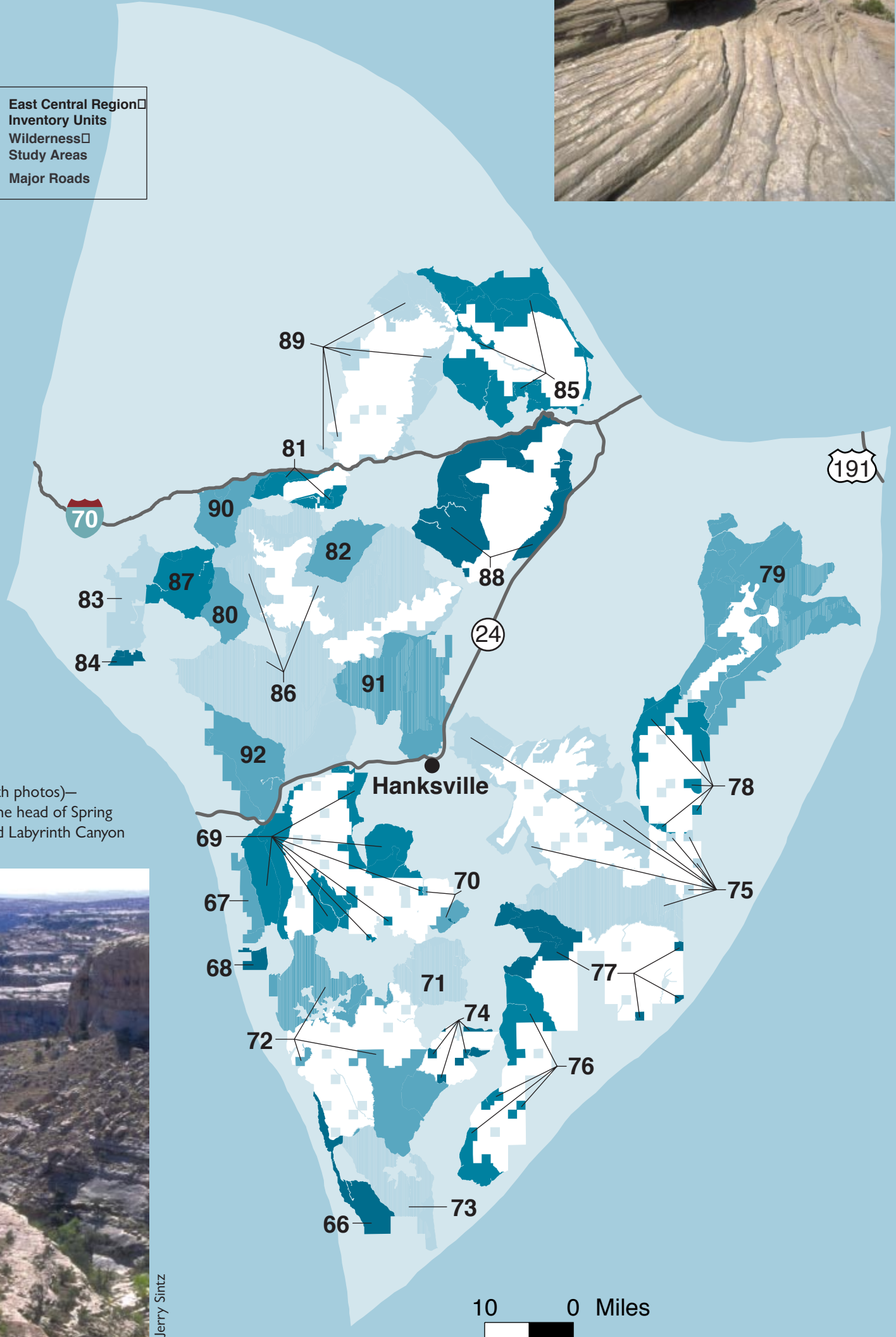
East Central Region

Notom Bench	66	Cedar Mountain	80
Long Canyon	67	Devils Canyon	81
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Jerry Sintz

66-69 East Central Region Inventory Units
 Wilderness Study Areas
 Major Roads



LABYRINTH CANYON (Both photos)—Slick rock, and a view near the head of Spring Canyon as it descends toward Labyrinth Canyon and the Green River.



Jerry Sintz

Notom Bench

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
5,500	1,500	7,000 (67%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
3,500	0	3,500 (33%)
Inventory Unit Total		
9,000	1,500	10,500
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Capitol Reef National Park—		35,010
Capitol Gorge Unit		

Most of the Notom Bench inventory unit (7,000 acres) has retained its natural character; this portion is roadless and only lightly impacted. However, several portions (3,500 acres) were found not to be natural, notably near Oak Creek and Pleasant Creek. The unit is contiguous to Capitol Reef National Park's Capitol Gorge area (35,010 acres), which has been administratively endorsed for wilderness designation. The unit has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation and solitude, especially when considered in conjunction with contiguous National Park Service (NPS) lands.

Unit Description

The Notom Bench inventory unit straddles the boundary between Wayne and Garfield Counties, about six miles south of Utah Highway 24 and west of the Notom Road. The nearest settlement is Caineville, about 12 miles northwest. Capitol Reef National Park forms the western boundary. Its northern and south-

ern borders are formed by private lands, while the east side follows a maintained road and/or power line.

Topography consists primarily of rolling foothills forming the eastern slope of the Waterpocket Fold. Vegetation ranges from scattered juniper trees on the upper slopes to desert shrubs such as blackbrush, rabbitbrush, and Mormon tea on the lower benchlands. Cottonwoods are found in the washes along Burro, Sheets, Cottonwood, and Fivemile Creeks. The unit is bisected from east to west by several of these major drainages. The deeply incised notch canyons are used to access popular hiking areas in Cottonwood, Burro, Sheets Gulch, and Fivemile Creeks within NPS lands. There is evidence of off-highway vehicle play in Cottonwood Creek and the benchlands adjacent to the Notom Road.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

About 7,000 acres of the Notom Bench inventory unit retain their natural character. This portion remains roadless, even though several ways are found that were probably used for mineral exploration. A small pasture fence and approximately 0.75 mile of old seismic lines are also present. Dispersed primitive campsites and parking areas are located on the major drainages along the Notom Road. Portions of the unit show evidence of off-highway vehicle use, principally near Cottonwood Wash and near the Sandy Ranches. However, these various human imprints are not noticeable within the unit as a whole.

Two areas (3,500 acres) that have been noticeably disturbed and lack naturalness include an area west of Pleasant Creek, where there is a maintained road and an irrigation ditch, and the southern portion of the unit, where a road leads to a trailhead and primitive campsite north of Oak Creek.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit is contiguous to Capitol Reef National Park's Capitol Gorge area, which has been administratively endorsed for wilderness designation. The inventory unit has outstanding opportunities for solitude when considered in conjunction with the NPS area. The Notom Bench inventory unit also has outstanding opportunities for solitude on its own, especially along the washes that screen open badlands.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit is contiguous to Capitol Reef National Park's Capitol Gorge area, which has been administratively endorsed for wilderness designation. In combination with these NPS lands, the Notom Bench unit has outstanding opportunities for at least one form of primitive and unconfined recreation—hiking takes place in the drainages and deeply incised canyons to access popular NPS areas.

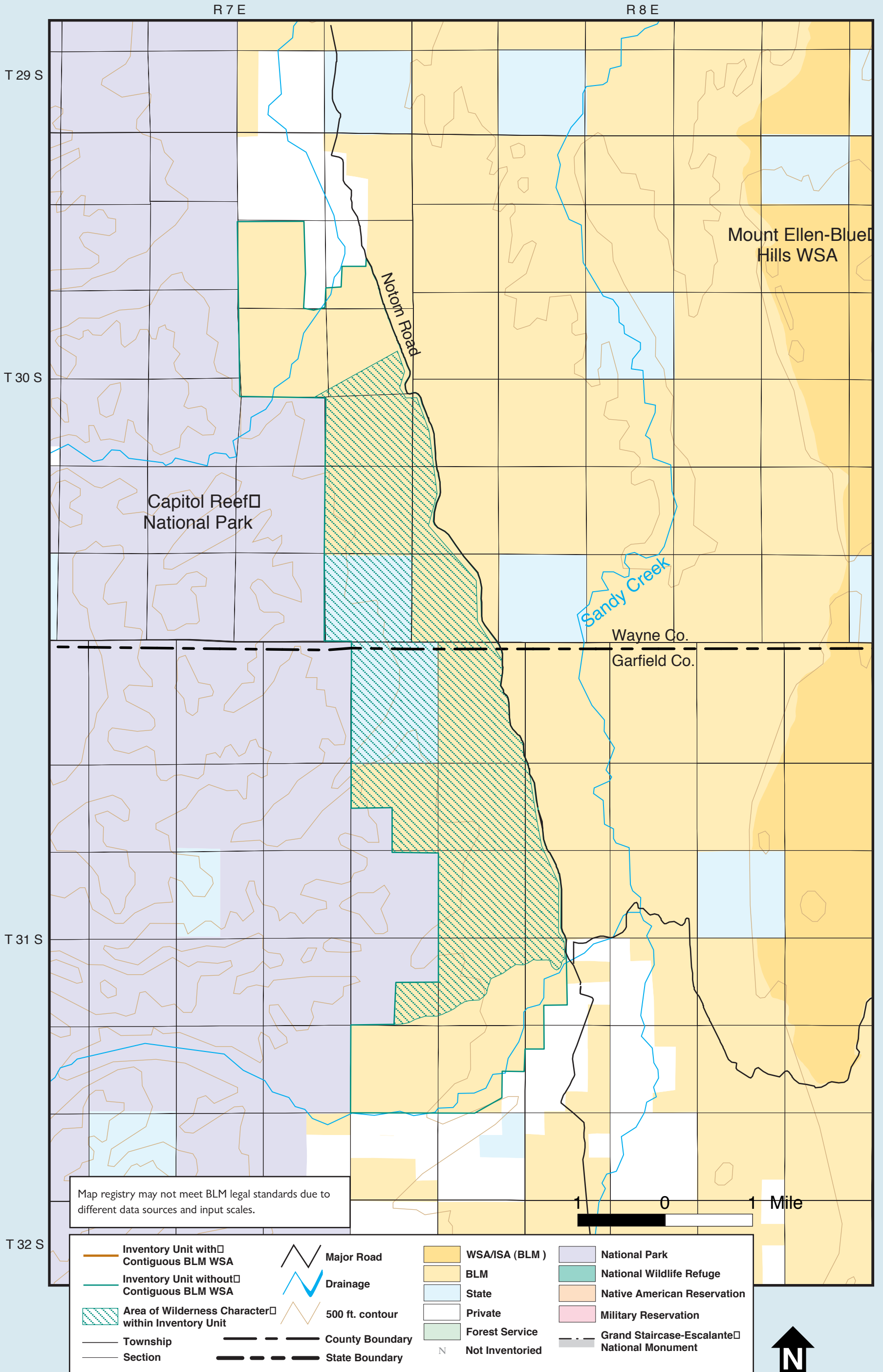
Supplemental Values

No supplemental values have been identified.

NOTOM BENCH—Evidence of off-highway vehicle use in the Cottonwood Wash area within the unit; a portion of the Waterpocket Fold within adjacent Capitol Reef National Park is visible in the background.



Notom Bench



EAST CENTRAL REGION—Notom Bench

Long Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
16,500	1,250	17,750 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
16,500	1,250	17,750
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Capitol Reef National Park— Wagon Box Mesa Unit		28,530

The Long Canyon inventory unit (17,750 acres) has retained its naturalness and has wilderness characteristics. The unit boundary has been drawn to eliminate vehicle ways and stock ponds that are substantially noticeable, and three roads have been cherry-stemmed from unit boundaries. The unit is contiguous to and is an extension of Capitol Reef National Park's Wagon Box Mesa, a 28,530-acre unit that has been administratively endorsed for wilderness designation. Glen Canyon National Recreation Area borders on the south. Given its remoteness and the contiguous National Park Service (NPS) area, the inventory unit has outstanding opportunities for solitude. The unit also has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Unit Description

The Long Canyon inventory unit is in southeastern Garfield County, about 11 miles northwest of the Bullfrog Basin Marina on Lake Powell. This long (16 miles), narrow (1 to 4 miles) unit is wedged between the Henry Mountains (the lower slopes of Mount Pennell) on the northeast, Capitol Reef National Park on the west, and Glen Canyon National Recreation Area on the south. The Burr Trail (a county-maintained road) forms the boundary along the northeast side. The remainder of the eastern boundary is formed by two maintained roads—one around the perimeter of Big Thompson Mesa and another on the east side of Middle Point (leading to Utah Highway 276 and Lake Powell).

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The Long Canyon inventory unit has retained its natural character because of its remote location and rugged terrain. Several old seismic/assessment vehicle ways can be observed from the Burr Trail, but are not substantially noticeable. An abandoned airstrip and a vehicle way used for mining exploration (west of Burts Spring) are present. While the airstrip creates an extensive intrusion when viewed from the air, vegetation obscures it from the casual observer at ground level. Two stock ponds are also considered substantially unnoticeable because of extensive revegetation and natural topographic screening. Several roads, vehicle ways, and stock ponds intrude enough to affect small portions of the unit's naturalness, so the boundary was drawn to exclude them.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit is contiguous to and is an extension of Capitol Reef National Park's Wagon Box Mesa, which has been administratively endorsed for wilderness designation. Because of the unit's remoteness and the fact that it is contiguous to the NPS area, outstanding opportunities for solitude are present.

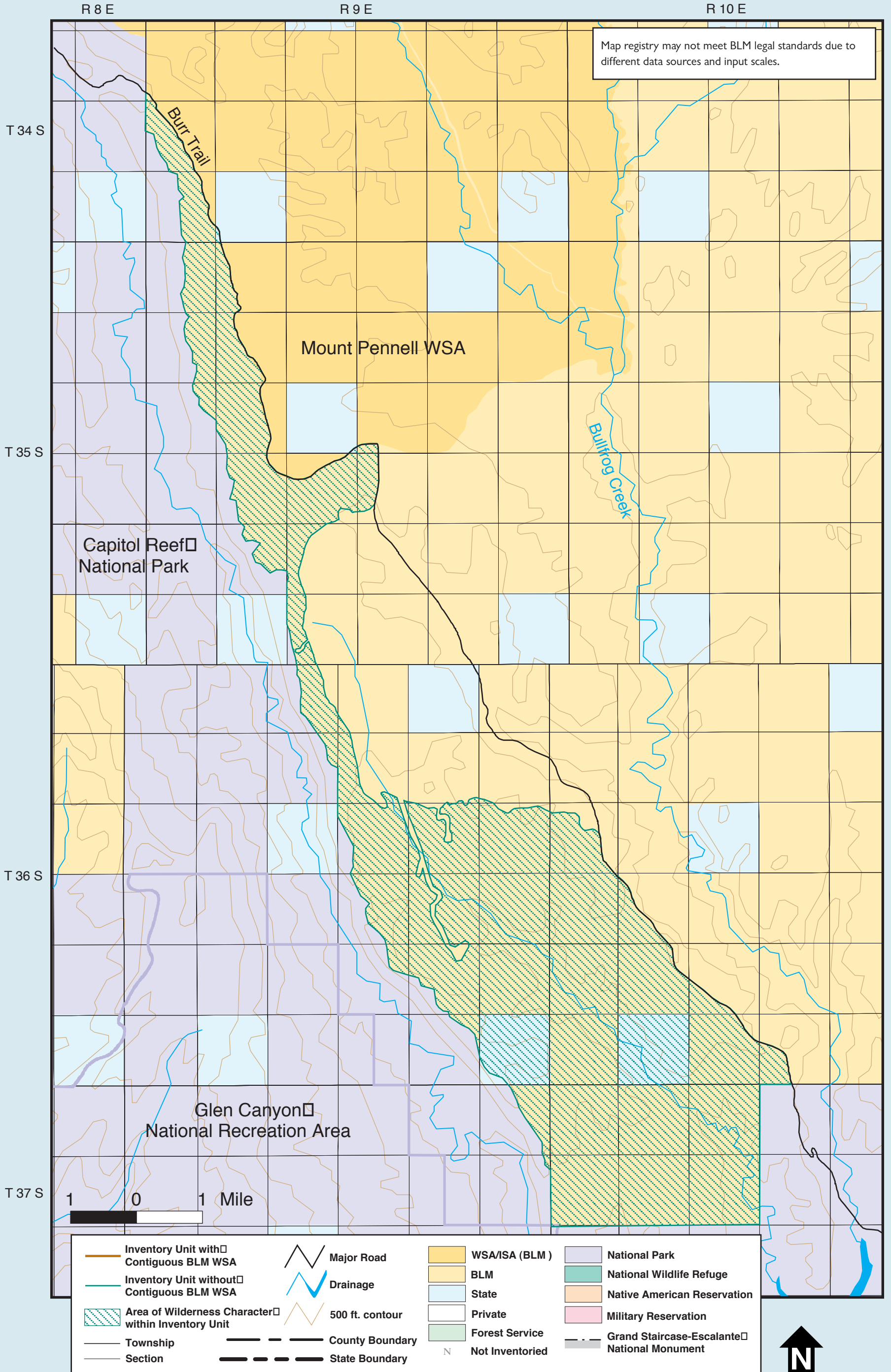
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

On its own merits, the Long Canyon inventory unit has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. In particular, the unit has outstanding opportunities for hiking and backpacking in Long Canyon. These opportunities are enhanced by the remoteness and isolation of the unit. Although outstanding opportunities exist, use is low because of restricted access. The unit is contiguous to Capitol Reef National Park's Wagon Box Mesa, which has been administratively endorsed for wilderness designation. The adjacent NPS lands enhance the unit's outstanding opportunities.

Supplemental Values

No supplemental values have been identified.

Long Canyon



EAST CENTRAL REGION—Long Canyon

Dogwater Creek

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
3,500	0	3,500 (92%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
300	0	300 (8%)
Inventory Unit Total		
3,800	0	3,800
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Capitol Reef National Park—		27,040
Red Canyon Units		

Most of the Dogwater Creek inventory unit (3,500 acres) has wilderness characteristics; it is roadless and appears natural. Several abandoned and impassable ways are located in the northern and eastern portions of the unit near South Coleman Creek and the Notom Road, respectively. A stock pond, a fence, and an old seismographic survey line are within unit boundaries but are not substantially noticeable in the landscape. Capitol Reef National Park's Red Canyon units, which are administratively endorsed for wilderness, form the western and southern boundaries of this unit. When considered in combination with the National Park Service (NPS) units, most of the Dogwater Creek inventory unit has outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. Moreover, when the Red Canyon units are combined with this inventory unit, the total area exceeds 5,000 acres. A small portion of the unit (300 acres) is cut off from the main area by private land and lacks wilderness characteristics.

Unit Description

The Dogwater Creek inventory unit is in northern Garfield County approximately 18 miles south of Utah Highway 24 and west of the Notom Road. Capitol Reef National Park lies on the western and southern boundaries of this unit. A section of private land contiguous to the park's eastern boundary separates a small northwest parcel from the remainder of the unit. The northern boundary is formed by private lands south of Oak Creek. The Dogwater Creek inventory unit is composed entirely of public lands. The topography consists mainly of rolling foothills on the eastern slope of the Waterpocket Fold. The unit is sparsely vegetated with scattered juniper trees and desert-type shrubs such as blackbrush, rabbitbrush, and Mormon tea. Cottonwoods appear in washes along Oak Creek and South Coleman Creek. Livestock grazing is the principal use within the unit. There is no evidence of recreational use.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the Dogwater Creek inventory unit retains its natural character and the unit is roadless. Several abandoned and impassable vehicle ways are located within the unit, principally in the north near South Coleman Creek and in the eastern portion near the Notom Road. The unit also contains 0.75 mile of fence and approximately 0.75 mile of old seismographic survey line. One stock pond is located just south of Sandy Draw. However, the fence, old seismographic survey line, and stock pond are not substantially noticeable in the landscape.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The Dogwater Creek inventory unit is contiguous to lands within Capitol Reef National Park that have been endorsed for wilderness designation by the NPS. The Red Canyon units on NPS lands have outstanding opportunities for solitude. In combination with these NPS lands, a portion of the Dogwater Creek inventory unit also has outstanding opportunities for solitude.

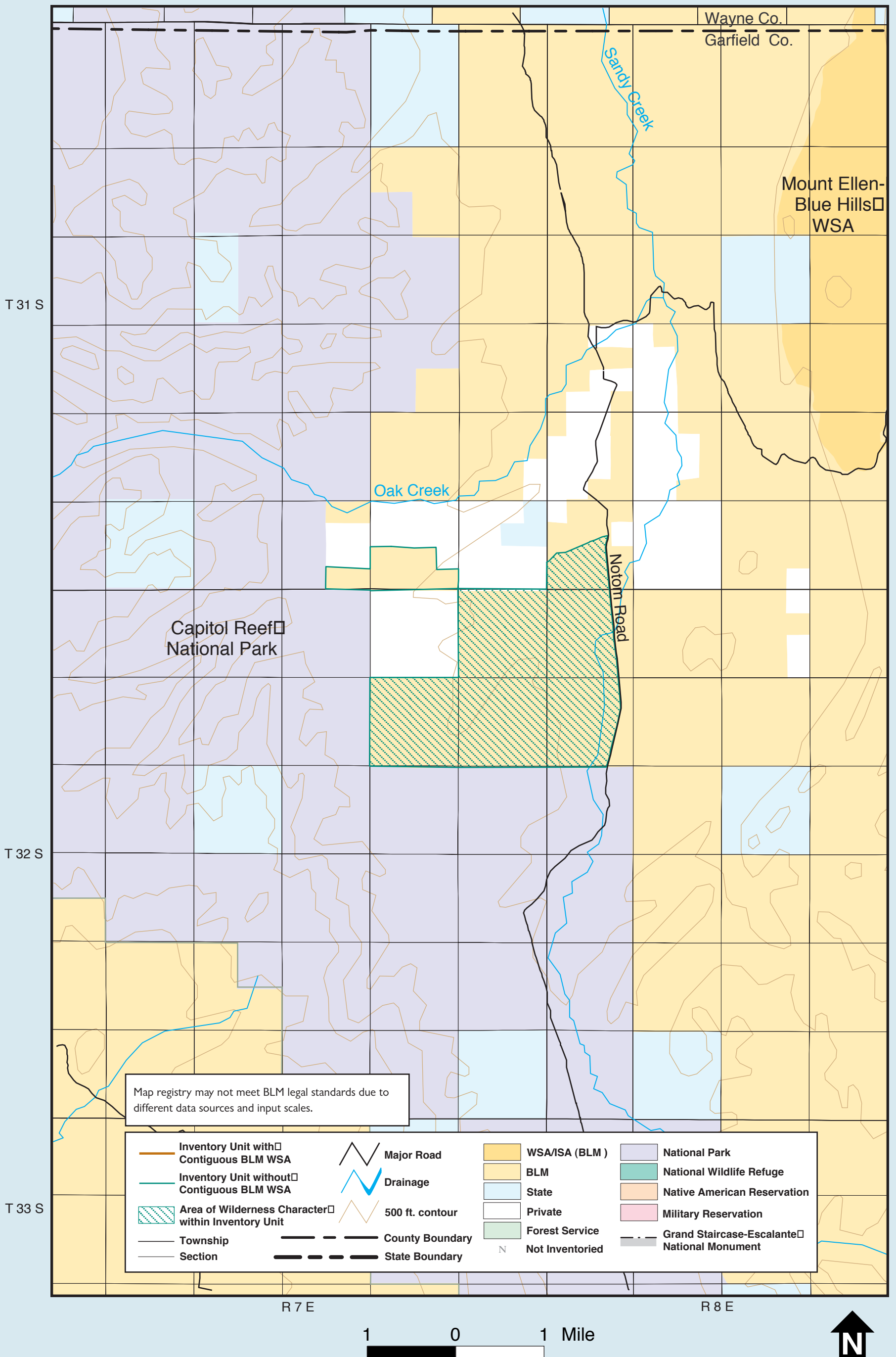
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The Dogwater Creek inventory unit is contiguous to lands within Capitol Reef National Park that have been endorsed for wilderness designation by the NPS. The Red Canyon units on NPS lands have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. In combination with these NPS lands, a portion of the Dogwater Creek inventory unit also has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Supplemental Values

No supplemental values have been identified.

Dogwater Creek



EAST CENTRAL REGION—Dogwater Creek

Mount Ellen-Blue Hills

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
32,600	7,840	40,440 (53%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
32,800	4,100	36,900 (47%)
Inventory Unit Total		
65,400	11,940	77,340
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Mount Ellen-Blue Hills WSA (UT-050-238)		81,726

About 40,440 acres of the five Mount Ellen-Blue Hills inventory units have wilderness characteristics, while about 36,900 acres lack wilderness characteristics because of intrusions that have affected naturalness. The units are contiguous to and are an extension of the Mount Ellen-Blue Hills Wilderness Study Area (WSA). The units' diverse terrain, steep slopes, isolated basins, dense forest, and barren alpine ridge tops all contribute to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. A road in Unit 3 and a forked road in Unit 5 have been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

Unit Description

The Mount Ellen-Blue Hills inventory units are in south-central Wayne County and northeastern Garfield County, about 10 miles southwest of Hanksville and 2 miles east of Capitol Reef National Park. The units are scattered around the edges of the Mount Ellen-Blue Hills WSA.

Extreme variations in terrain, elevation, climate, and vegetation exist among these units. The units include part of the ridge

just south of Mount Ellen Peak (11,508 feet), which supports alpine tundra vegetation. Montane communities and piñon and juniper woodlands are represented at the middle and lower elevations. There is a portion of badlands to the west, north, and east. Riparian vegetation is found along the Fremont River at 4,400-foot elevations.

The higher peaks and ridges offer sweeping scenic panoramas, and the mountain slopes provide important bison habitat. The viewing and hunting of bison is a major recreation activity in the Henry Mountains.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

A large portion of the units is natural, with any human imprints being substantially unnoticeable. However, almost half of the inventory area is unnatural in appearance. Intrusions consist primarily of scattered roads, vehicle ways, and live-stock reservoirs located along the outside edges of the units. Because of numerous roads, vehicle ways, a water pipeline, stock watering troughs, and range developments, natural character has been lost in the area east of the WSA and adjacent to Blue Valley Benches. The concentration of mining and range developments along Oak Creek Ridge and west of Sandy Creek has resulted in portions of these units losing their naturalness.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The units are contiguous to and an extension of the Mount Ellen-Blue Hills

WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for solitude. The unit's diverse rugged terrain, steep slopes, isolated basins, isolated ridge lines, and dense forest are features that augment these opportunities.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The units are contiguous to and an extension of the Mount Ellen-Blue Hills WSA which has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. There are abundant opportunities for sightseeing, day hiking, photography, backpacking, geological study, and wildlife observation. Resources in these units have been written about in guidebooks and recognized through the Watchable Wildlife and National Back Country Byway programs. When considered in conjunction with other lands in the Henry Mountains, these units offer excellent opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Supplemental Values

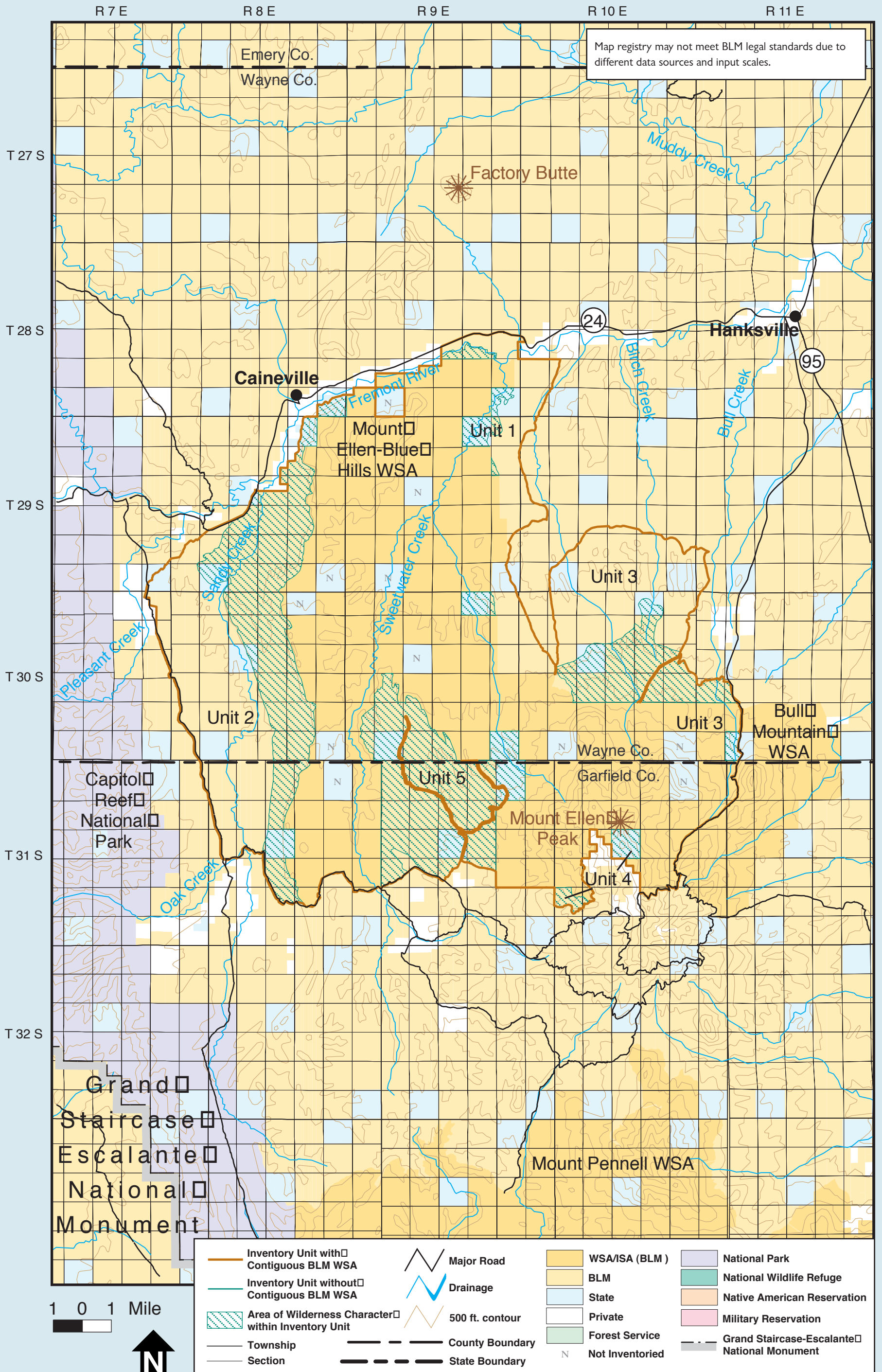
The Henry Mountains are considered by geologists to be an outstanding example of igneous intrusions that have deformed their host sedimentary formations. This area yields excellent mineral specimens sought by mineralogists. Portions of the units serve as a summer range for the largest free-roaming bison herd in Utah. People travel from around the world to the Henry Mountains to catch a glimpse of this herd. With the discovery of bristlecone pine in 1973, the Henry Mountains are now considered to be the southeast range limit for the Great Basin variety of bristlecone pine in North America.

MOUNT ELLEN-BLUE HILLS— Badlands within the unit near the Notom Road cutoff; Mount Ellen rises in the background, with Thompson Mesa in between.



Jerry Sintz

Mount Ellen-Blue Hills



Bull Mountain

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
3,800	1,400	5,200 (98%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
100	0	100 (2%)
Inventory Unit Total		
3,900	1,400	5,300
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Bull Mountain WSA (UT-050-242)		13,620

Most of the Bull Mountain inventory unit (5,200 acres) has wilderness characteristics. Only one small portion (100 acres) with uranium exploration scars lacks wilderness characteristics; this extensively disturbed area is located on a small bench north of Butler Wash along the unit's southeastern boundary. While the unit contains a few other old mining scars and vehicle ways, none of these are substantially noticeable in the landscape. A road extending to the stock pond located just east of Twin Seeps has been cherry-stemmed out of the unit.

As an extension of the much larger Bull Mountain Wilderness Study Area (WSA), this unit, which contains the drainages of both Poison Spring Canyon and Butler Wash, provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. The topography is largely broken and difficult to traverse either on foot or by vehicle. Several of the canyons to the east offer striking visual contrasts to the cliff faces and mountain peaks of Bull Mountain.

Unit Description

The Bull Mountain inventory unit is located in Garfield County in the northern portion of the Henry Mountains. The Bull Mountain WSA is contiguous to the unit. The unit's terrain, which consists of northward-draining shallow-to-deep canyons of varying widths, is characterized as transitional between the Bull Mountain igneous intrusions and the red canyons of the Morrison Formation badlands at lower elevations. The vegetation is predominantly piñon and juniper woodland, with sagebrush and other desert shrubs located on the benchlands.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The Bull Mountain inventory unit largely retains its natural character. As is the case with most of the eastern flanks of the Henry Mountains where the Morrison Formation outcrops, uranium exploration has occurred. Although most of the Morrison outcrop occurs outside unit boundaries, exploration drilling has occurred within the Bull Mountain inventory unit, and four-wheel drive vehicles are sometimes driven on the old uranium exploration ways. A 100-acre area impacted by uranium exploration on a small bench above Butler Wash has lost its natural character.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The Bull Mountain inventory unit is contiguous to and is an extension of the Bull Mountain WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for solitude. In combination with this WSA, the inventory unit has outstanding opportunities for solitude.

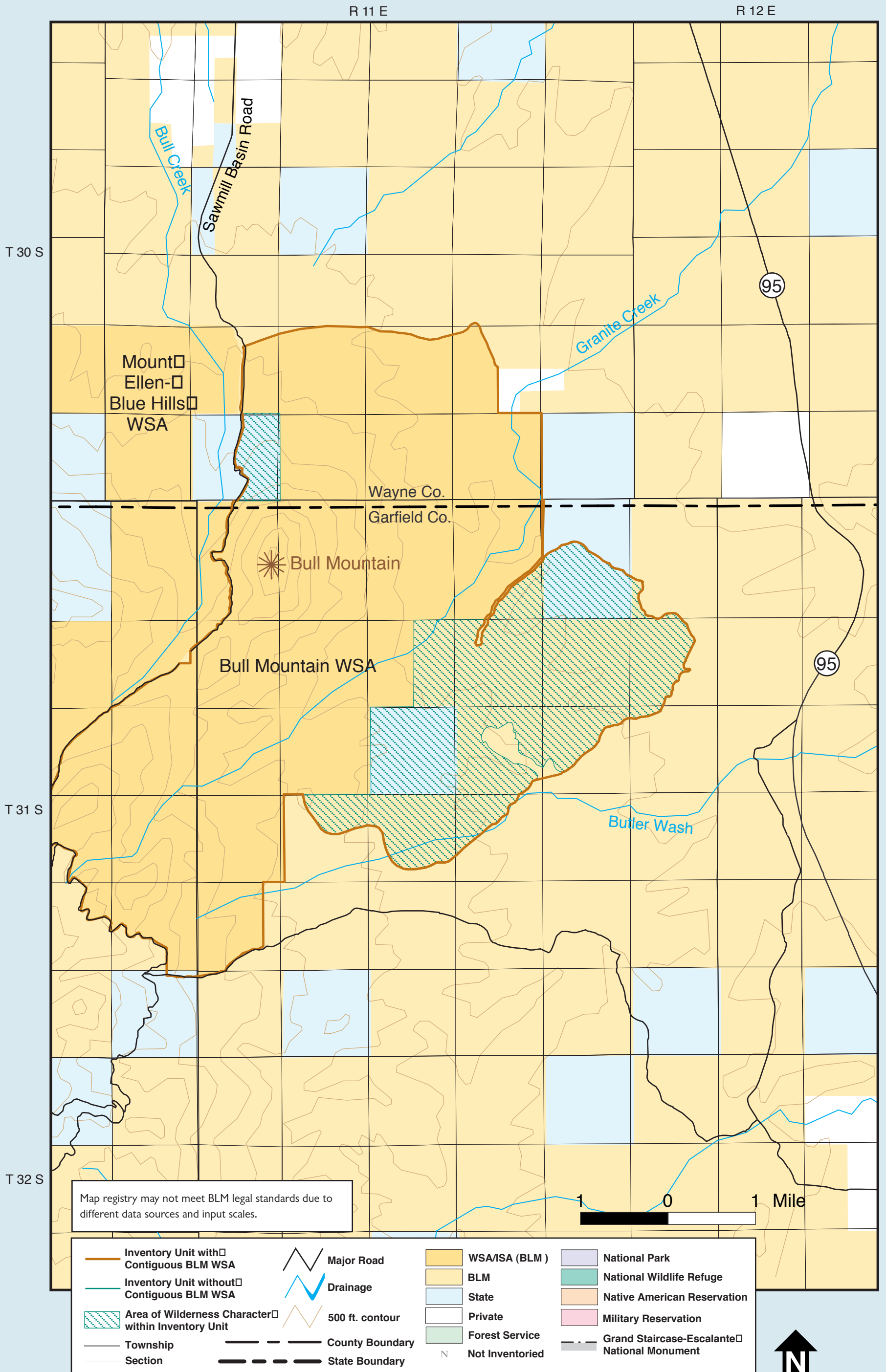
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The Bull Mountain inventory unit is contiguous to and is an extension of the Bull Mountain WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. In combination with this WSA, the inventory unit has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Supplemental Values

No supplemental values have been identified.

Bull Mountain



EAST CENTRAL REGION—BULL MOUNTAIN

Ragged Mountain

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
25,900	3,400	29,300 (95%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
1,500	200	1,700 (5%)
Inventory Unit Total		
27,400	3,600	31,000
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

The Ragged Mountain inventory unit retains its natural appearance and wilderness characteristics on 29,300 acres because of its rugged, diverse terrain and limited number of widely scattered intrusions. However, a few areas (1,700 acres) impacted by mineral and grazing activities lack wilderness characteristics. Several short roads accessing range developments, ranching facilities, or small stock ponds have been cherry-stemmed from the unit. Outstanding opportunities for dispersed, undeveloped recreation and solitude are present. A wide range of geologic features provide points of interest for the recreationist. The unit has rugged and varied terrain, extensive vistas, hidden and remote grottos, and incised canyons. A free-roaming bison herd utilizes portions of the unit seasonally.

Unit Description

The Ragged Mountain inventory unit is in north-central Garfield County about 20 miles south of Hanksville and 4 miles east of State Route 276. The BLM Bull Creek Pass National Back Country Byway circumnavigates the unit, forming the unit's border on the north and south. The unit includes an eastern portion of the Henry Mountain Range. Ragged Mountain (9,113 feet) is located on the southeast flanks of Mount Ellen.

Ragged Mountain itself consists of rugged rock outcroppings. Vegetation is as diverse as the terrain. Sagebrush, blackbrush, Mormon tea, grass, and scattered junipers cover the foothills, while cottonwood, tamarisk, and willow dominate the canyon riparian areas. Occasional stands of large ponderosa pine, Douglas fir and aspen occur in the higher drainages, with low shrubs and scrub oak at the highest elevations.

Much of the unit is currently used for cattle and wildlife grazing. There are active mining operations in a few locations on the north. Hunters and rock climbers occasionally venture into the area.

Numerous dispersed primitive camping sites exist near roads bordering the north, west, and southwest.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Naturalness has been retained in most of the unit. Intrusions are limited in number and are widely scattered. Substantially unnoticeable intrusions include several vehicular ways on the south and east as well as at higher elevations along the north and west boundary, old chainings north of the Penellen Pass Road that are rehabilitating naturally, a 0.75 mile drift fence on the southern boundary, and dispersed camping sites (one with a corral) located along the west boundary road. Substantially noticeable disturbances include cherry-stemmed roads accessing livestock developments on the east side; mining claims and a small BLM radio transmitting station on the west side; a short road on the south side; accumulated disturbance in the north, including abandoned vehicle ways, old mining prospects, reservoirs, a well, a fence line, a pipeline, and chainings; a cluster of chained areas on the west; and small cabins, corrals, and spring developments near the northwest boundary.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Primarily because of its rugged and varied terrain, the Ragged Mountain inventory unit offers visitors outstanding opportunities to experience solitude during their stay. Ridges, deeply incised canyons, rock outcrops, remote and hidden grottos, and the massive relief of Ragged Mountain itself cumulatively make such experiences possible. Vegetative screening, particularly at higher elevations, augments visitor opportunities for solitude.

RAGGED MOUNTAIN—A view of Pyserts Hole in Raggy Canyon.



Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

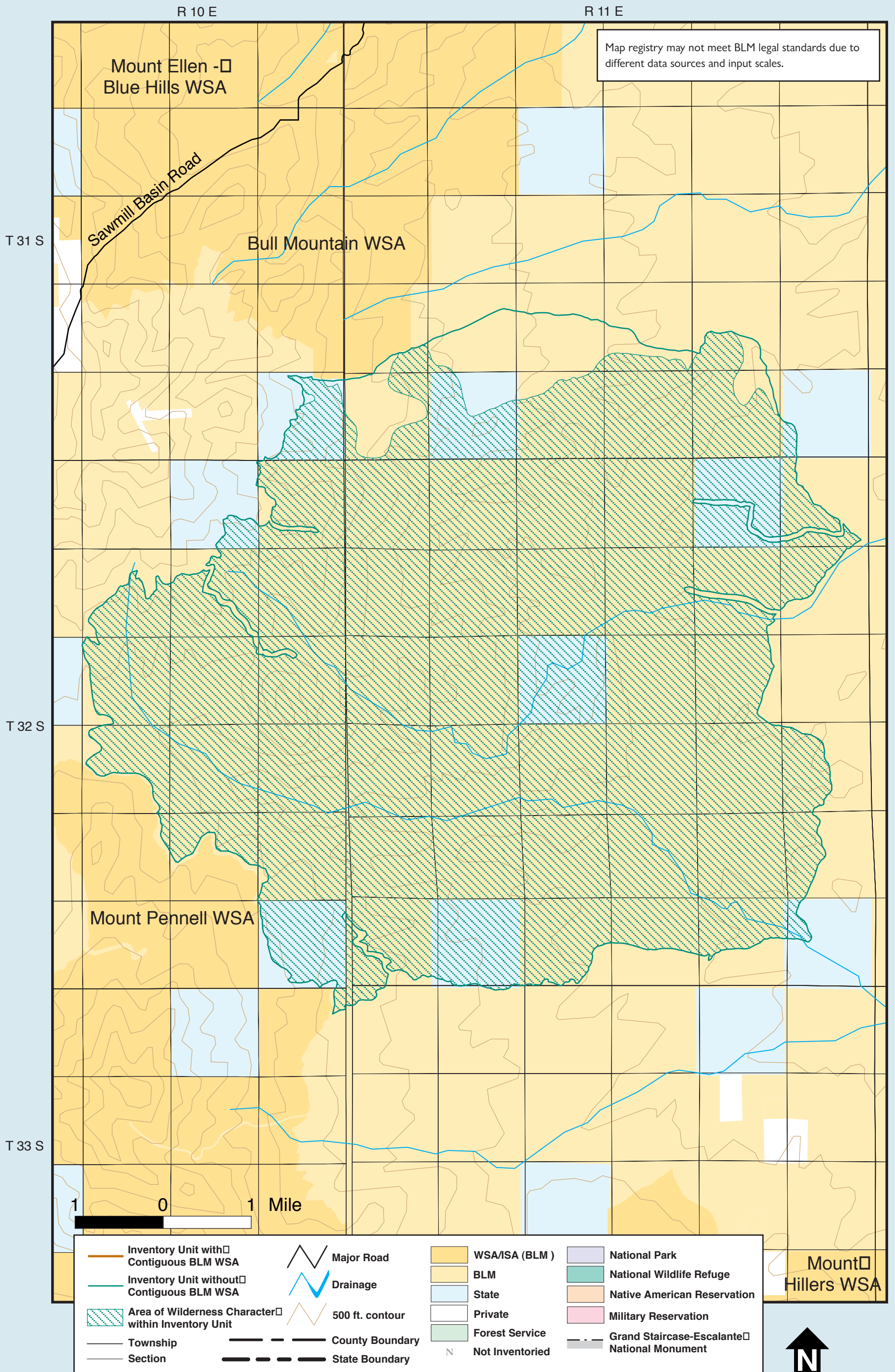
Opportunities for dispersed, undeveloped recreation within the Ragged Mountain inventory unit are outstanding. A wide range of recreationally significant characteristics—including prominent geologic features, rugged topographic relief, extensive canyon systems, remote and hidden grottos, visually striking vistas of distant landscapes, and the seasonal presence of free-roaming bison—provide focal points for sightseeing, hiking, backpacking, climbing, camping, photography, wildlife observation, and study of the region's natural history and geology. In general, the number of recreational opportunities available, combined with the unit's potential for meeting high expectations of visitors, create outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Supplemental Values

Ragged Mountain, one of several prominent geological features in the Henry Mountains, may be the best example of a laccolith (lateral intrusion) in this geologically rich region. Formed approximately 44 million years ago, Ragged Mountain is the laccolith resulting from stock-radiated igneous material which penetrated surrounding rock strata. As such, this inventory unit has exceptional value as a geologic type site for both educational and scientific study.

The Henry Mountains are home to one of the few free-roaming herds of bison in the continental United States. In an effort to expand the numbers of this once-threatened species, 18 bison were transplanted from Yellowstone National Park to the Henry Mountains in 1941. Today a herd of more than 300 animals ranges on the western slopes of the Henrys, including areas within the Ragged Mountain inventory unit, moving from low benchlands in the winter to higher-elevation slopes during the long, hot summers. Hunting to regulate herd populations was first introduced in 1950 and continues today by permit issued through a special lottery each season.

Ragged Mountain



EAST CENTRAL REGION—Ragged Mountain

Mount Pennell

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
61,880	10,600	72,480 (86%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
10,480	1,680	12,160 (14%)
Inventory Unit Total		
72,360	12,280	84,640
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Mount Pennell WSA (UT-050-248)		74,300

Most of the five Mount Pennell inventory units (72,480 acres) have wilderness characteristics. This area has a diverse combination of high-elevation piñon and juniper woodlands, incised sandstone canyons, expansive mesas, colorful badlands, and rugged benchlands, providing outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. The inventory area includes the headwaters and entire upper drainages of numerous creeks and washes.

Portions of the units (12,160 acres) are disturbed and lack wilderness characteristics. In Units 1, 2, and 3, there are chained woodlands and cherry-stemmed travel routes. Unit 4 contains a large area of disturbance resulting from livestock grazing and mineral exploration.

Unit Description

The five units surround Mount Pennell, the second highest peak of the Henry Mountains at 11,371 feet. When combined with the existing Mount Pennell Wilderness Study Area (WSA), the inventory area is large, about 14 miles north to south and

12 miles wide. The units are located in Garfield County about 30 miles south of Hanksville and northwest of the Ticaboo resort area.

The badlands in the southern portion of the units are an expansive, stark landscape of rolling and rugged blue-grey Mancos shale that spreads from the foothills of Mount Pennell south to Clay Point and west to Bullfrog Creek. The northern units contain part of Tarantula Mesa. Tarantula Mesa and Pennell Creek Roughs, just south of No Mans Mesa, are rugged benchlands at middle elevations. Vegetation ranges from annual and perennial grasses and scattered shrubs of shadescale and blackbrush at lower elevations to piñon and juniper woodlands, scrub oak, and small stands of aspen, ponderosa pine, and Douglas fir at higher elevations.

The units have been used primarily for recreation, livestock grazing, and mineral exploration. Hunting is a principal activity; however, sightseeing, rock collecting, and wildlife observation activities are increasing.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The majority of each of the five units retain their natural character and augment the natural character of the Mount Pennell WSA. Rugged terrain, combined with remoteness and limited access, has worked to maintain the units' natural character. Many of the four-wheel drive routes identified on USGS quad maps have become impassable or been obliterated. In most cases, vehicle routes are substantially unnoticeable on the landscape. Of the few areas that have lost their naturalness, most have been impacted by grazing projects or mineral exploration. Several associated

vehicle ways and roads have been cherry-stemmed from the units. However, two vehicle routes within Unit 5 that were cherry-stemmed out of the Mount Pennell WSA were later found to have retained their wilderness characteristics.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The units are contiguous to and an extension of the Mount Pennell WSA, which has been determined to have outstanding opportunities for solitude. The units augment the opportunities provided by the WSA. They are part of an extensive, largely undisturbed natural region. This wild and remote landscape stretches from the flanks of Mount Pennell across mesas, canyons, and badlands to the wild lands of the contiguous Capitol Reef National Park. This remote area has ample topographic and vegetative screening to provide abundant opportunities for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The units are contiguous to and an extension of the Mount Pennell WSA, which has been determined to possess outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The units augment the opportunities provided by the WSA. There are extensive opportunities for such dispersed, undeveloped recreation activities as hunting, wildlife observation, photography, nature study, camping, and hiking. Extensive scenic vistas, rugged canyons, stark badlands, rolling and broken benchlands, and wooded high country combine to provide an ideal setting for visitors to experience primitive, unconfined recreation.

Supplemental Values

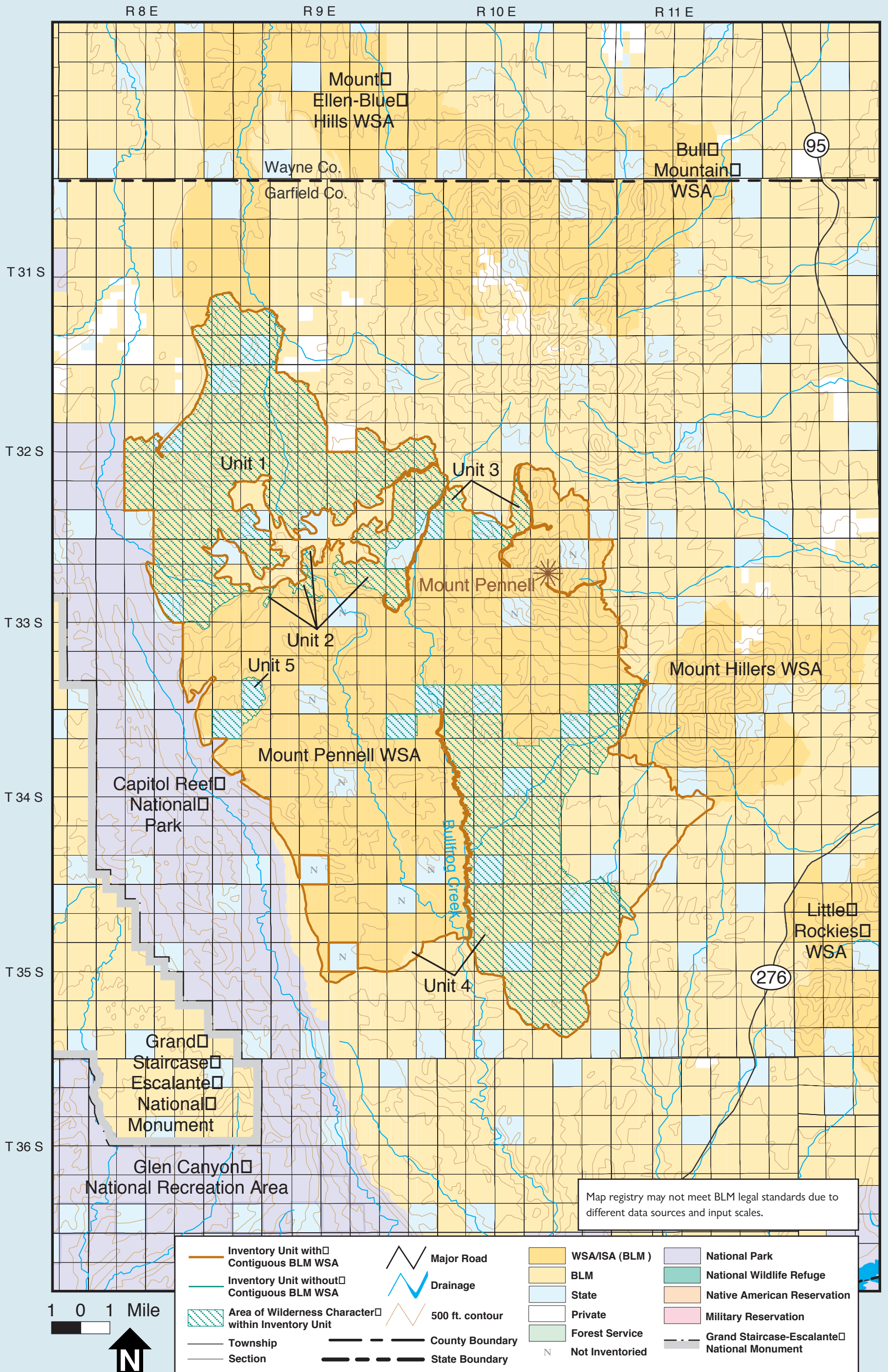
The combination of badlands, mesas, and canyons offer an impressive landscape of geologic diversity, linking the Henry Mountains with the Waterpocket Fold area. At higher elevations, the units contain critical habitat for bison and mule deer. The bison herd in the Henry Mountains is one of the few free-roaming herds in the nation. The badlands and benchlands also provide habitat for the endangered Wright's fishhook cactus and a number of other candidate plant species.

MOUNT PENNELL—The rim of Tarantula Mesa creates an impressive scene as one looks from the Notom Road across the unit toward Mount Ellen.

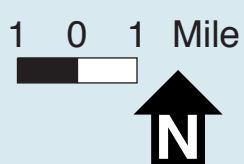


Jerry Sintz

Mount Pennell



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.



Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	

Bullfrog Creek

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
29,900	3,100	33,000 (81%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
6,100	2,000	8,100 (19%)
Inventory Unit Total		
36,000	5,100	41,100
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

Most of the Bullfrog Creek inventory unit (33,000 acres) has wilderness characteristics. The unit remains natural appearing with only two notable exceptions: the mesa top of Clay Point and an area west of Hansen Creek below the cliff line (8,100 total acres), both of which lack wilderness characteristics. A concentration of maintained roads, range developments, stock ponds, and vehicle tracks on the Clay Point mesa top—along with an active landfill (for the town of Ticaboo), several maintained vehicle ways, and a small off-highway vehicle play area west of Hansen Creek—impact this area. Vehicle access is limited to several four-wheel-drive ways and maintained roads, and these have been cherry-stemmed from the unit. Naturalness is enhanced by the area's rugged terrain, deep canyons, difficult access, and relatively large size. These same attributes provide outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation.

Unit Description

The Bullfrog Creek inventory unit is in southeastern Garfield County approximately 10 miles northwest of Bullfrog Basin Marina on Lake Powell. The Long Canyon inventory unit is adjacent to the west, the Mount Pennell inventory unit and the Mount Pennell Wilderness Study Area are adjacent to the north, and the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area forms the unit's southern boundary. The Burr Trail, traversing the mesa top between this unit and the Long Canyon inventory unit, forms the western boundary. Utah Highway 276 and other roads and development near the community of Ticaboo form the eastern boundary. The Clay Point mesa top, west to Eggnog, forms the unit's northern boundary.

The terrain consists mainly of a large, deep canyon system and the extensive Clay Point and Saleratus Point mesa tops.

The unit contains the lower portion of the extensive Bullfrog Creek drainage system.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The vast majority of the unit retains its natural character. This naturalness is enhanced by the area's rugged character, difficult access, deep canyons, and limited number of widely scattered intrusions on the mesa tops. Vehicle access is limited to several four-wheel-drive ways and maintained roads along the mesa tops and benchlands in the vicinity of Clay Point and Saleratus Point.

However, the mesa top of Clay Point is not natural because of the cumulative effect of a high concentration of intrusions, including maintained roads, range developments, stock ponds, and vehicle tracks. The rest of the area, below the canyon rims and breaks on Clay Point, retains its natural character. A maintained road on the mesa end of Saleratus Point, a short spur road near Eggnog, a maintained spur road to Clay Seep, and several short spur roads to overlooks along the Burr Trail have been cherry-stemmed and excluded from the unit.

An area west of Hansen Creek, below the cliff line, is not natural appearing; it contains an active landfill for the town of Ticaboo, along with several vehicle ways, stock ponds, and an off-highway vehicle play area. However, the occasional vehicle tracks and other widely scattered intrusions on the interior of the unit that are remnants of seismographic surveys and mineral exploration completed 15 to 40 years ago are substantially unnoticeable in the area.

BULLFROG CREEK—Scenic views within the unit include the Bullfrog Creek drainage and distant features such as Mount Hillers and Mount Pennell.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. The rugged terrain, deep canyons, difficult and limited access to the canyon area of Bullfrog Creek and its side canyons, and the unit's large size all contribute to the sense of isolation and solitude. Deep canyons make it difficult to view or distinguish other individuals who may be present, contributing to the feeling of remoteness.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Opportunities for dispersed, undeveloped recreation within the unit are excellent. A wide range of geologic features, rugged terrain, deep canyons, extensive scenic vistas, hidden and remote grottos, and incised canyons all provide focal points of interest for hiking, climbing, camping, photography, and the study of the region's natural history and geology. In general, the number of recreational activities available, along with the quality of the experiences associated with them, create outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation.

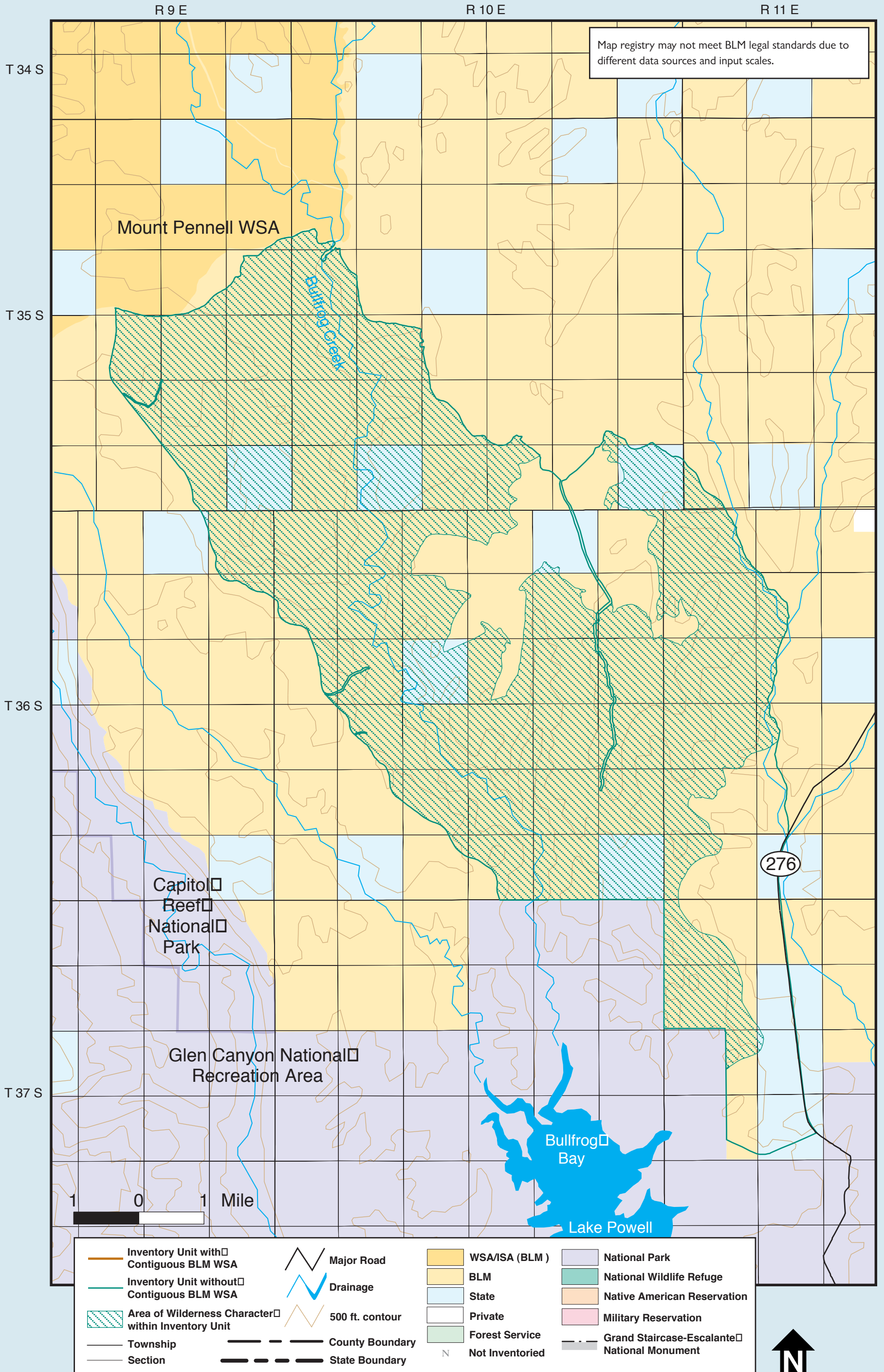
Supplemental Values

The Clay Point agate fields are well known for their Jurassic fossil woods and opportunities for geologic study. The Morrison Formation contains an unusual concentration of fossil wood. Numerous viewpoints and overlooks along the Burr Trail offer scenic views of the Bullfrog Creek drainage and distant features such as Lake Powell, the Orange Cliffs, the Abajo Mountains, and the Dark Canyon plateau. Peregrine falcons have been observed along the cliffs near the lower end of the canyon that drains Bullfrog Creek.



Jerry Sintz

Bullfrog Creek



Mount Hillers

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
1,290	2,590	3,880 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	10	10 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
1,290	2,600	3,890
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Mount Hillers WSA (UT-050-249)		20,000

Most of the five Mount Hillers inventory units (3,880 acres) have wilderness characteristics. Some of the units contain disturbance from mining exploration and vehicle ways, but much of this is substantially unnoticeable, although about 10 acres in Unit 3 were determined to lack wilderness characteristics. The opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation are enhanced by the contiguous Mount Hillers Wilderness Study Area (WSA). Unit 4 contains part of a geologic feature called the Pink Cliffs, an outstanding educational and interpretive feature.

Unit Description

The Mount Hillers inventory units are located in Garfield County approximately 35 miles south of Hanksville. The five units are all located at the lower elevations on Mount Hillers and are contiguous to the Mount Hillers WSA. All units contain piñon and juniper woodland, with open areas of grass and shrubs. The units are used for a variety of recreational activities, livestock grazing, and university-level geology field schools. Starr Spring, a BLM campground on the south flank of Mount

Hillers, is used as a base camp for climbing the mountain. Unit 1 is located on the northeast slope of Mount Hillers, while Unit 2 is a small parcel north of the Black Table located on Black Creek. Unit 3 is composed of three separate parcels containing the Cocks Comb on the southeast side of the WSA. Unit 4 is a state section north of Cooper Spring on the Indian Benches on the south slopes of the mountain. Finally, Unit 5 consists of two parcels of state land encompassing Cass Creek on the northwest side of Mount Hillers.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the five units retain their natural character. Units 1 and 2 do not contain any intrusions; they have been affected primarily by the forces of nature. A small portion of Unit 3 has been altered by the Gold Creek residential development located in a state land section on old mine workings; this area lacks natural character. The road to Gold Creek Spring is the boundary of the unit; the road that extends north past other mining impacts and then terminate in Section 30 has been cherry-stemmed. The remainder of the unit appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature. Unit 4 appears natural: there are a couple of vehicle ways penetrating the unit, but they are substantially unnoticeable. Two small mining adits are located on a vehicle way that is overgrown, eroded, and no longer passable. An access road on the north boundary of Unit 5 along Cass Creek, as well as the mining cabin and associated development to which the road leads, have been cherry-stemmed from the unit. Otherwise, Unit 5 has the appearance of having been affected only by natural processes.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The units are contiguous to and are an extension of the Mount Hillers WSA, which possesses outstanding opportunities for solitude. The units contain dense stands of piñon and juniper, scattered Douglas fir near Cass Peak, and Gamble's oak, all of which provide screening for visitors. The opportunity for solitude is outstanding only in conjunction with the WSA.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The units are contiguous to and an extension of the Mount Hillers WSA, which possesses outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Unit 4 contains a portion of the Pink Cliffs, a popular hiking destination as well as an educational and interpretive geologic feature. The opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation in the other four units is outstanding only in conjunction with the WSA.

Supplemental Values

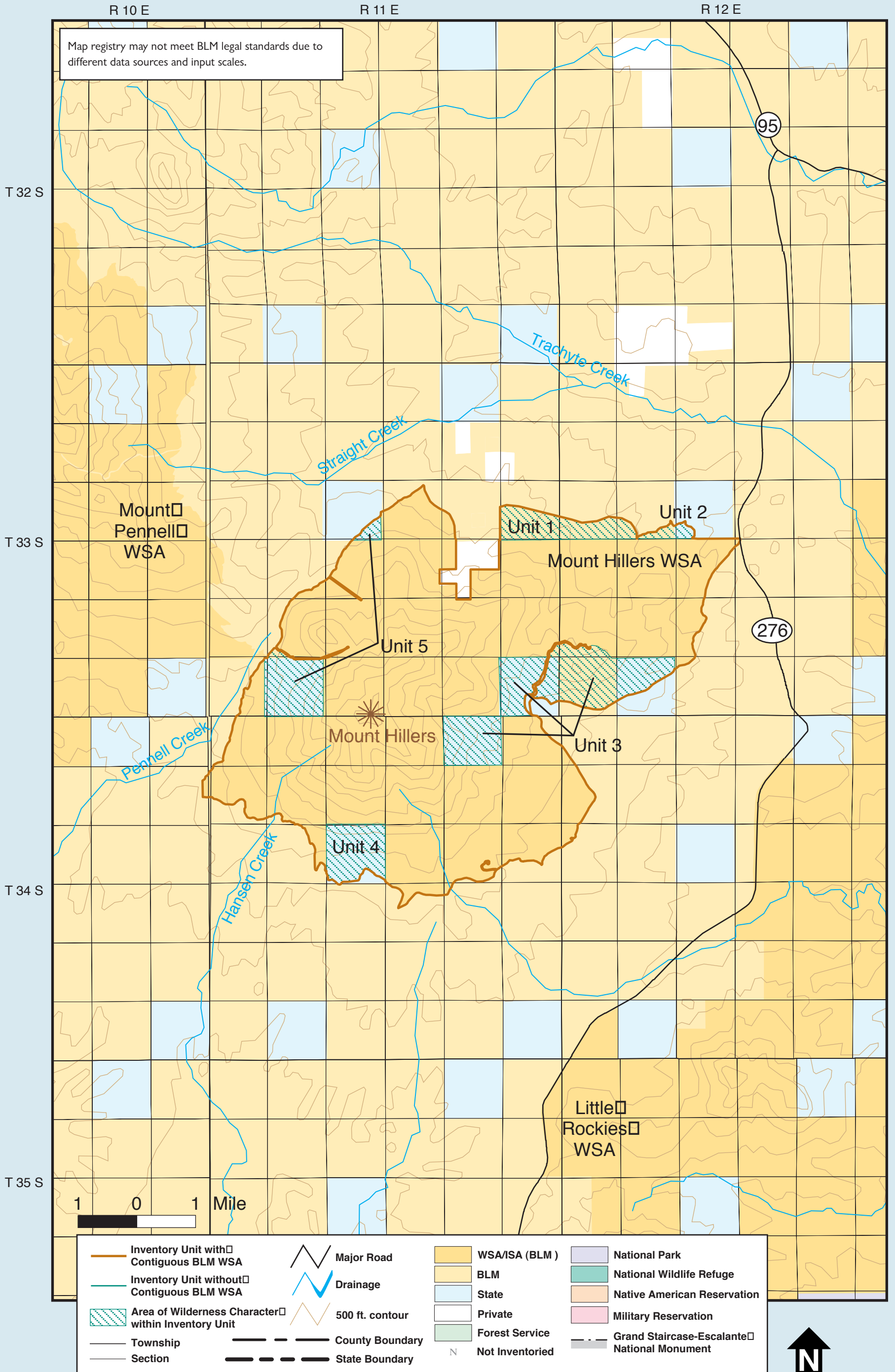
Unit 4 contains a portion of the Pink Cliffs, a striking and colorful feature with unique educational and interpretive values. Mount Hillers is an excellent example of the mountain-building geologic forces first described by geologist Grove Karl Gilbert. The underlying sandstone layers are uplifted to a vertical position, with the pink sandstone offering a stark contrast to the surrounding black basalt.

MOUNT HILLERS—Coal Bed Mesa, looking northeast, with Mount Hillers on the right and Mount Pennell on the left.



Jerry Sintz

Mount Hillers



EAST CENTRAL REGION—Mount Hillers

Dirty Devil-French Spring

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
94,400	18,700	113,100 (81%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
21,100	4,700	25,800 (19%)
Inventory Unit Total		
115,500	23,400	138,900
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Dirty Devil WSA (UT-050-236A)		61,000
French Spring-Happy Canyon WSA (UT-050-236B)		25,000

Most of the eight Dirty Devil-French Spring inventory units (113,100 acres) have wilderness characteristics. However, six specific locations (25,800 acres) are not natural appearing and lack wilderness characteristics. Three of these are in Unit 1, the fourth is in the combined Unit 3-5 area, and the last two areas of disturbance occur in Unit 6. Eight roads have been cherry-stemmed from the units. All other vehicle ways and other disturbances are not substantially noticeable in the landscape. As an extension of the contiguous Dirty Devil Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and the French Spring-Happy Canyon WSA, these eight units offer outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. In addition to the abundance of natural screening, there are few visitors to this region. The Dirty Devil area has a rich prehistory and history, with archaeological resources in the area being particularly impressive.

Unit Description

The eight Dirty Devil-French Spring inventory units are located in Wayne and Garfield Counties southeast of Hanksville. This relatively large area contains portions of the Dirty Devil River and its associated drainages and benchlands, including Sams and Bert Mesas and The Big Ridge. The eight units surround the Dirty Devil WSA and the French Spring-Happy Canyon WSA. All units are located east of Utah Highway 95 and are bounded by Glen Canyon National Recreation Area to the south and by an improved dirt road providing access to the Maze District of Canyonlands National Park on the east. This area has remained largely unchanged since the post-World War II uranium exploration boom.

The units are used for grazing and recreation. The popularity of the Dirty Devil River as a float trip is increasing, and parts of the river flow through the unit. Hiking

the main canyon and tributaries is also becoming popular.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The eight units retain, for the most part, their natural-appearing character. Despite this area's relatively large size, only six specific locations appear as unnatural settings in the landscape. Three of these are in Unit 1: the Little Meadow, Blackburn Draw, and Little Antelope Valley areas, which contain extensive seismic survey lines; the benchlands along the Dirty Devil WSA's western boundary above Beaver Canyon and on the Burr Desert south to Bert Mesa, which contain extensive seismic survey lines; and the flats above the head of Beaver Canyon, which contain BLM livestock water developments and extensive evidence of oil and gas exploration. The fourth area lacking wilderness characteristics is in the combined Unit 3-5 area, encompassing the bench between Pasture Canyon and White Roost Canyon, which contains extensive seismic survey lines. The last two areas of disturbance are in Unit 6. These consist of the area west of Adobe Swale, which contains numerous vehicle ways and extensive seismic survey lines, and the benchlands between the maintained road in North Hatch Canyon and the cliff face of The Big Ridge, which contain numerous ways, drill pads, and other mining disturbances. Eight roads have been cherry-stemmed from the units. All other vehicle ways and other disturbances are not substantially noticeable in the landscape.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The eight units are contiguous to and an extension of the Dirty Devil WSA and the French Spring-Happy Canyon WSA, both of which provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. In combination with these WSAs, the Dirty Devil-French Spring inventory units provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. Most of the units are remote and crisscrossed by deeply incised canyons, creating a landscape of topographic extremes. In addition to

the abundance of natural screening, few visitors frequent this area.

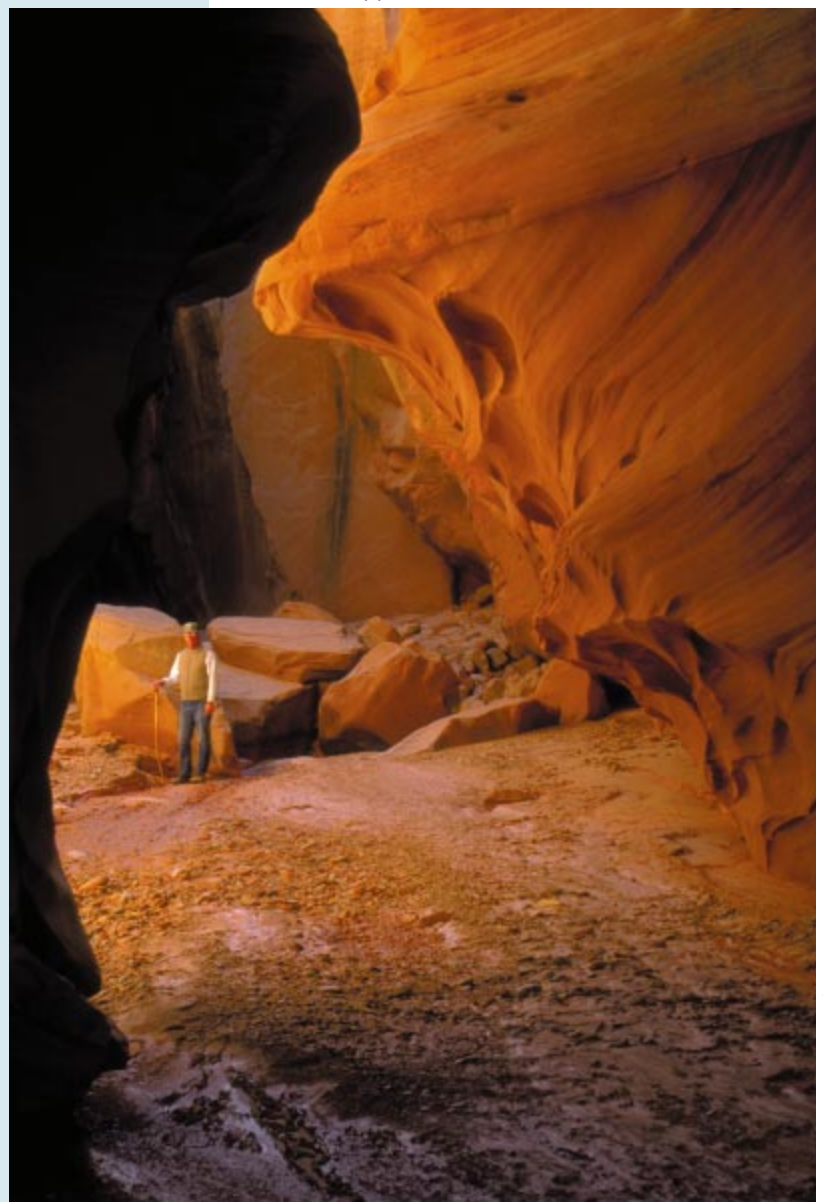
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The eight units are contiguous to and an extension of the Dirty Devil WSA and the French Spring-Happy Canyon WSA; both provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. In combination with these WSAs, the Dirty Devil-French Spring inventory units provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Supplemental Values

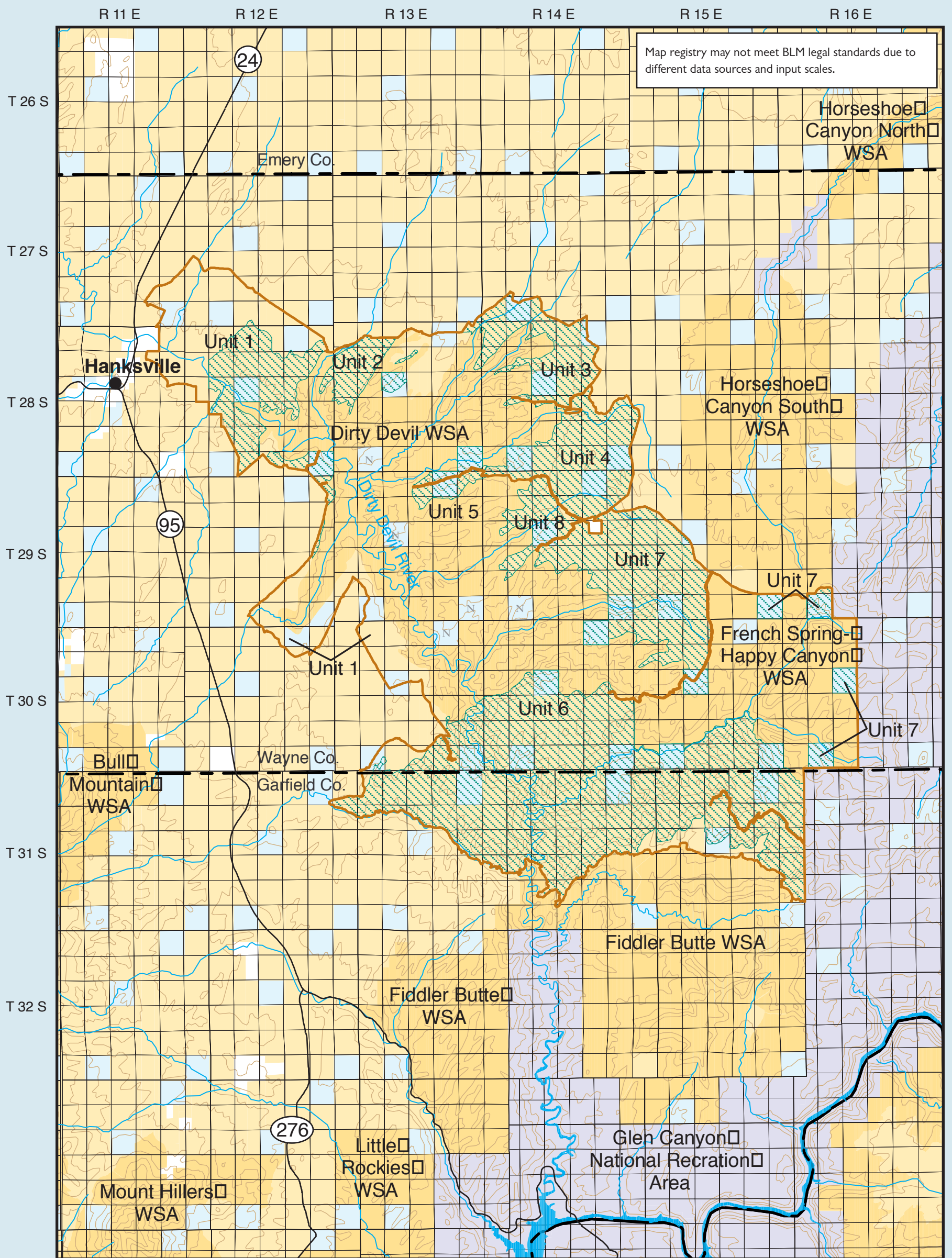
The general region of the Dirty Devil River has a rich prehistory and history. The archaeological resources in the area are impressive, and the outlaw history of this area is extensive. Part of the Outlaw Trail that stretched from Montana to Mexico is located here. Many names given to landscape features result from this period—Robbers Roost, Bluejohn Canyon, Deadman Hill, Silvertip Spring, Horsethief Canyon, Badman Trail, and many more. Butch Cassidy, along with his Wild Bunch, was the most famous of the outlaws to frequent this region. There have been a number of histories written about the area, which has also served as the setting for a number of western novels, including one by Zane Grey.

DIRTY DEVIL-FRENCH SPRING— This portion of Happy Canyon is only one example of the many remote, deeply incised canyons that crisscross the unit, providing solitude and primitive recreation opportunities.



Jerry Sintz

Dirty Devil-French Spring



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

1 0 1 Mile



Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	

Little Rockies

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
24,200	7,800	32,000 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
24,200	7,800	32,000
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Little Rockies WSA (UT-050-247)		38,700

All 32,000 acres of the three Little Rockies inventory units have wilderness characteristics. Six roads have been cherry-stemmed out of the inventory units' boundaries, including two roads in Unit 1 that extend from Utah Highway 276 to a small stock reservoir on Trachyte Point and to Maidenwater Reservoir; one road in Unit 2 that extends from Utah Highway 276 to a leased parcel of state land containing a small corral and barn; and three roads in Unit 3, one that extends from Utah Highway 276 to Highway Reservoir, and two that extend from a road on the unit's southern boundary to Colt Spring and Ticaboo Shelf Spring. All other vehicle ways and disturbances are substantially unnoticeable. As an extension of the contiguous Little Rockies Wilderness Study Area (WSA), the units offer outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. Unit 3 is contiguous to the Little Rockies National Natural Landmark, which includes two major peaks in the region, Mount Holmes and Mount Ellsworth. Unit 1 is known for exceptional hiking opportunities as well as for 360-degree panoramic views of the region.

LITTLE ROCKIES—Hog Canyon near the Utah Highway 95 rest stop is easily accessible to the hiker and photographer.

Unit Description

The three Little Rockies inventory units are located in Garfield County about 30 miles southeast of Hanksville between

Utah Highways 276 and 95. They are situated on the north, west, and southwest flanks of the Little Rockies Mountains east of Utah Highway 276. Glen Canyon National Recreation Area lies to the east. The terrain of Unit 1 consists of rolling, open hills and widely scattered rock outcroppings. These hills drain south and east into steeply incised sandstone canyons. Unit 2 consists of open terrain and the headwater canyons of Milk and Swett Creeks on the northwest flank of Mount Holmes. The terrain of Unit 3 contains the headwater drainages of several washes and creeks on the west and southwest flanks of Mount Ellsworth. Vegetation in all units is sparse, with scattered junipers and desert-shrub species (sage, blackbrush, and Mormon tea) on the higher terrain, and cottonwood, tamarisk and willow in canyon wash riparian areas. Ranching is a principal use within the area, as is recreational access to the hiking opportunities that exist both in the upper reaches of the canyons and on the peaks of the Little Rockies Mountains.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Even though Utah Highway 276 and a portion of Utah Highway 95 lie immediately adjacent, the three units are a natural-appearing landscape because of the area's rugged and diverse terrain that has, by and large, limited the number of human intrusions. Vehicle access is limited to several four-wheel-drive ways traversing the rolling hills, benchlands, and washes near Utah Highway 276. These vehicle ways are not maintained and are impassable for

the most part; vehicle tracks and evidence of use have been erased by seasonal rains and shifting sands. Occasional tracks and intrusions on the interior of the units are remnants of seismographic survey lines and mineral exploration completed decades ago. Several short roads extend to range improvements, small stock reservoirs, and old mining claims or drill holes, but these have been cherry-stemmed out of the inventory units' boundaries. Livestock grazing activities have not altered the natural appearance of the area; all impacts are substantially unnoticeable in the landscape.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The three inventory units are contiguous to and are an extension of the Little Rockies WSA, which provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. In combination with this WSA, the inventory units provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The three inventory units are contiguous to and are an extension of the Little Rockies WSA, which provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. In combination with this WSA, the inventory units provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Opportunities include photographing and exploring the wild and remote canyons, as well as other areas of geologic and scenic interest. Hiking opportunities in Unit 1, easily accessible from both Utah Highways 276 and 95, include 360-degree scenic views in the spectacular Maidenwater Sands and Canyon area, Hog Canyon, and the Trachyte Point area.

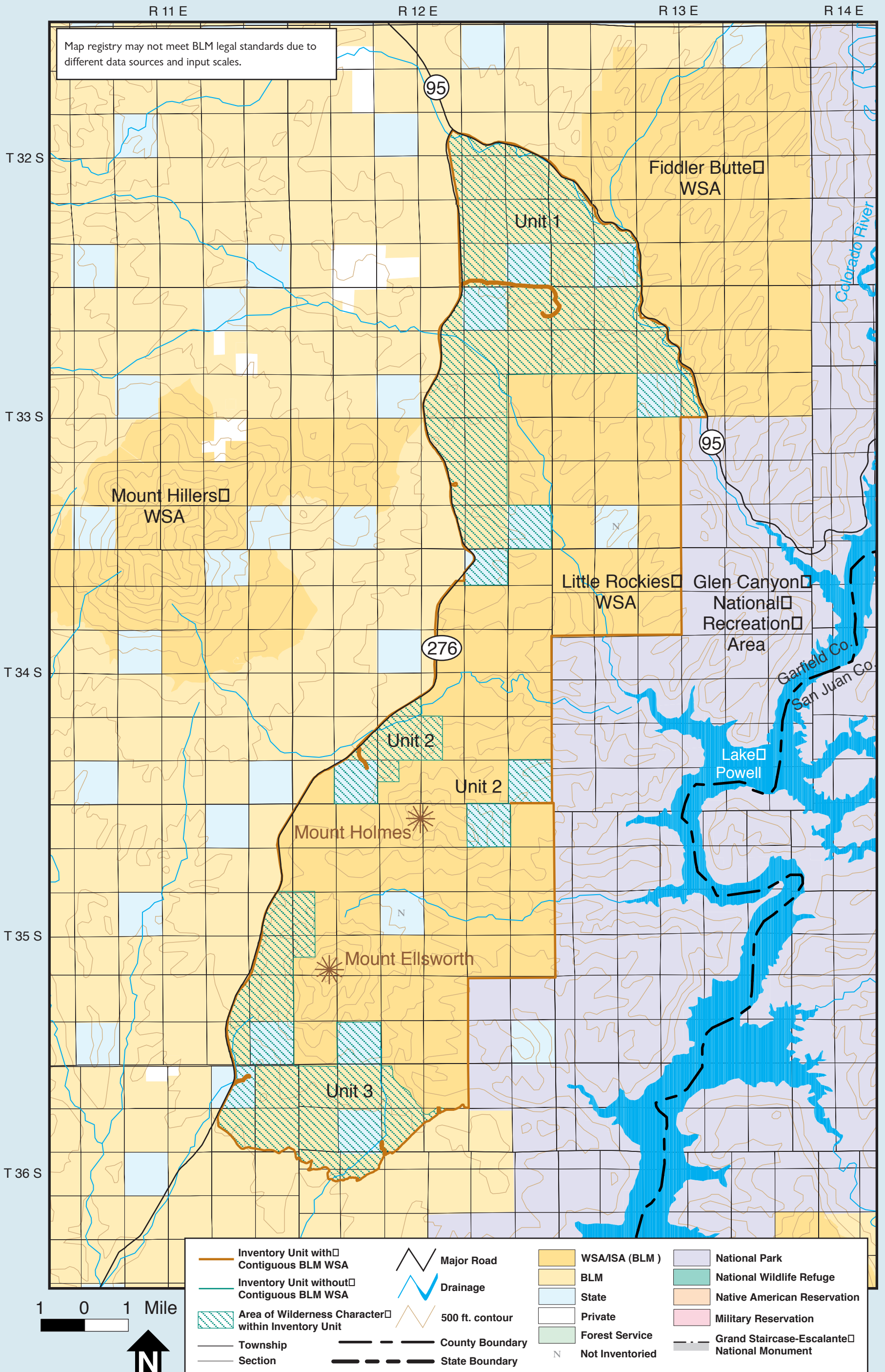
Supplemental Values

Inventory Unit 3 is contiguous to the Little Rockies National Natural Landmark, which includes two major peaks in the region, Mount Holmes and Mount Ellsworth. It is likely that a variety of prehistoric occupation or hunting sites may be located in the units, based on their proximity to the culturally rich Glen Canyon National Recreation Area that lies adjacent. The presence of golden eagles has been reported, and the units also provide habitat for desert bighorn sheep. Hole in the Rock prairie clover (*Dalea epica*) is found within the southern portion of the inventory area.



Jerry Sintz

Little Rockies



EAST CENTRAL REGION—Little Rockies

Fiddler Butte

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
16,720	3,180	19,900 (77%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
5,500	400	5,900 (23%)
Inventory Unit Total		
22,220	3,580	25,800
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Fiddler Butte WSA (UT-050-241)		73,100

Most of the four-unit Fiddler Butte inventory unit (19,900 acres) has wilderness characteristics. However, two areas within Unit 1 (5,900 acres) are not natural appearing and lack wilderness characteristics. Several vehicle ways to scenic vistas overlooking the Dirty Devil River and Poison Spring Canyon, along with numerous old seismographic survey lines, are substantially noticeable because of the relatively flat terrain and lack of screening vegetation. Additional seismographic survey lines are visually pronounced and cumulatively affect natural character in the vicinity of Cedar Point. All other vehicle ways and disturbances in the unit are not substantially noticeable. As an extension of the contiguous Fiddler Butte Wilderness Study Area (WSA), this four-unit inventory area offers outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation, given the deeply incised canyons, rugged terrain, and dense stands of piñon and juniper.

Unit Description

The Fiddler Butte inventory units are located in Garfield County approximately 18 miles southeast of Hanksville. The 73,100-acre Fiddler Butte WSA is contiguous. The principal unit is bounded on the north by the Poison Spring Canyon Road, on the east by the WSA, on the

south by Utah Highway 95, and on the west by a maintained road south of Turkey Knob that extends to Cedar Point and the Lone Cedar Flat Road, which also extends to Cedar Point.

The units are used primarily for livestock grazing and recreation. Exploration for oil, gas, and uranium has occurred, and there is evidence of old seismographic survey lines and access ways to old adits, particularly in portions of Unit 1.

Vegetation above the canyons is predominantly sagebrush and blackbrush grasslands, with scattered stands of piñon and juniper at the higher elevations and along the canyon breaks near Cedar Point. Riparian species include Fremont cottonwood, willow, common reed grass, and tamarisk. The topography consists mainly of broken canyon country and the upper reaches of major canyons within the Fiddler Butte WSA. The units also contain benchlands between maintained roads and the canyon breaks on Cedar Point.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Fiddler Butte Unit 1 is a horseshoe-shaped area that includes Cedar Point. With the exception of two specific locations that are not natural appearing, most of Unit 1 retains its natural character. One of these exceptions is located at the westernmost tip of the unit, where old seismographic survey lines are numerous and noticeable because of the lack of either screening vegetation or rugged terrain. Several of these old lines are used as ways for access to scenic vistas overlooking the Dirty Devil River and Poison Spring Canyon. The second area that is not natural appearing lies in the vicinity of Cedar Point and has pronounced seismographic survey lines. The road to Cedar Point extends approximately 0.5 mile beyond the point itself.

Several old seismographic survey lines extend beyond Cedar Point and one vehicle way extends to the bench above the head of Stair Canyon. Blowing sands often make these vehicle ways difficult to locate or follow. These intrusions do not affect the unit's naturalness. A short spur road off of the Turkey Knob Road extends to a spring development and livestock watering area. This road has been cherry-stemmed out of the unit.

Fiddler Butte Unit 2 is a state land section with no intrusions; its naturalness has been retained. Unit 3 is a state land section with a maintained road and vehicle way in the southwestern corner. These routes have been cherry-stemmed out of the unit. The remainder of Unit 3 contains no intrusions, so its naturalness has been retained. Unit 4 is a state land section with a vehicle way forming a portion of the north boundary, separating this unit from Dirty Devil-French Spring Inventory Unit 6. There are no intrusions in this unit, so its naturalness has also been retained.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The Fiddler Butte inventory units are contiguous to the 73,100-acre Fiddler Butte WSA, which contains outstanding opportunities for solitude. In combination with this WSA, the Fiddler Butte inventory units provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The Fiddler Butte inventory units are contiguous to the 73,100-acre Fiddler Butte WSA, which contains outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. In combination with this WSA, the Fiddler Butte inventory units provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including backpacking, hiking, and photography.

Supplemental Values

No supplemental values have been identified.

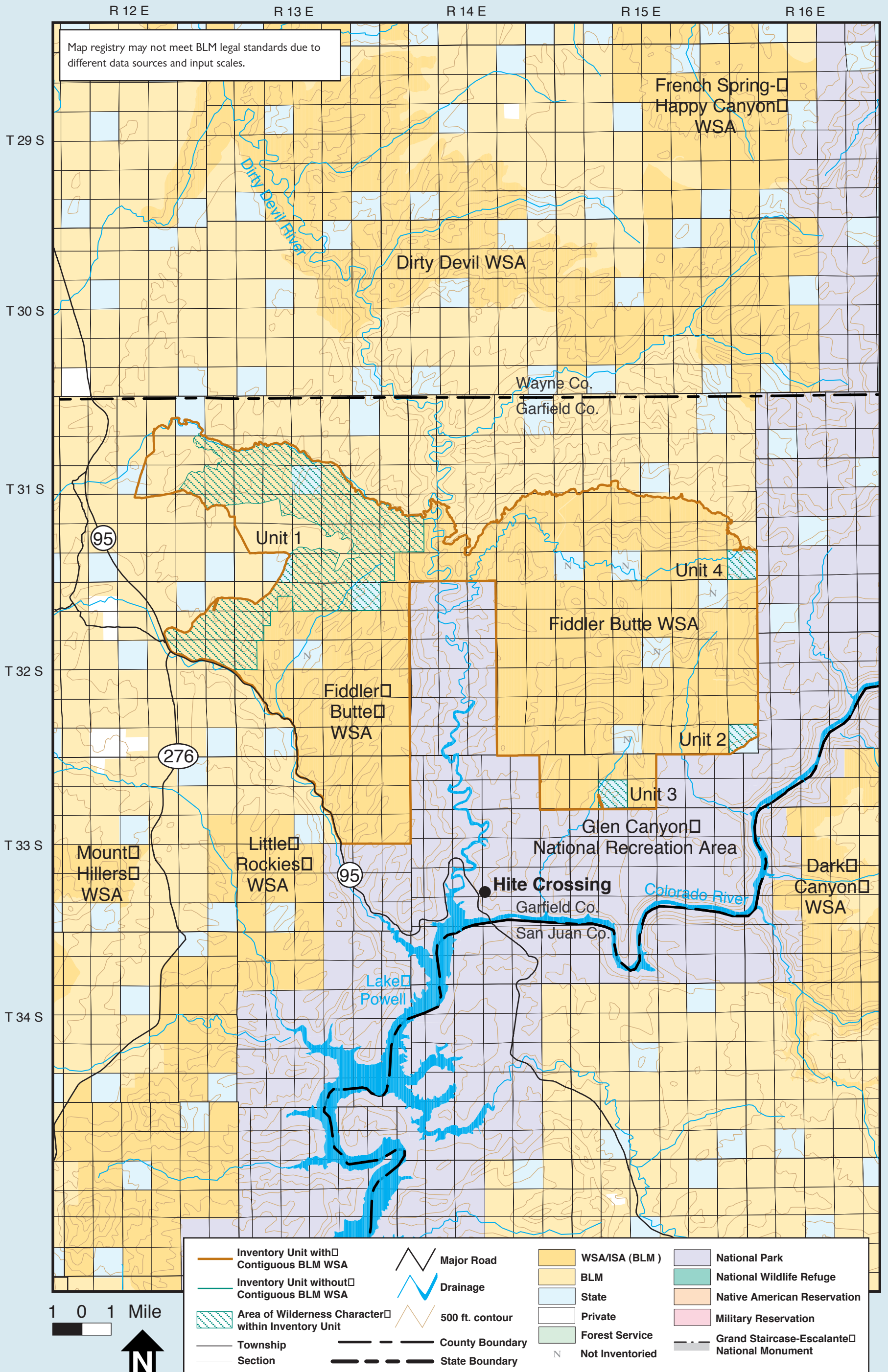
FIDDLER BUTTE—Poison Spring

Canyon offers many opportunities for the backpacker, hiker, or photographer.

Jerry Sintz



Fiddler Butte



EAST CENTRAL REGION—Fiddler Butte

Horseshoe Canyon South

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
19,800	5,300	25,100 (96%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
900	200	1,100 (4%)
Inventory Unit Total		
20,700	5,500	26,200
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Horseshoe Canyon (South) WSA (UT-050-237)		38,800
Canyonlands National Park—Horseshoe Canyon Unit		3,000

Most of the four Horseshoe Canyon South inventory units (25,100 acres) have wilderness characteristics, although a portion of the units (1,100 acres) is not natural and lacks wilderness characteristics. Four roads have been cherry-stemmed from the units. The units have a diverse combination of incised sandstone canyons and rugged benchlands and include the headwaters and entire upper drainage of Horseshoe Canyon. All four units are contiguous to the Horseshoe Canyon (South) Wilderness Study Area (WSA). Some of the units are also contiguous to portions of Canyonlands National Park's Horseshoe Canyon Unit, which has been administratively endorsed for wilderness designation. In conjunction with these lands, the inventory units provide outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. Portions of the inventory units are also contiguous to Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. Overall, the inventory units augment and enhance the natural values of this remote and culturally significant region.

Unit Description

The Horseshoe Canyon South inventory units are adjacent to Glen Canyon National Recreation Area and surround Canyonlands National Park's Horseshoe Canyon Unit on three sides. They are located in northeastern Wayne County about 40 miles south of the city of Green River and 25 miles east of Hanksville. The units comprise expansive benches, rims, and canyons. Horseshoe, Spur Fork, Moqui Fork, and Bluejohn Canyons are included. The units contain the spectacular sandstone headwater canyons of the culturally significant Barrier Creek (which flows through Horseshoe Canyon, the largest side canyon of the Green River's Labyrinth Canyon). Vegetation above the

canyon bottoms is predominantly sagebrush and blackbrush grasslands, with scattered stands of piñon and juniper at the higher elevations and along the canyon breaks. Riparian species in the canyons include Fremont cottonwood, willow, common reed grass, and tamarisk. Grazing use continues throughout most of the units, although many areas remain largely ungrazed because of a lack of access and limited reliable water sources. Mineral and petroleum exploration activities have long since ceased, but they did create most of the travel routes in the area.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of Unit 1 and all of Unit 2 have natural character. The breaks, benchlands, and grasslands located between the Antelope Valley and Hans Flat Roads and the rims of Horseshoe and Bluejohn Canyons have experienced few impacts on their naturalness. The rolling topography west of Horseshoe Canyon does contain some widely scattered old seismograph lines and range developments; however, the seismograph lines are generally screened by the vegetation and topography. Most have revegetated and are nearly obliterated in many locations by shifting and blowing sands and erosion. Virtually all of these intrusions, including those marked on USGS maps as four-wheel-drive trails, are unnoticeable and would disappear if vehicle use was restricted. In addition, most of the range developments are not intrusive. Buffalo Pond, a livestock reservoir in Unit 1, along with the mile-long vehicle way leading to it, have been cherry-stemmed from the unit. Within Unit 2, a mile-long road extending from the Hans Flat Road to a corral has been cherry-stemmed from the unit. However, human development has affected the natural character of a portion of Unit 1. A two-track fence access road and an obliterated, rerouted section of the county road, range developments (line sheds, troughs, and tanks), and debris associated with Granary Spring in the upper Bluejohn Canyon area are unnatural appearing.

Units 3 and 4 retain their natural character. Disturbances within these units consist almost exclusively of scattered vehicle ways, occasional vehicle tracks, and grazing facilities. The unmaintained vehicle ways are used sporadically for access to livestock developments, recreational lands, and viewpoints. However, these disturbances are not substantially noticeable. One road constructed to a drill hole in Unit 4 has been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory units are contiguous to and are an extension of the Horseshoe Canyon (South) WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for solitude. The units contain expansive grasslands, open and rolling terrain, canyon breaks, extensive side canyons, cliffs, and other topographical features. The large scale of the country, the unit's expansive and rugged terrain, and ample topographic screening provide abundant opportunities for solitude.

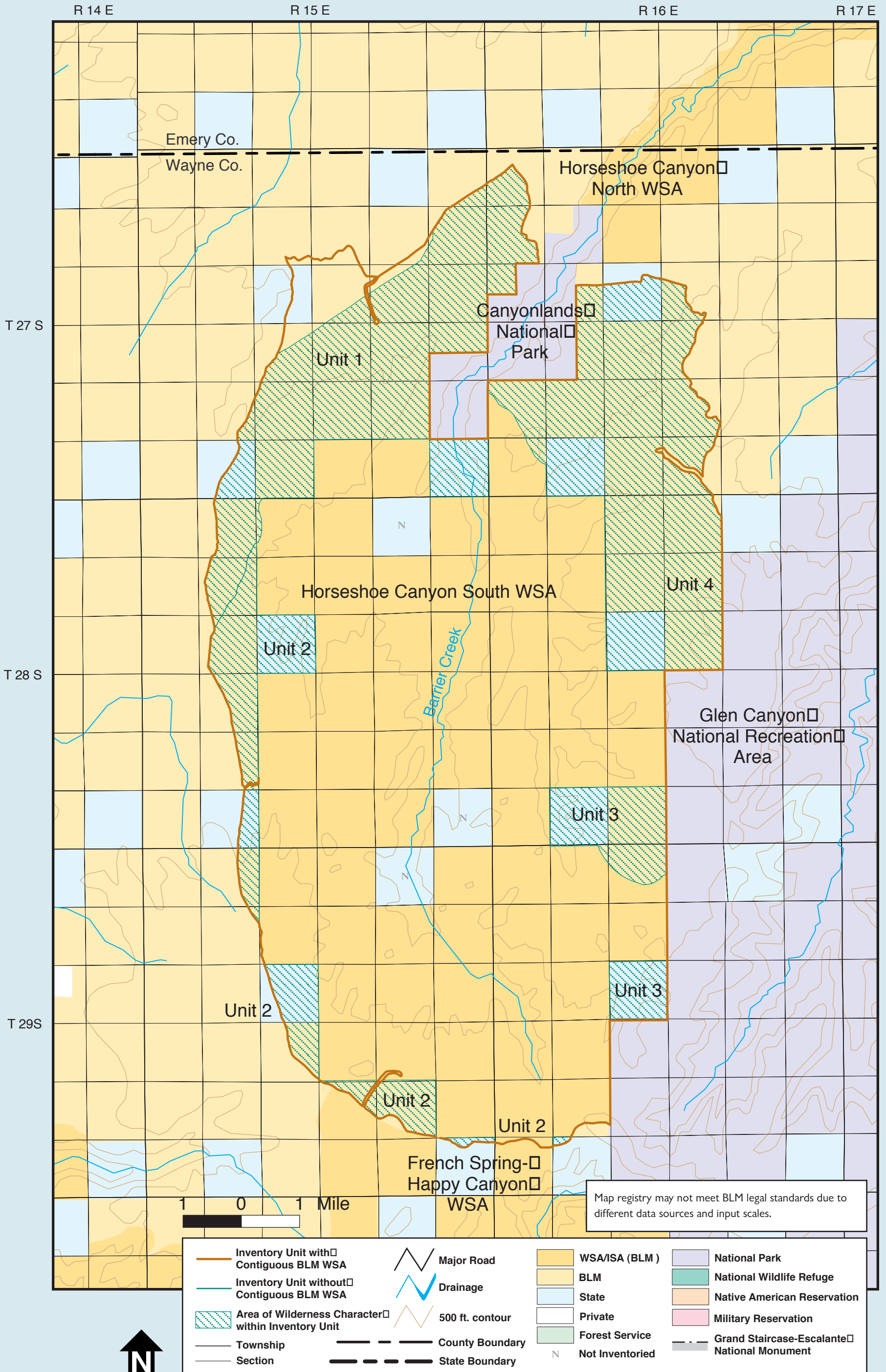
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory units are contiguous to and are an extension of the Horseshoe Canyon (South) WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The inventory units augment these opportunities, with numerous routes and scenic viewpoints providing excitement and discovery. Travel by foot or horseback can vary from easy to extremely challenging. Most uniquely, the units offer significant opportunities to view and learn about Horseshoe Canyon's special cultural and natural history. The units' remoteness, expansive views, significant cultural history, limited visitation, and diversity and quality of recreational activities all combine to create outstanding opportunities for the visitor seeking remote recreation experiences.

Supplemental Values

The inventory units contain cultural resources associated with the canyon's prehistoric rock art and archaeological sites. Contiguous National Park lands are famous for their unique "Barrier Canyon" style of rock art pictographs. Several less well known archaeological sites and pictograph panels are also contained within the inventory units and contiguous WSA. Cowboy Cave, which is within the WSA, is rich with paleontological remains. The inventory units contain the entire upper watershed of Horseshoe Canyon. Horseshoe Canyon is significant because, at over 35 miles in length, it is the largest and most extensive side canyon of the Green River within Labyrinth Canyon. The extensive network of headwater canyons feeds washes and crevices that cut deeply into the Navajo and Wingate sandstones, eventually forming the spectacular walls and cliffs of the main canyon.

Horseshoe Canyon South



Labyrinth Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
84,300	8,000	92,300 (71%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
33,600	4,000	37,600 (29%)
Inventory Unit Total		
117,900	12,000	129,900
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Horseshoe Canyon (North) WSA (UT-060-045)	20,500	
Canyonlands National Park— Horseshoe Canyon Unit	3,000	

Most of the four Labyrinth Canyon inventory units (92,300 acres) have wilderness characteristics. However, the natural character of some portions (37,600 acres) is impacted by vehicle routes, livestock facilities, and mineral exploration; therefore, these portions lack wilderness characteristics. The units have a diverse combination of incised sandstone canyons and rugged benchlands that provide outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. Straddling both sides of the spectacular Labyrinth Canyon of the Green River, the units are contiguous to the Horseshoe Canyon (North) Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and to the culturally significant Canyonlands National Park's Horseshoe Canyon Unit, which has been endorsed for wilderness designation. The inventory units encompass the natural characteristics and values of these remarkable areas.

Unit Description

The four inventory units are contiguous to Horseshoe Canyon (North) WSA, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, and Canyonlands National Park. They are located in southeastern Emery County, northeastern Wayne County, and southwestern Grand County (about 15 miles south of Green River and 15 miles west of Moab). The units comprise the benches, rims, and side canyons straddling Labyrinth Canyon of the Green River and incorporate lands surrounding the north end of Horseshoe Canyon (Barrier Creek). The Green River winds through steep-walled sandstone canyons past numerous side canyons. The units provide exceptionally diverse habitats, including the extensive

riparian areas along the river and in major side canyons that support a large number of animal and plant species. Vegetation above the canyon bottoms is predominantly sagebrush and blackbrush, with scattered stands of piñon and juniper woodlands at the higher elevations.

Recreational opportunities abound, including hiking, mountain biking, off-highway vehicle (OHV) exploring, climbing, camping, hunting, river floating, photography, and the study of the region's natural and cultural history. Grazing, while not extensive, occurs on some river bottoms and benches. Mineral exploration has occurred within the area in the past.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the Labyrinth Canyon units are natural, wild, and remote. Most of Unit 1 retains its naturalness, which is enhanced by topographic screening from deep canyons and rugged terrain as well as from the natural re-vegetation of disturbed areas, which obscures most intrusions. However, the cumulative impact of intrusions in the form of old seismograph lines, drill holes, abandoned airstrips, and vehicle ways crisscrossing the flats and benchlands has resulted in loss of natural character in two places. Three frequently traveled routes have been cherry-stemmed from Unit 1.

Most of Unit 2 is natural; although old seismic lines, remnants of mineral exploration activity, and minor vehicle ways cross the uplands, most have little effect on the area's overall natural character. The expansive rolling topography minimizes the impact of these intrusions. However, the cumulative disturbance from OHV use, range developments, and mineral exploration has impacted the natural character of portions of the unit. Several roads and intrusions have been cherry-stemmed out of Unit 2.

Unit 3 generally retains its naturalness. In some locations on the upper benchlands in the eastern portion of the unit, intrusions cumulatively detract from the natural character of these benchlands. Several routes have been cherry-stemmed out of Unit 3. Except for evidence of old mining exploration in an isolated portion of the upper reaches of Hell Roaring Canyon, the canyons retain their natural

character. Unit 4 appears natural overall. A road has been cherry-stemmed from the unit. Other intrusions include old seismic lines and a single small, unusable landing strip. These are revegetating naturally and are not substantially noticeable.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory units are contiguous to and are extensions of the Horseshoe Canyon (North) WSA, which provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. The inventory units have the same topographic diversity that provides opportunities for solitude within the WSA. The extensive side canyons, cliffs, and other topographical features that have worked to maintain the units' natural character also provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. The area is wild, remote, expansive, and rugged.

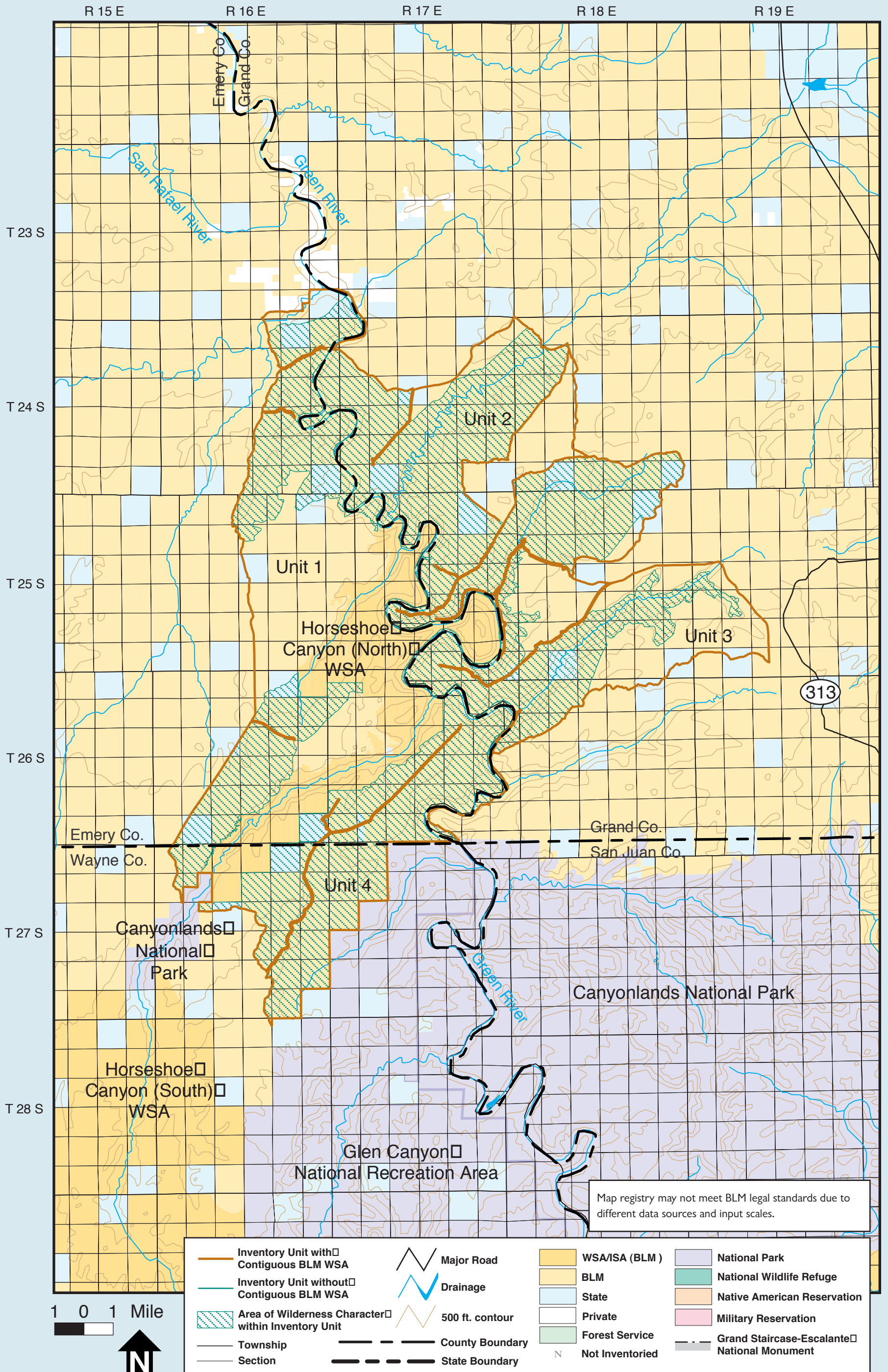
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory units are contiguous to and are extensions of the Horseshoe Canyon (North) WSA, which provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The units augment the primitive recreation opportunities found within the WSA, providing excellent opportunities for dispersed, undeveloped recreation. There are interesting geologic features, rugged and varied terrain, extensive vistas, hidden and remote grottos, incised canyons, river floating opportunities, numerous cultural sites, a number of trails, and opportunities to climb exposed rock faces.

Supplemental Values

There are several historical features, including two old hand-built sheep access trails, the remains of homesteads, and signatures of early steamboat passengers. The units contain the same type of nationally significant prehistoric cultural sites and rock art found within the contiguous National Park area. The endangered Colorado squawfish is found in the Green River, and the humpbacked chub and bonytail chub may also be present. The units provide habitat for bighorn sheep, peregrine falcons, bald eagles, and ferruginous hawks.

Labyrinth Canyon



Cedar Mountain

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
15,100	2,200	17,300 (99%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
200	10	210 (1%)
Inventory Unit Total		
15,300	2,210	17,510
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

Approximately 17,300 acres of the Cedar Mountain inventory unit have wilderness characteristics, while 210 acres do not. Most of the unit retains its natural character, which is enhanced by the dominating presence of Cedar Mountain. Minor intrusions are noticeable along the fringes of the unit in several locations. However, these human disturbances are limited to faint evidence of seismographic lines and short four-wheel drive ways associated with two reservoirs and stock-watering facilities in the Mussentuchit Flat area. Most of the unit provides outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation, particularly in the rugged terrain radiating from Cedar Mountain. Three parcels do not have wilderness characteristics because of a combination of developments, including a bladed road, vehicle trails, and range developments.

Unit Description

The Cedar Mountain inventory unit is located in the extreme southwestern corner of Emery County, approximately 10 miles south of Interstate 70. Two Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs)—the Muddy Creek WSA and the Crack Canyon WSA—are to the east. The unit is bounded on all sides by county-maintained roads.

Land ownership consists primarily of public land. Topography varies greatly, from the massive structure of Cedar Mountain with its rise of more than a thousand feet above nearby Muddy Creek and the Mussentuchit badlands, to the relatively flat and rolling landscape characteristic of the Mussentuchit Flat area. The rugged slopes radiating down from Cedar Mountain's summit make access into the area difficult.

The unit is sparsely vegetated, with desert shrubs and grasses predominating in the relatively flat-to-rolling-hill landscape of the Mussentuchit Flat area, and scattered junipers and occasional piñon pines

dotting the badlands and upper reaches of Cedar Mountain. Tamarisk and occasional cottonwood trees are found along wash bottoms and adjacent to several constructed reservoirs near the boundary roads.

Wild horses are known to range over much of the unit, particularly in the vicinity of Mussentuchit Flat. The eastern portion is yearlong desert bighorn sheep habitat; it is not unusual for people to see sheep in the vicinity of Cedar Mountain.

Primary uses of the land include livestock grazing and recreation. Panoramic 360-degree views of the southwestern part of the San Rafael Swell, in conjunction with the area's recognized geological importance (dike and sill igneous intrusions), combine to make the Cedar Mountain inventory unit unique among the Swell's many significant recreational areas.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Overall, the unit largely retains its natural character. Several faint seismographic lines, along with a few fences and several short access ways leading to livestock watering facilities, show up on recent aerial photographs. However, without exception, the seismographic lines were found to be faint, except where they have been maintained by livestock passage in scattered locations. Otherwise, the seismographic lines are returning to a natural appearance. The few fences present remain substantially unnoticeable in the landscape.

A few areas do not appear to be natural. Two are along the western boundary road in Mussentuchit Flat. The combination of off-highway vehicle disturbance, short access ways, and the small reservoirs, troughs, and fences to which they lead has created an unnatural setting. Another area consists of a bladed road and small sliver of land along the eastern boundary road.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit provides outstanding opportunities

CEAR MOUNTAIN—In addition to the required wilderness values, the unit is valuable as a geologic-type site and as a classic field example for scientific and educational study.

for solitude, particularly in the rugged topography of Cedar Mountain and the badlands to the peak's south and west. Even the landscape encompassing the interior portions of Mussentuchit Flat accords opportunities for solitude given the distance from roads and low probability of visitor encounters at any time of the year. Boundary roads and the passage of vehicles are difficult to detect when in the heart of the Mussentuchit Flat area. Even though relatively flat terrain exists throughout much of the Mussentuchit Flat area, outstanding opportunities for solitude can be experienced.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Opportunities for participation in dispersed, undeveloped recreation activities are outstanding within the vicinity of Cedar Mountain itself and in the badlands extending to its south and southwest. Cedar Mountain's summit provides visitors a 360-degree panoramic view of the southwestern part of the San Rafael Swell. Outstanding opportunities exist for hiking, sightseeing, and photography. Because Cedar Mountain stands as the centerpiece of a geologically unique region of the San Rafael Swell (through its classic examples of exposed dike and sill igneous intrusions), outstanding opportunities exist for environmental education and the study of geology and landforms. These same attributes, however, do not extend into the more gentle topography characteristic of much of the Mussentuchit Flat area.

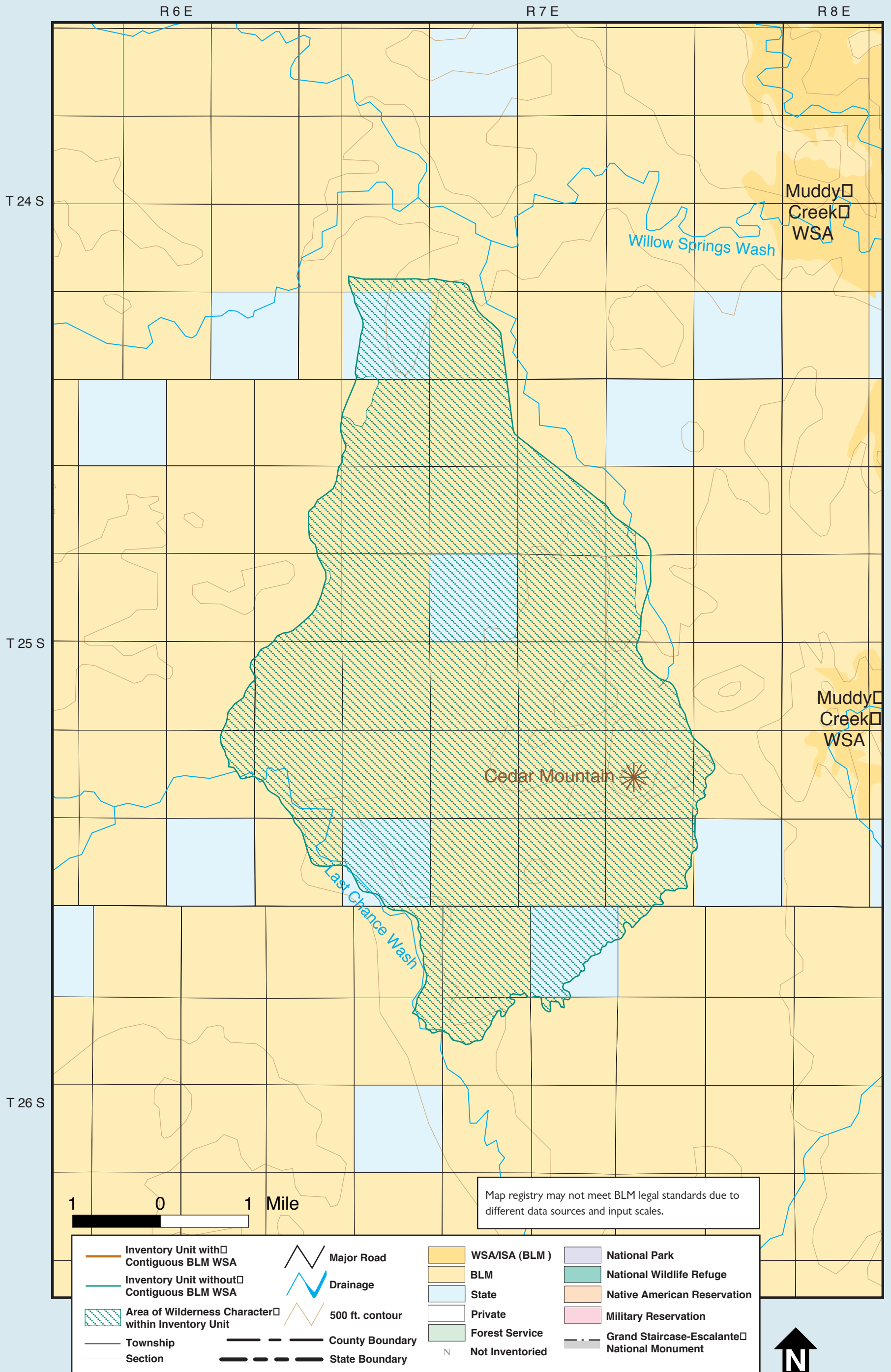
Supplemental Values

The unit has exceptional value for recreational sightseeing because of the exposure of igneous dikes and sills resulting from the area's volcanic activity. Of equal importance is its value as a geologic type site and as a classic field example for scientific/educational geologic study. The unit also exhibits evidence of wild horse use and was visited and used by early Native Americans, most notably in much of the Mussentuchit Flat area.



BLM photo

Cedar Mountain



Devils Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
8,800	1,140	9,940 (64%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
4,820	800	5,620 (36%)
Inventory Unit Total		
13,620	1,940	15,560
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Devils Canyon WSA (UT-060-025)		9,610
Link Flats ISA		

Most of the two Devils Canyon inventory units (9,940 acres) have wilderness characteristics, although four specific locations (5,620 acres) are not natural appearing in the landscape and lack wilderness characteristics. Three of these unnatural areas are in Unit 1, with the fourth occurring in Unit 2, including lands in the vicinity of the Copper Globe Mine. Clyde and Neils stock pond and the short access road extending to it, as well as two constructed vehicle ways, have been cherry-stemmed out of the units. While both Units 1 and 2 contain a few other old mining scars and vehicle ways, none are substantially noticeable in the landscape. The inventory units contain the lower portion of Devils Canyon from its mouth near South Salt Wash almost to Devils Canyon Spring. As an extension of the Devils Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA), the units offer outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. The Highway I-70 Scenic Corridor Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) lies to the north of the unit; this ACEC was established in 1991 to protect significant scenic values.

DEVILS CANYON—A road separates the Devils Canyon inventory units from the Muddy Creek-Crack Canyon inventory units.



Jerry Sintz

Unit Description

The Devils Canyon inventory units are located in Emery County near the heart of the San Rafael Swell. They are bounded by Interstate 70 on the north, Kimball Draw Road on the south, Copper Globe Road on the east, and South Salt Wash Road on the west. The Devils Canyon WSA and Link Flats Instant Study Area are adjacent. The central and defining feature of this area is Devils Canyon, a steep-walled canyon twisting through vertical exposures of beautifully cross-bedded sandstone. This canyon forms a deep gash in the crest of the San Rafael Swell. A small riparian area meanders intermittently through the canyon bottom, while the ridges and uplands are dominated by piñon and juniper woodlands. Extending out from the ridges toward the outer edges of the units, the woodlands give way to open savannahs, desert shrublands, and badlands. Scattered throughout the units are buttes, knobs, and mesas, which combine to create a varied and interesting landscape. Livestock grazing occurs throughout these units, and mineral exploration and extraction have occurred in the western and southwestern portions.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Four specific locations (5,620 acres) are not natural appearing in the landscape and lack wilderness characteristics. Three of these are in Unit 1. The Tea Brush Flat area contains numerous intrusions, including a constructed airstrip and numerous constructed vehicle ways. The area between Devils Canyon WSA and Interstate 70

contains numerous constructed vehicle ways, seismographic survey lines, a large gravel pit and haul road associated with the construction of Interstate 70. And a constructed road is located on the narrow ridge between Kimball Draw and the southern boundary of Devils Canyon WSA. The fourth unnatural area is in Unit 2; it includes lands in the vicinity of the Copper Globe Mine. Clyde and Neils stock pond and the short access road extending to it, as well as two constructed vehicle ways, have been cherry-stemmed from the units. While both Units 1 and 2 contain a few other old mining scars and vehicle ways, none of these are substantially noticeable in the landscape.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The Devils Canyon inventory units are contiguous to and are an extension of the Devils Canyon WSA, which provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. In combination with this WSA, the inventory units also provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. The area's deeply incised canyons, rugged terrain, and moderate-to-dense stands of piñon and juniper woodland provide remote and natural-appearing settings for those wishing to explore this seldom-visited region.

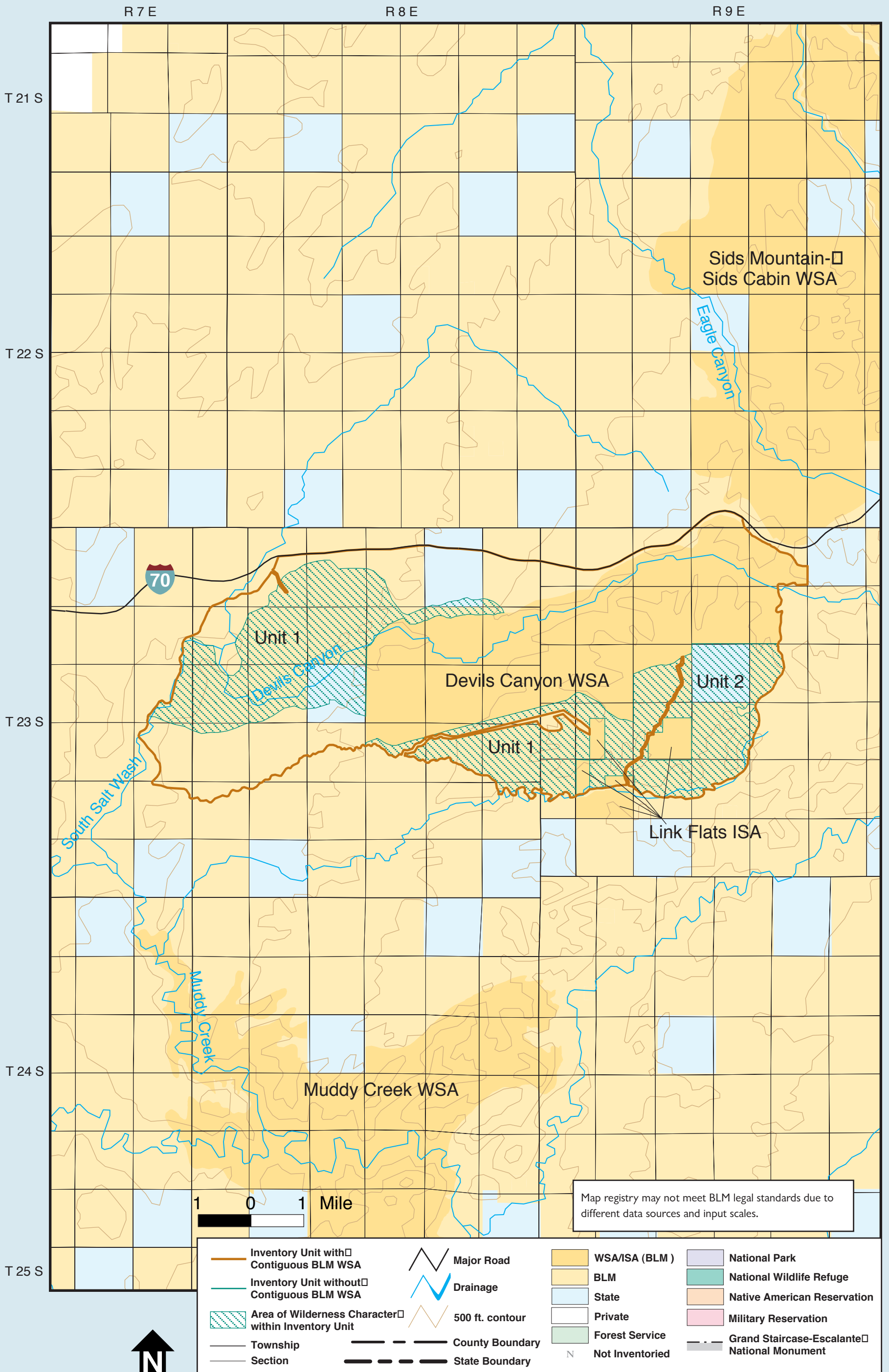
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The Devils Canyon inventory units are contiguous to and are an extension of the Devils Canyon WSA, which provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. In combination with this WSA, the inventory units provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The area's deeply incised canyons, rugged terrain, and moderate-to-dense stands of piñon and juniper woodland provide remote and natural-appearing settings for those wishing to explore this seldom-visited area. Visitors will likely follow wash bottoms or piñon-covered ridges; these frequently open up into savannah-like settings and sometimes end abruptly at dramatic slick-rock exposures.

Supplemental Values

In addition to the flora and fauna common to the San Rafael Swell, the Devils Canyon inventory units are a refuge for two species of endangered plants: the Maguire's Daisy and Wright's scelerocactus. The Highway I-70 Scenic Corridor ACEC lies to the north of the unit; this ACEC was established by the BLM in 1991 to protect significant scenic values.

Devils Canyon



Hondu Country

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
20,200	2,200	22,400 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
10	0	10 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
20,210	2,200	22,410
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

Most of the Hondu Country inventory unit (22,400 acres) has wilderness characteristics; it is roadless and natural appearing. The core of the area provides outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation.

Only along the northern half of the eastern boundary are intrusions found: an abandoned vehicle way and drill hole, a vehicle route that was not constructed (leading to primitive dispersed campsites), and some livestock facilities, including a maintained fence and two reservoirs that have naturally revegetated and are not functioning. Two small areas (about 10 acres) are not natural and lack wilderness characteristics because of a substantially noticeable corral, a gravel pit, and their access routes.

Unit Description

The Hondu Country inventory unit is in south-central Emery County in the San Rafael Swell and is located about 40 miles southwest of Green River. The unit is completely surrounded by county-maintained roads that are often referred to as the Reds Canyon Loop. The unit is bordered on the east and south by the open flat plateau of McKay Flat and The Big Ridge. The north and east side of the unit are a series of broken, eroded hills and valleys lying below the towering escarpment forming Reds Canyon. Vegetation is predominantly sagebrush grasslands on the open flats; piñon and juniper are also found interspersed throughout the area.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the Hondu Country inventory unit retains its naturalness. The only imprints of man are on the east side on McKay Flat within three miles of one another, and these generally do not impair naturalness. Ten acres, however, are unnatural because of a substantially noticeable corral, a gravel pit, and their access routes.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The county road surrounding the inventory unit provides ready accessibility, yet the

unit's diverse topography and vegetative screening create numerous outstanding opportunities for visitors to feel remote and isolated.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Opportunities include hiking, sightseeing, camping, and photography.

Supplemental Values

Numerous supplemental attributes exist. The unit is within the known habitat of an expanding herd of regionally significant desert bighorn sheep. It is also within a designated wild horse herd management area that has a healthy population of animals. The unit provides potential habitat for the endangered San Rafael Cactus (*Pediocactus despanii*), which has been found in adjacent areas with similar geology and soils.

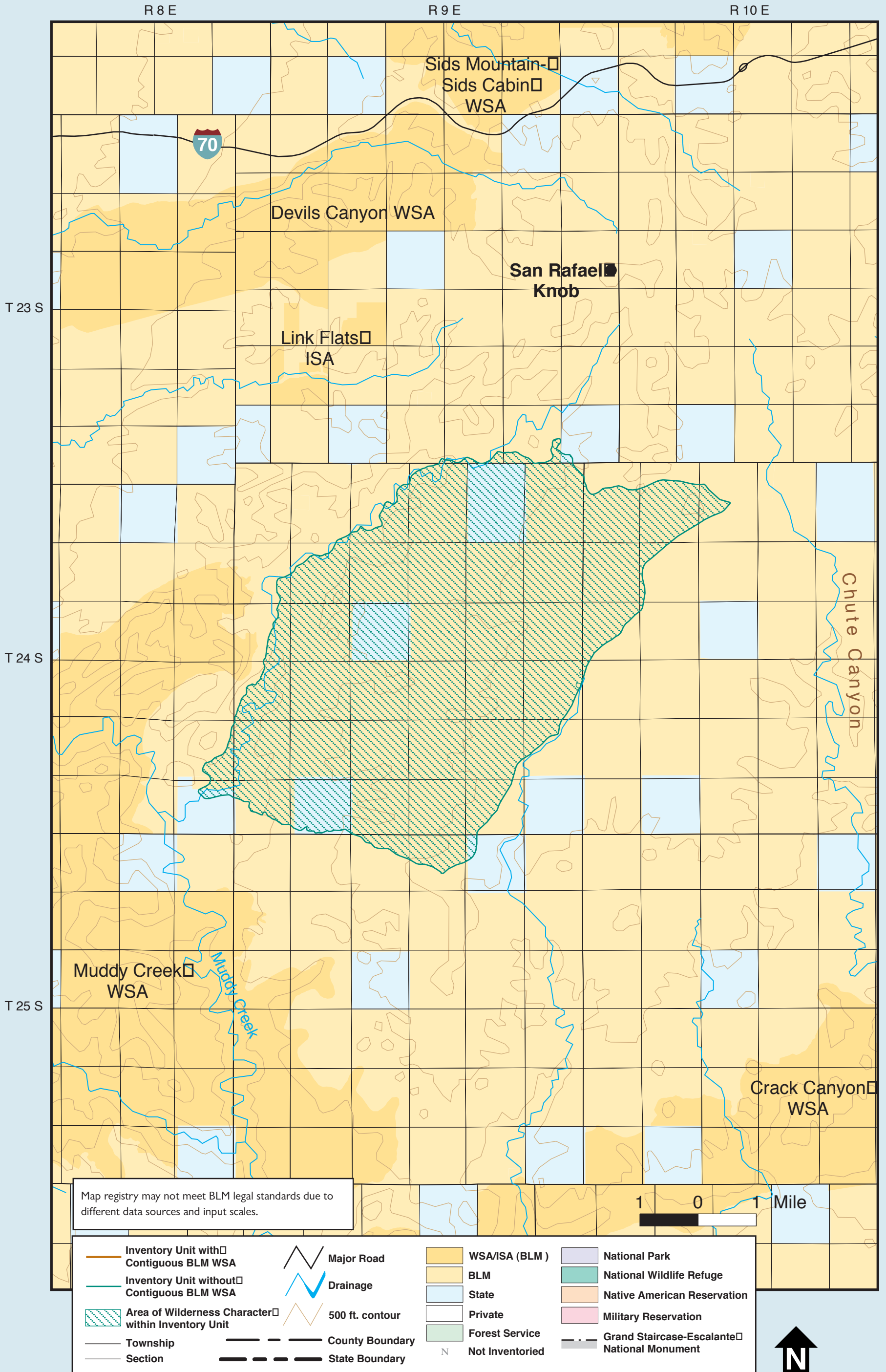
There are spectacular views of the surrounding area. The red and buff-banded expanse of the western sheer wall of Reds Canyon towers 1,000 feet above the west side of the unit. From the highest point, visitors can view Cedar Mountain and the distant Wasatch Plateau to the west.

HONDU COUNTRY—The Hondu Country inventory unit lies beyond the white-capped butte in the center of this photo.



Jerry Sintz

Hondu Country



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	

Limestone Cliffs

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
23,800	3,800	27,600 (99%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
200	100	300 (1%)
Inventory Unit Total		
24,000	3,900	27,900
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

About 27,600 acres of the Limestone Cliffs inventory unit has wilderness characteristics. Sweeping vistas of multi-colored Entrada Sandstone and Mancos Shale cliffs cascade down to desert canyons dotted with volcanic boulders and columns of pinnacles. The remote, rugged terrain of the upper mesas, forested in piñon and juniper and home to mule deer, elk, and antelope, transitions into the adjacent roadless area of Fishlake National Forest. Most of the area remains natural, offering both solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation to the visitor. However, about 300 acres lack these qualities. Two private inholdings and an access road have been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

Unit Description

The Limestone Cliffs inventory unit is located in the southeast corner of Sevier County, with two small parcels in Emery County. Privately owned Last Chance Ranch skirts the east-central boundary and an old jeep road provides access to a

remote parcel along Solomon Creek. Other private lands located in Rock Springs Wash, Solomon Creek, and Clay Flats border the northwest section of the unit. The two internal private parcels have been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

The unit is bordered on the west by a roadless portion of the Fishlake National Forest. Utah Highway 72 borders the unit for two miles along the northwest. The rest of the unit is bordered by county-maintained roads. Remnants of an early attempt at coal mining are still visible along the northern border. The eastern boundary road provides access to the northern section of Capitol Reef National Park's Cathedral Valley.

Elk, antelope, and deer migrate between winter and summer range throughout this unit. The primary use of the land is for recreation and livestock grazing. Views from the higher elevations reward the visitor with spectacular landscapes, including the San Rafael Swell and the Henry Mountains to the south.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The Limestone Cliffs inventory unit has largely retained its natural character because of its remoteness, limited access, and rugged terrain. Vehicle access is by maintained county roads bordering the north, east, and south. Intrusions consist of grazing facilities and access ways that are old, not maintained, and substantially unnoticeable.

Naturalness has been impaired in the northwest near Sign Board Flat, where

access has been maintained to several chained juniper areas and stock ponds. These developments are located between the road and the bluffs to the south. In the far northeast are remnants of an old coal mining town.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit has deeply incised canyons, including Temple Wash, Solomon Creek, and Last Chance Creek; rugged terrain; and moderate to dense stands of piñon and juniper. Topographic relief exceeds 2,000 feet and the rugged terrain is difficult to traverse. This topographic and vegetative screening offers outstanding opportunities for solitude within this seldom-visited region.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit offers outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Diverse landforms lure the occasional photographer, hiker, backpacker, wildlife viewer, and sightseer to explore and experience a primitive area in an unconfined setting.

Supplemental Values

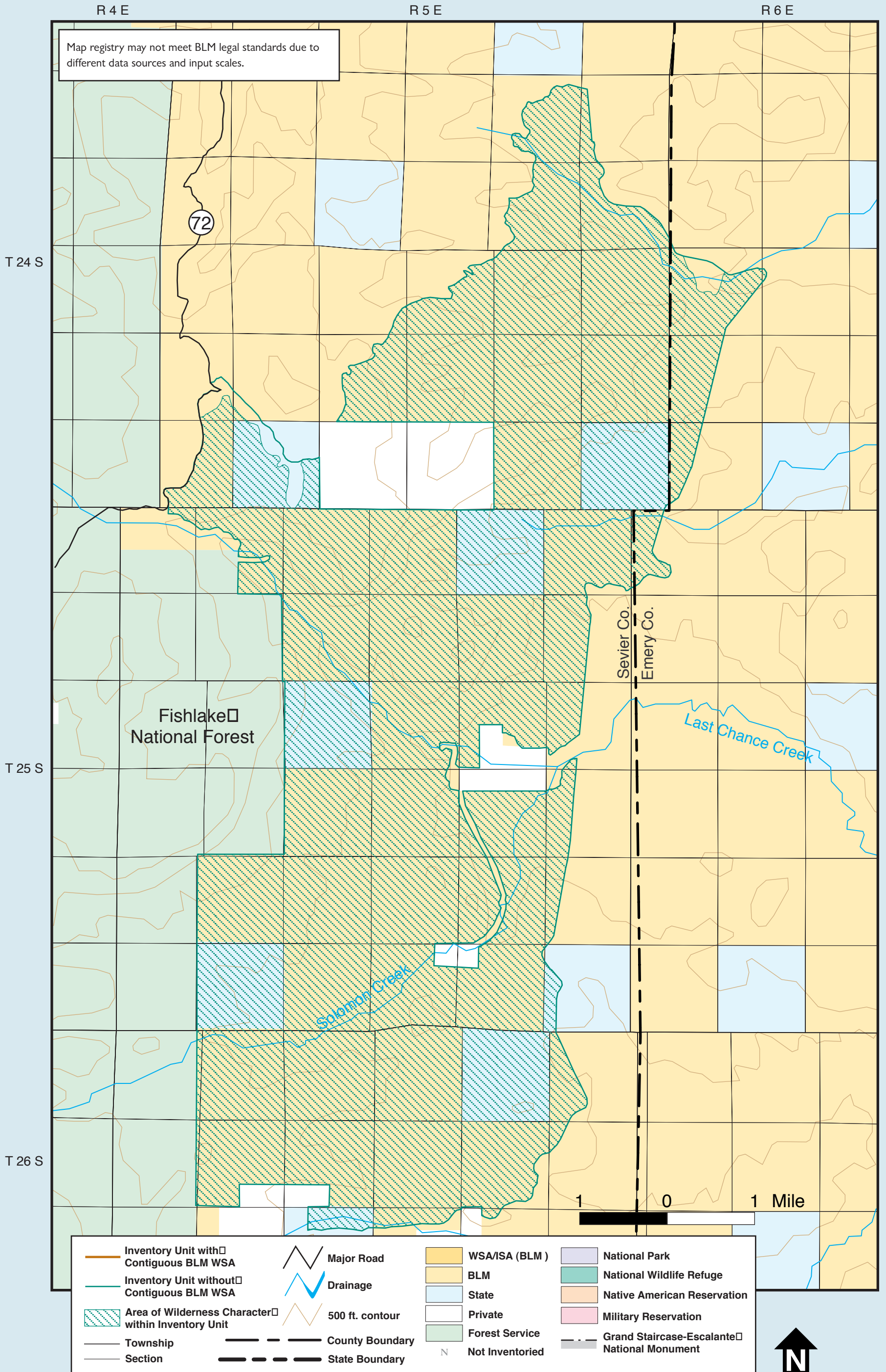
The endangered Wright's fishhook cactus (*Sclerocactus wrightiae*) may be present in the area.

LIMESTONE CLIFFS— Rugged terrain and vegetative screening offer the visitor outstanding opportunities for solitude within this seldom-visited region.



Jerry Sintz

Limestone Cliffs



Jones Bench

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
2,600	500	3,100 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	10	10 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
2,600	510	3,110
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Capitol Reef National Park—		
Cathedral Valley Unit		3,900
Deep Creek Canyon Unit		64,290

Almost all of the Jones Bench inventory unit (3,100 acres) is natural appearing, is roadless, and has wilderness characteristics. Only a very small portion (10 acres) lacks wilderness characteristics; this portion contains a corral and stock pond and is adjacent to Rock Springs Road on the inventory unit’s northern boundary.

Capitol Reef National Park forms the southern boundary. The Park’s Cathedral Valley unit (3,900 acres) and Deep Creek Canyon unit (64,290 acres), both administratively endorsed by the National Park Service (NPS) for wilderness designation, are contiguous to the inventory unit. When considered in combination with the NPS lands, the Jones Bench inventory unit exhibits outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation.

Unit Description

The Jones Bench inventory unit is located in the extreme southeast corner of Sevier County. The unit is contiguous to two Capitol Reef National Park units that have been administratively endorsed for

wilderness designation. Fishlake National Forest is approximately one-quarter mile from the unit’s western boundary. A boundary road skirts the eastern portion of the unit, providing access to Cathedral Valley in Capitol Reef National Park. A road in Rock Springs canyon extends through private land that separates the Limestone Cliffs inventory unit to the north from the Jones Bench inventory unit. This road continues west into Fishlake National Forest.

Sagebrush and rabbitbrush are found on the desert floor, while piñon and juniper woodlands are on the mesa tops and near the National Forest boundary. Small rolling hills, typical of the badlands in this region, sit at the base of vertical cliffs. Scattered miniature pinnacles break the lower landscape into intriguing formations reminiscent of Capitol Reef National Park’s Cathedral Valley.

Primary uses of the land include livestock grazing and recreation. There are outstanding opportunities for hiking, backpacking, photography, sightseeing, and observing wildlife. Privately owned ranch lands are adjacent to the north; some grazing occurs within the unit itself.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The Jones Bench inventory unit largely retains its natural character. In most of the area, the imprints of man are not noticeable, and the unit remains roadless. One access way in the northeast corner is not maintained, has now revegetated, and is substantially unnoticeable in the landscape. It appears to follow a wash to private property, but it has not been used for many years. The county-maintained road in Rock Springs canyon now supplies alternative access to privately owned lands.

A corral and stock pond near the northern boundary create a significant impact to the natural-appearing character of the landscape in this location.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit is contiguous to Capitol Reef National Park’s 3,900-acre Cathedral Valley unit and 64,290-acre Deep Creek Canyon unit, both of which have been endorsed for wilderness designation by the NPS. The NPS units possess outstanding opportunities for solitude; in combination with these areas, the Jones Bench inventory unit also has outstanding opportunities for solitude.

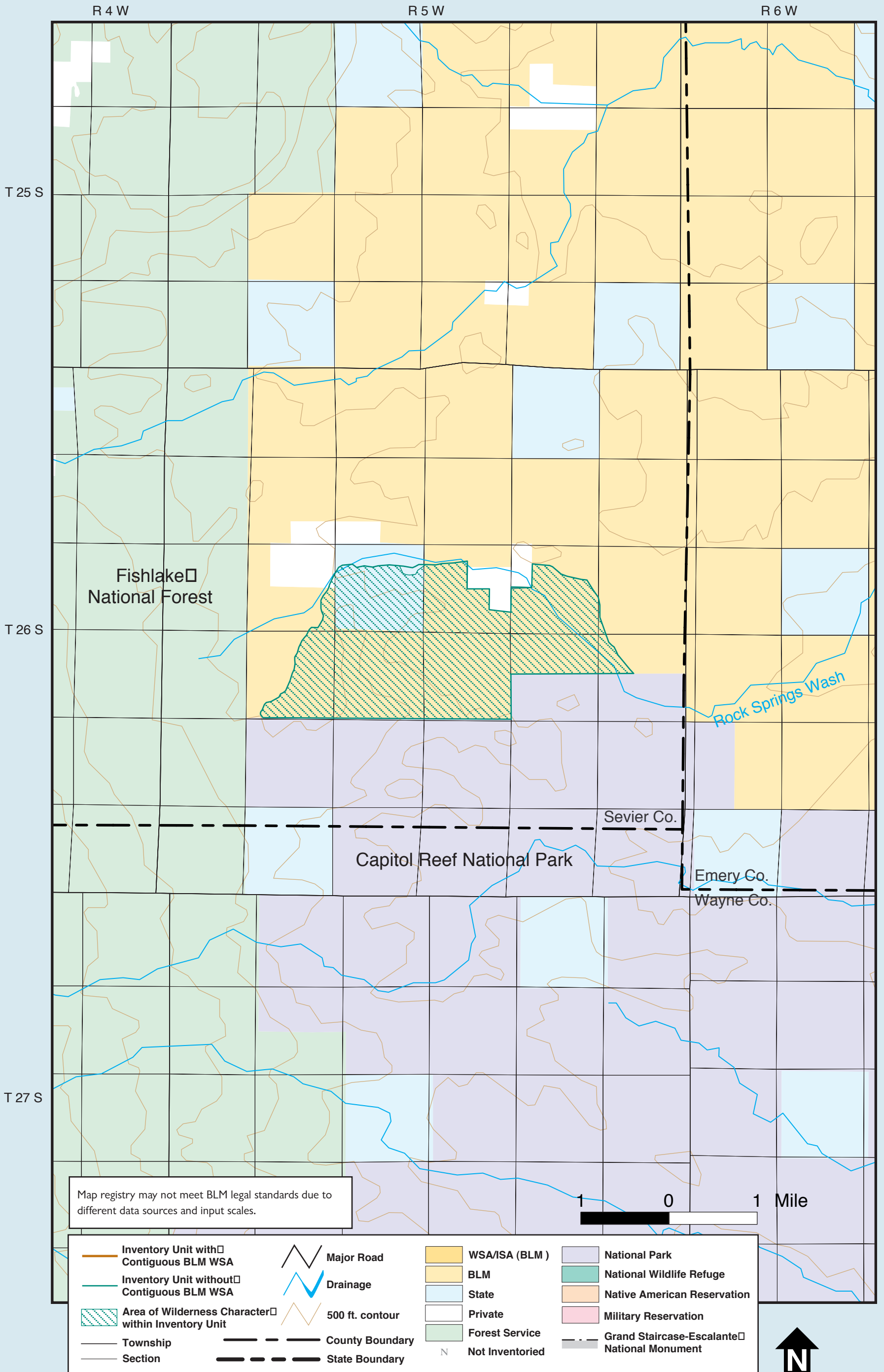
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The Jones Bench inventory unit is contiguous to Capitol Reef National Park’s 3,900-acre Cathedral Valley unit and 64,290-acre Deep Creek Canyon unit which have been endorsed for wilderness designation by the NPS. Both the Cathedral Valley and Deep Creek Canyon units possess outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. In combination with these NPS areas, the Jones Bench inventory unit has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Supplemental Values

The endangered Wright’s fishhook cactus (*Sclerocactus wrightiae*) may be present. The western half of the unit is critical habitat for mule deer.

Jones Bench



EAST CENTRAL REGION—Jones Bench

Mexican Mountain

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
36,700	10,200	46,900 (63%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
11,700	16,200	27,900 (37%)
Inventory Unit Total		
48,400	26,400	74,800
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Mexican Mountain WSA (UT-060-054)		59,600

Most of the six Mexican Mountain inventory units (46,900 acres) retain their wilderness characteristics. However, about 27,900 acres of the inventory units lack wilderness characteristics because of substantially noticeable disturbance, primarily from off-highway vehicle (OHV) use. The units are contiguous to the Mexican Mountain Wilderness Study Area (WSA). In combination with this WSA, the inventory units have outstanding solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities.

Unit Description

The units lie in Emery County north of Interstate 70 about 15 miles west of Green River. The six units represent widely varied topographic settings that, when combined with the dramatic canyons of the Mexican Mountain WSA, create a truly impressive area within the spectacular San Rafael Swell. Sheer canyon walls in the northern portion (Calf Canyon, Cow Canyon, and the Devils Hole country) rise over 1,000 feet above the benchlands. Part of the upper Black Box, which is a popular destination point for many hardy kayakers, hikers, and floaters, is in the contiguous WSA. Above the dramatic canyons, rolling benchlands typified by Horse Heaven are cut by numerous drainages and heavily vegetated with piñon and juniper. Within Unit 3, Limestone Bench transitions into more rugged canyons, low buttes, and ridges to the east and south. Unit 4 includes Jackass Benches west of Black Dragon Wash, along with rugged benchlands above the spectacular Black Box sections of the San Rafael River canyon.

The upland vegetation is dominated by piñon and juniper woodland, while the lower elevations include desert shrub land intermingled with grasses. The riparian zones along the San Rafael River and other prominent streams includes greasewood, willows, tamarisk, and cottonwoods.

Primary uses of the units include recreation and livestock grazing. Many of the roads and ways within or adjacent to the unit provide recreational access to the San Rafael River, the Black Box, and other canyons. The area is popular for OHV use, hiking, backpacking, sightseeing, and horseback riding, as well as for kayaking and tubing the river.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the units retain their natural character. The six units are scattered around the WSA boundary and contain substantial acreage with few intrusions, except for specific areas of high OHV-related recreational use. Most intrusions consist of vehicle ways, often extending from cherry-stemmed roads to sites of particular recreational interest. Some range developments, consisting mostly of stock ponds and drift fences, are scattered through the units but are substantially unnoticeable.

There are two cherry-stemmed roads in Unit 1 that extend up Pine and Calf Canyons off the Buckhorn Wash Road. A number of vehicle ways and OHV play areas have particularly impacted the central portion of the unit northwest of Devils Hole and east of Prickly Pear Flat. As a result of these cumulative impacts, this area lacks natural character. One additional area on the benchlands north of Cow Canyon has an accumulation of vehicle ways, campsites, and OHV intrusions, and also lacks natural character. Most of Unit 2 is unnatural because of the cumulative impacts from multiple vehicle ways. Remnants of oil and gas drill holes are also evident. Unit 3 is natural in character. The only intrusions include several vehicle ways and stock ponds, but these are substantially unnoticeable. Two roads have been cherry-stemmed out of Unit 3.

Unit 4 is natural in character. Three roads that provide access to various points along the Black Box segment of the San Rafael River have been cherry-stemmed from the unit. The southern portion of Unit 5 lacks natural character because of the presence of multiple vehicle ways and other OHV intrusions. The Pack Saddle Gulch Road has been cherry-stemmed from Unit 6. A portion of this unit lacks wilderness characteristics because of cumulative impacts of two vehicle ways, range developments, and a lack of topographic and vegetative screening.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The units are contiguous to and are an extension of the Mexican Mountain WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for solitude. In combination with this WSA, the units also contain outstanding opportunities for solitude. Of particular significance is Horse Heaven, the eastern extension of Limestone Bench, and the rugged confines of Cow and Calf Canyons.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The units are contiguous to and are an extension of the Mexican Mountain WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Both on their own and in combination with this WSA, the units have numerous outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Of particular interest are the canyons that connect to the Black Box, a popular hiking area. In addition, Cow, Calf, and Pine Canyons are spectacular areas with outstanding hiking and sightseeing opportunities. Opportunities are enhanced because these canyons offer exceptional scenic vistas within the confines of a deep, steep-walled canyon complex. Side canyons offer additional interest and variety. Calf Canyon allows hikers to travel from the broad open canyon floors to the mesa tops.

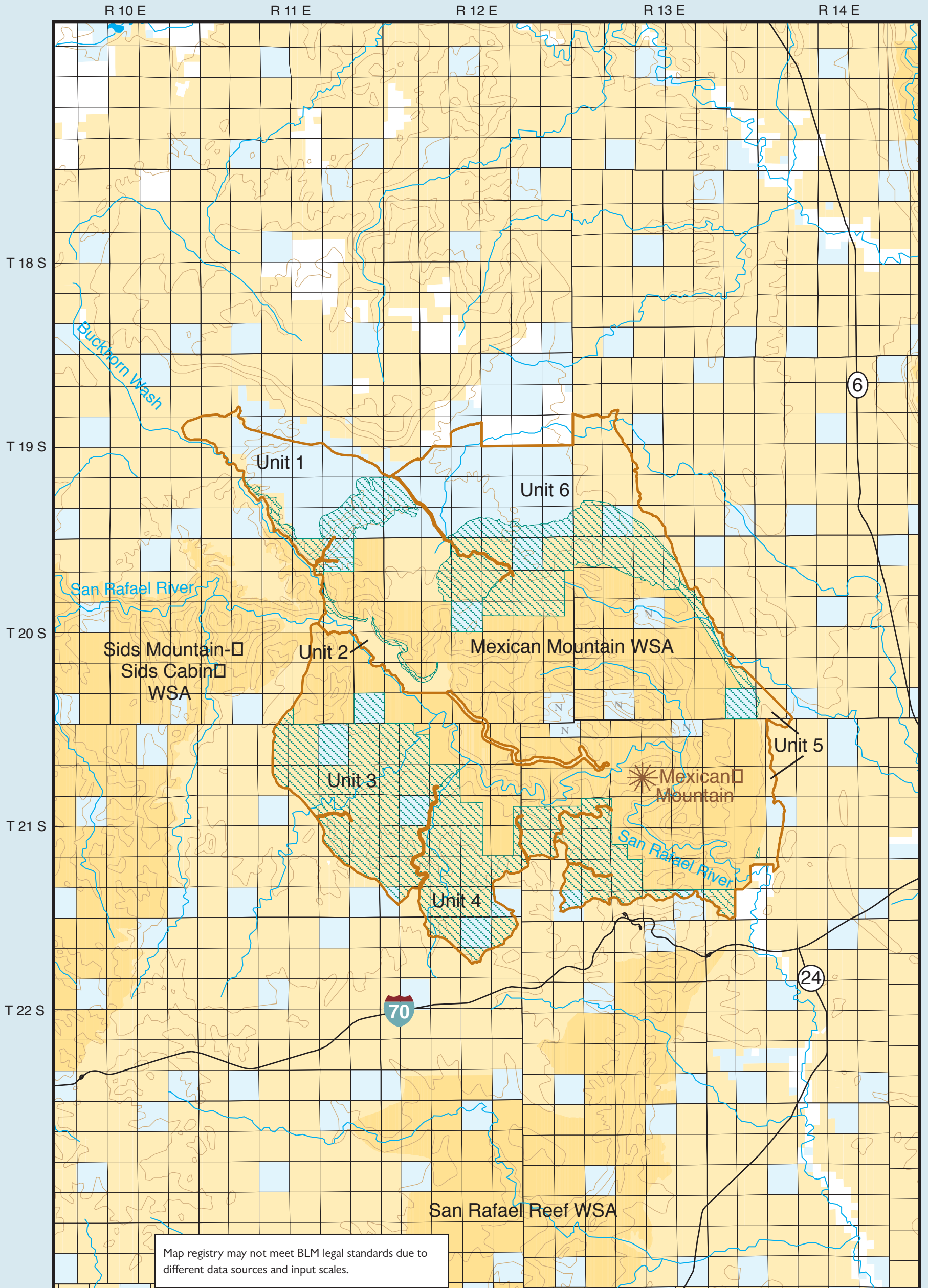
Supplemental Values

The units contain significant archaeological and historic resources. The old Spanish Trail runs through the northern portion of the inventory area, and archaeological sites are scattered through the units. A nineteenth century railroad grade borders the northeast part of the units. An impressive pictograph panel found along Black Dragon Wash is a popular destination point for sightseers.

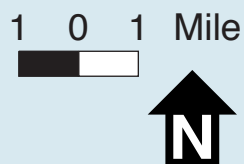
The units contain important habitat for desert bighorn sheep, and the spectacular cliffs within the unit provide good nesting areas for peregrine falcons. Several threatened or endangered plant species also inhabit the area. Most visitors are awed by the dramatic examples of the geologic stratification and uplifting that occurs along the San Rafael Swell. In addition to the impressive canyon and other diverse topographic features, the area is rich in rockhounding opportunities, given the presence of geodes, petrified wood, and other mineral specimens.

A photograph of Mexican Mountain is shown in the front part of this document on page vi.

Mexican Mountain



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.



Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	

Muddy Creek-Crack Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
184,500	30,500	215,000 (90%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
22,700	2,060	24,760 (10%)
Inventory Unit Total		
207,200	32,560	239,760
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Muddy Creek WSA (UT-060-007)		31,400
Crack Canyon WSA (UT-060-028A)		25,385
Link Flats ISA		

The six Muddy Creek-Crack Canyon inventory units are contiguous to and surround two Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs)—Muddy Creek WSA and Crack Canyon WSA—and a small portion of the Link Flats Instant Study Area. Most of the inventory units (215,000 acres) retain their wilderness characteristics. This large and diverse area is natural and offers outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. However, approximately 24,760 acres lack wilderness characteristics. These areas have been impacted by a combination of intrusions, including a gypsum mine, oil wells, roads and vehicle ways, range developments, and disturbance from both mineral exploration and off-highway vehicle (OHV) use. Two BLM Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs), a Special Emphasis Area, and several free-flowing river segments eligible for inclusion as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System are located within the units.

Unit Description

The six units extend from southwestern Emery County in the San Rafael Swell just south of Interstate 70 to north-central Wayne County bordering on Utah Highway 24. They are located about 50 miles southwest of Green River and 10 miles northwest of Hanksville. The units are over 30 miles from north to south and 25 miles from east to west. This inventory area is one of the largest in Utah. Vegetation is extremely varied, encompassing piñon and juniper woodlands, park-like flats containing a variety of grasses, and riparian vegetation in wash bottoms. Below the San Rafael Reef, vegetation is nearly nonexistent on the barren Mancos Shale substrate. The

MUDDY CREEK-CRACK CANYON—
This view of North Caineville Mesa provides a glimpse of the vastness and remoteness of this quarter-million-acre-plus roadless area.

terrain varies greatly, exhibiting nearly every type of terrain and geologic strata found in the canyon country. Visitors are often awed by the stark Mancos Shale moonscape and multicolored bentonite hills.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the Muddy Canyon-Crack Canyon inventory units are natural. Each of the six units has areas that are natural as well as small areas that are not natural in appearance. Areas that lack naturalness have been impacted by a combination of mines, oil wells, mineral exploration, OHV use, roads and vehicle ways, and range developments.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The units are contiguous to and are an extension of the Muddy Creek and Crack Canyon WSAs. In combination with these WSAs, the units provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. The large acreage, combined with diverse topographic and vegetation screening, creates numerous outstanding opportunities for visitors to feel remote and isolated. While many of the more popular slot canyons are heavily visited along the southern San Rafael Reef, there are dozens of spectacular and remote canyons on the Moroni Slopes that are almost never visited. Although the entire area has outstanding opportunities for solitude, a few areas merit special discussion. Cat Canyon is a twisting wild chasm up to 600 feet deep; a visitor can wander in the canyon for several days and experience profound isolation. The extensive complex of canyon systems—including Cistern, Bell, Little Wild Horse, and Chute—and the Crack Canyon drainage provide an opportunity for days of exploration within complete, intact watersheds.

The extensive red badlands known as Kessle Country is bordered by Penitentiary Canyon, another complete system drainage that flows directly into Muddy Creek near Tomsich Butte in Unit 4. Finding a route within this broken country would challenge even an experienced orienteer.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The units are contiguous to the Muddy Creek and Crack Canyon WSAs. In conjunction with these WSAs, the units provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. There are numerous challenging opportunities for hikes of various lengths, sightseeing, camping, rock climbing, backpacking, photography, and rockhounding. The San Rafael Swell has long been recognized and publicized in dozens of publications that highlight the area's adventure hikes and beautiful scenery. In fact, Factory Butte is one of the most photographed features in the region. The Chute of the Muddy River offers adventure float boating and kayaking opportunities during spring runoff, as well as hiking during the summer months.

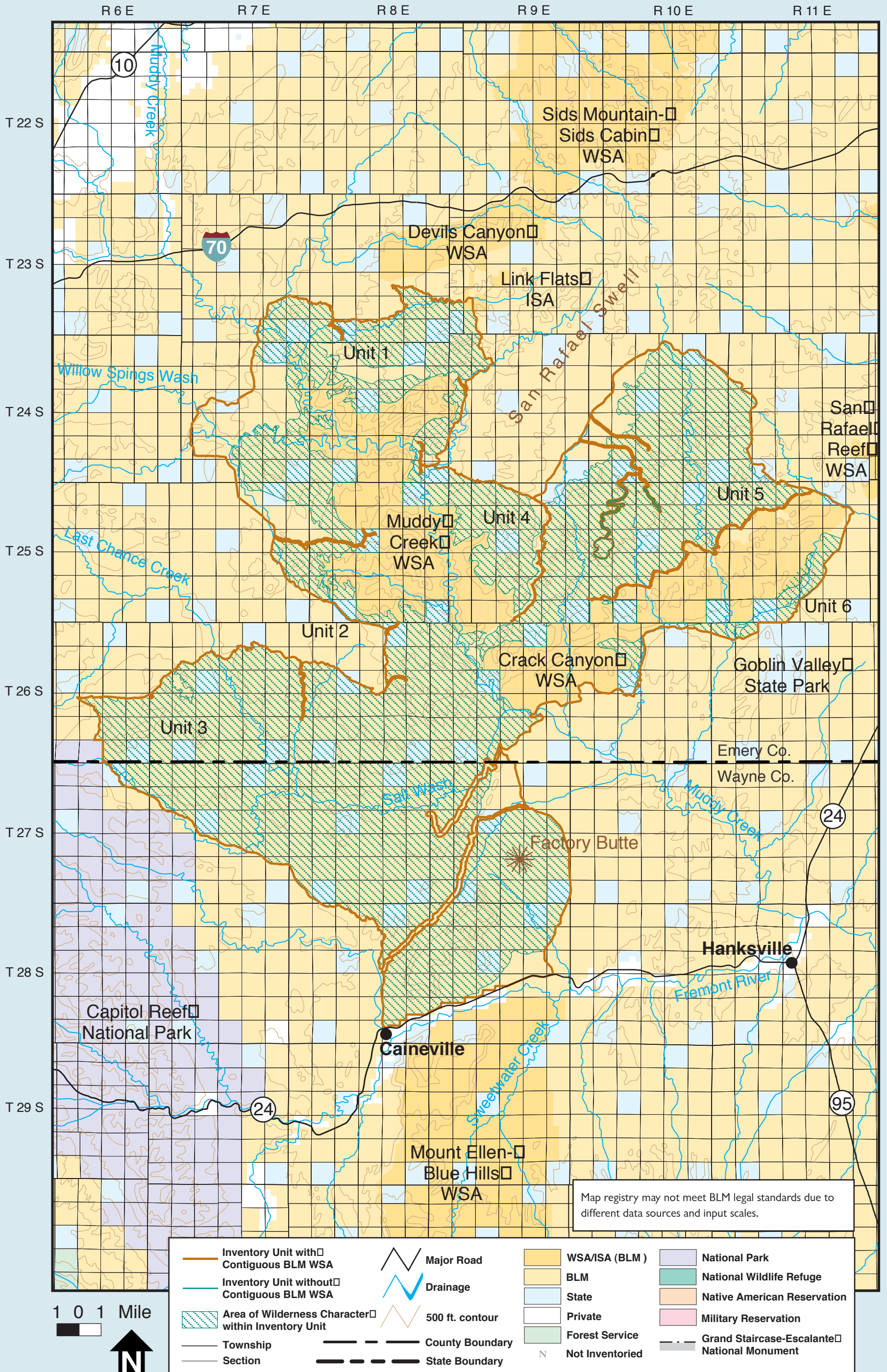
Supplemental Values

Archaeological surveys have been limited within the unit, but extensive evidence of tool-making is evident in several locations near Horse Heaven and the Frying Pan. This area is rich in chert and flint. Sharks teeth can be found on Factory Bench, as well as many interesting rock specimens. Muddy Creek has been identified by the BLM as eligible for inclusion as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The Seger's Hole and Muddy Creek ACECs were established to protect scenic values. A Special Emphasis Area within the Muddy Creek ACEC at Tomsich Butte protects historic mine workings and Hondu Arch. The units also contain outstanding examples of various geologic formations.



Jerry Sintz

Muddy Creek-Crack Canyon



EAST CENTRAL REGION—Muddy Creek-Crack Canyon

Mussentuchit Badlands

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
23,900	2,600	26,500 (96%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
1,200	0	1,200 (4%)
Inventory Unit Total		
25,100	2,600	27,700
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

Most of the Mussentuchit Badlands inventory unit (26,500 acres) has wilderness characteristics. However, about 1,200 acres lack wilderness characteristics, including the Mussentuchit Sand Dune (a small, but popular off-highway vehicle play area on the unit's eastern side), a small area sandwiched between two cherry-stemmed roads in the vicinity of Sand Cove Spring, an area in the northwestern corner that contains a scattering of reservoirs and livestock watering facilities, a small area in the unit's northeastern corner containing Road End Reservoir and a short line of fence, and a very small reservoir on the unit's eastern boundary. The unit's diverse terrain, including evidence of past volcanic activity, provides the vast majority of the unit with outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation.

Unit Description

The Mussentuchit Badlands inventory unit is located in the extreme southwestern corner of Emery County approximately six miles south of Interstate 70. The unit's westernmost tip extends into Sevier County. The Cedar Mountain inventory unit is adjacent to the east, and the Limestone Cliffs inventory unit is adjacent to the west. The unit is bounded on all sides by county-maintained roads. It is used primarily for livestock grazing and recreation, with hiking, sightseeing, photography, and riding off-highway vehicles (OHVs) being the most popular. OHV use occurs mostly in the immediate vicinity of the Mussentuchit Sand Dune.

The unit's topography is divided between the relatively flat, rolling lands of the Blue Flats area to the west and the much more extensive badlands topography occupying the eastern three-quarters of the unit. The Mussentuchit Badlands are extremely rugged, with a labyrinth of literally hundreds of washes, draws, ravines, and gullies. While some of the unit is barren, sparse

vegetation, mostly desert shrubs and grasses, covers much of the landscape. Scattered juniper and piñon dot the landscape's higher elevations. Tamarisk and occasional cottonwood trees appear along wash bottoms and adjacent to several man-made reservoirs.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Overall, the unit largely retains its natural character. A seismographic survey line was found to be substantially unnoticeable, as were three fences. A reservoir, an access way, and livestock watering facilities located to the north and west of Twin Peaks are not natural and have been cherry-stemmed, along with the road providing access to the Twin Peaks area. The nearby road extending into Sand Cove Spring, along with the area between it and the cherry-stemmed road extending to the reservoir, are likewise not natural appearing and lack wilderness characteristics. All other vehicle ways in the vicinity of Twin Peaks are neither used nor maintained, so the surrounding area retains its natural appearance.

The multitude of reservoirs, vehicle ways, and livestock watering facilities in the northern portion of Blue Flats combine to make the area unnatural in appearance. However, the balance of Blue Flats shows no evidence of man-made intrusions and is natural-appearing. A small operational clay mine, short access road, and 0.75 mile road extension in the southwestern portion have been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The Mussentuchit Badlands inventory unit provides outstanding opportunities

for solitude, particularly in the badlands' rugged labyrinth of literally hundreds of washes, draws, ravines, and gullies. The only areas providing marginal opportunities for solitude are the Mussentuchit Sand Dune, Blue Flats, and Last Chance Desert (from the county roads to that point where tributaries to Last Chance Wash and the badlands cliffs on the southwestern side of the unit meet).

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Opportunities for participation in dispersed, undeveloped recreation activities are outstanding within the unit. Hiking, sightseeing, and photography are the primary visitor activities. In addition, the Mussentuchit Badlands are included in a geologically unique region of the San Rafael Swell (through the unit's classic examples of exposed igneous dikes and glacier-deposited volcanic boulders), so outstanding opportunities exist for environmental education and the study of geology and landforms. Only the Mussentuchit Sand Dune, Blue Flats, and Last Chance Desert areas provide marginal opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Overall, this unit offers some of the finest opportunities for photography in the region; in fact, it has been cited in guidebooks and other literature as a "photographers' heaven."

Supplemental Values

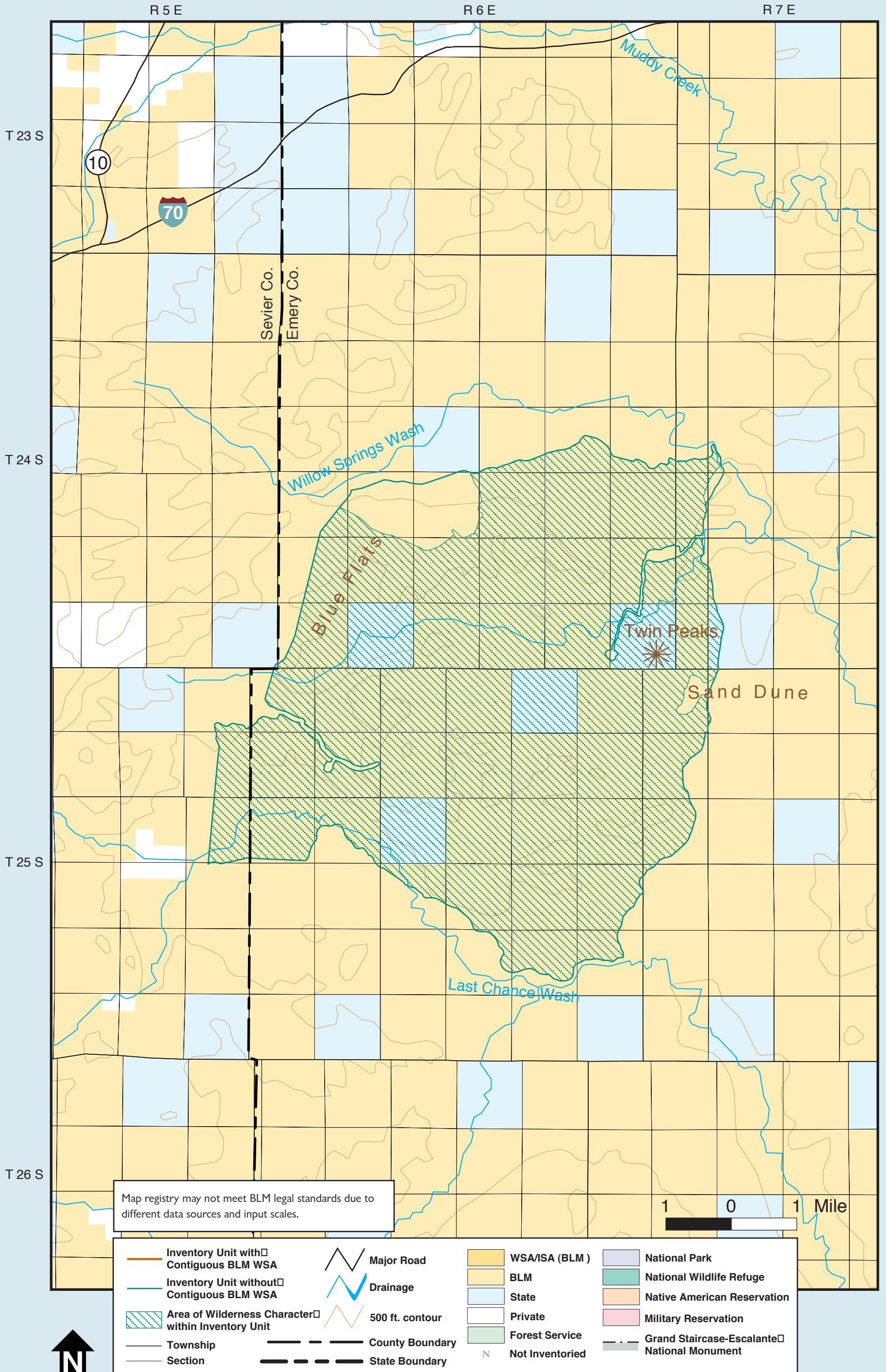
As previously mentioned, the Mussentuchit Badlands inventory unit has exceptional value as a recreational sightseeing area because of the exposure of igneous dikes and the presence of glacier-deposited volcanic boulders evidencing the area's volcanic activity. Of equal importance is its value as a geologic type site and as a classic field example for scientific/educational geologic study. This unit also exhibits evidence of visitation and use by early native Americans, most notably in the vicinity of Mussentuchit Wash.

MUSSENTUCHIT BADLANDS—The inventory unit has exceptional scenic values, including dramatic exposures of igneous dikes or "fins".



Scott Abdon

Mussentuchit Badlands



San Rafael Reef

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
37,600	7,980	45,580 (62%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
23,800	4,400	28,200 (38%)
Inventory Unit Total		
61,400	12,380	73,780
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
San Rafael Reef WSA (UT-060-029A)		55,540

Most of the seven San Rafael Reef inventory units (45,580 acres) have wilderness characteristics. The units do contain several old seismic lines and vehicle ways, but these were found to be substantially unnoticeable. wilderness characteristics is enhanced by the contiguous San Rafael Reef Wilderness Study Area (WSA), the rugged character of Sinbad Country, and the outstanding opportunities for hiking in many of the units. Portions of the units (28,200 acres) have been impacted by human activities, such as livestock grazing, mineral exploration, and off-highway vehicle (OHV) use to the degree that wilderness characteristics has been lost. Unit 5 does not have wilderness characteristics because of numerous seismic lines, vehicle routes, and its proximity to Highway 24.

Unit Description

The San Rafael Reef inventory units are contiguous to the San Rafael Reef WSA. They are located approximately 20 miles south of Green River and are characterized by a variety of landforms and vegetation. The entire area is popular with recreationists. Several of the cherry-stemmed roads provided vehicle access for mining activity up to the 1960s. These routes are now popular with visitors driving OHVs, mountain bikers, and hikers, and are used for hunting access. The numerous washes and slot canyons provide additional access for backpackers, and opportunities for photography abound. Car camping and touring are popular around the edges of the units. The entire area is used for seasonal grazing, the flatter areas by cattle and pronghorn antelope and the more rugged areas by desert bighorn sheep.

Unit 1 is wedged between the WSA and I-70 west of Spotted Wolf Canyon. Unit 2 is a small area that lies west and south of Unit 1. The large Unit 3 is south of I-70 and west of the WSA; its southern portion is bounded by historic mining areas

associated with the post-World War II demand for uranium. Unit 4 is east of Temple Mountain. Units 5, 6, and 7 are located on the east edge of the geologically spectacular San Rafael Reef, a plunging anticline that rises dramatically from the desert floor to the east. These eastern units contain benchlands below the steep sandstone cliffs that form the eastern edge of the uplifted area.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of Units 1, 4, 6, and 7 retain their natural character. Naturalness is enhanced by the rugged nature of the terrain, the healing nature of the erodible soils, and seasonal rains that have washed out many old vehicle ways, obliterating the relatively few human intrusions. In Units 2 and 3 there is evidence of vehicle use on the ridges or in the valleys leading out to numerous scenic overlooks and to several stock ponds and abandoned drill sites. Most of these routes are primitive vehicle ways and are maintained solely by the passage of vehicles. However, these impacts have resulted in about half of the acreage in these units no longer retaining their natural character. In the southern part of Unit 3 there are some mineral prospect areas where dirt has been moved or scooped out into small piles; however, these areas are revegetating or naturally eroding, and the highly eroded character of the unit makes these old mining prospects difficult to discern.

Numerous seismograph lines and vehicle ways are noticeable in Unit 5. While none have been maintained, most continue to be used for recreational access into the washes or for hunting or grazing access. The highway department has also borrowed and/or stockpiled dirt in several areas adjacent to Utah Highway 24. With the lack of topographic and vegetative screening and the proximity to the highway, the overall result is a lack of naturalness throughout Unit 5.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory units are contiguous to and

are an extension of the San Rafael Reef WSA. In conjunction with this WSA, the inventory units provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory units are contiguous to and are an extension of the San Rafael Reef WSA. In conjunction with this WSA, the areas have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Many of the incised canyons on the eastern flank of the San Rafael Swell offer popular hiking and backpacking opportunities that are well documented in many hiking guides for Utah. The area also has outstanding opportunities for sightseeing and photography and is used for hunting and other outdoor activities.

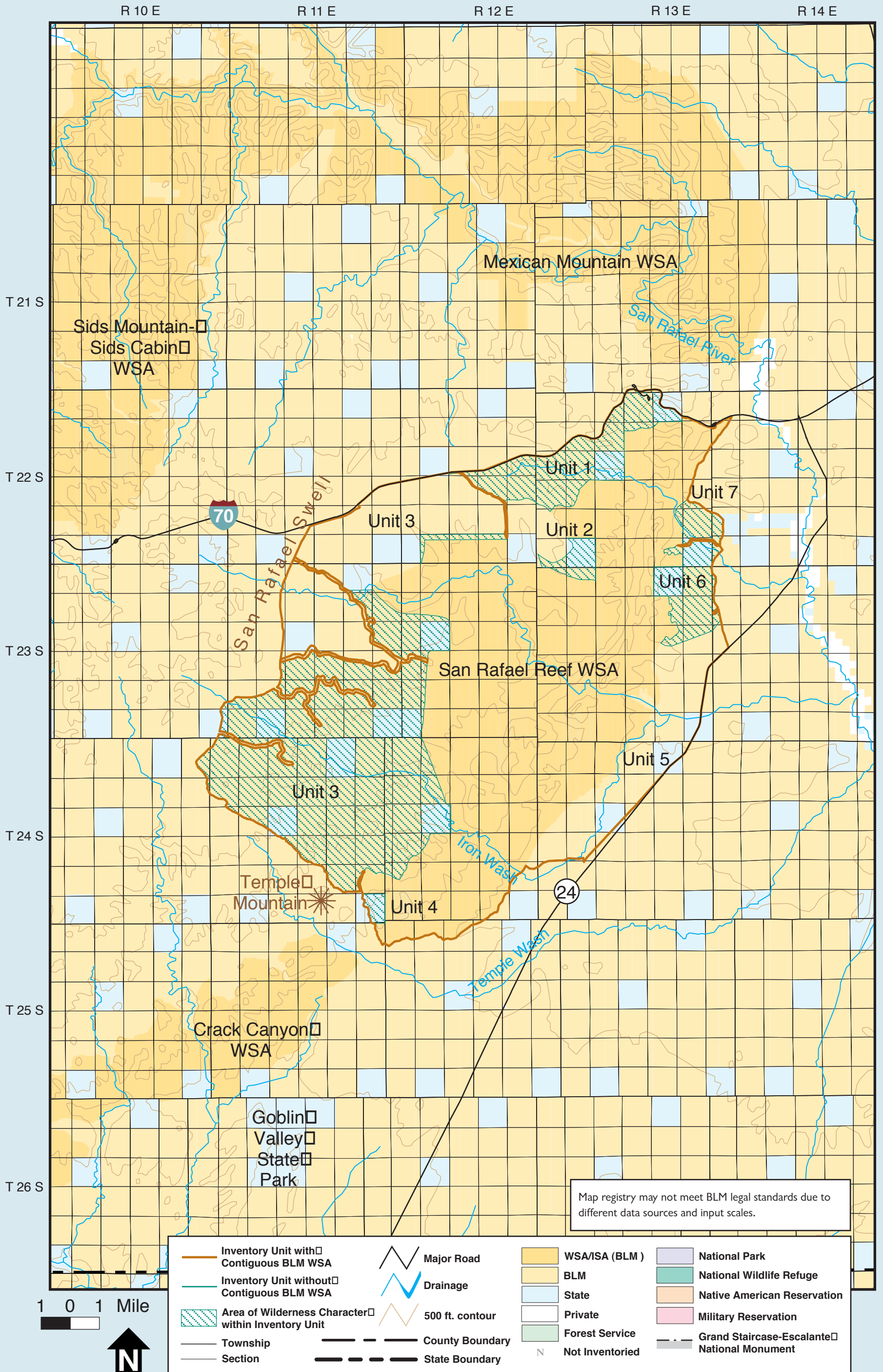
Supplemental Values

The San Rafael Swell has long been known for its outstanding scenery and geological formations. The San Rafael Reef WSA contains a number of ancient Indian pictograph sites, and several are likely to be located within the units themselves. Crucial habitat for a nationally significant herd of desert bighorn sheep exists within these units, as does habitat for listed species, including peregrine falcons, bald eagles and ferruginous hawks. The BLM has established several "special" categories for areas within the inventory units along the San Rafael Reef to manage and protect resource values. These include the San Rafael Swell Special Recreation Management Area to recognize the intensive and special recreation values of the area; the San Rafael Reef North Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) to protect unique relict vegetation and scenic geological resources; the I-70 Scenic Corridor ACEC to protect visual resources adjacent to a popular travel route; and the Temple Mountain Historic District ACEC to protect the important historic resources remaining from the uranium boom days of the Cold War.

SAN RAFAEL REEF—View from the rest area along Interstate 70 into Unit 1.



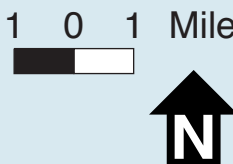
San Rafael Reef



EAST CENTRAL REGION—San Rafael Reef

Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	



Sids Mountain

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
23,300	5,530	28,830 (61%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
16,050	2,400	18,450 (39%)
Inventory Unit Total		
39,350	7,930	47,280
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Sids Mountain-Sids Cabin (UT-060-023/060-023A)		80,970

About 28,830 acres within the ten Sids Mountain inventory units have wilderness characteristics, which is enhanced by the area's rugged terrain and vegetative screening. However, several units contain intrusions associated with old mineral exploration, range developments, off-highway vehicle (OHV) use, and car camping; about 18,450 acres lack wilderness characteristics because of these intrusions. The ten units are contiguous to the Sids Mountain-Sids Cabin Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and have the same outstanding wilderness attributes as the WSA.

Unit Description

The units are located in Emery County southeast of Castle Dale between the Wedge Overlook on the north and Interstate 70 on the south. The San Rafael River traverses the northern portion, cutting a spectacular canyon known as "The Little Grand Canyon." The units are located within the San Rafael Swell, a dramatic geologic uplift featuring high mesas, deep canyons, domes, and spires. The topography varies from dramatic sheer cliff faces, spires, mesas, and deep canyons, to more gently undulating badlands broken by numerous shallow washes and gently sloping rangeland. Vegetation consists of scattered piñon and juniper woodlands and open grassland areas at higher elevations, while shrublands containing blackbrush, rabbitbrush, and various grasses are found at lower elevations. Willows and tamarisk abound on either side of the San Rafael River. Remote notch canyons and north-facing alcoves or slopes are dotted with ponderosa pine and Douglas fir.

Prehistoric people frequented the area, leaving behind lithic scatters, rock art, and structures. Present and historic human uses include mineral exploration, livestock grazing, and recreation. Old mineral exploration roads, drill holes, and occasional mining equipment remain as remnants of

the post-World War II uranium mining era. Occasional oil and gas drill holes are found on the lower benches.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Nearly all of Unit 1, most of Unit 9, half of Unit 4, and smaller pieces of the other units have been impacted by human development. This lack of naturalness is typically because of cumulative impacts from vehicle ways, OHV play areas, and heavily used undeveloped campsites.

Much of Unit 1 is unnatural because of the cumulative effects of multiple vehicle ways, OHV intrusions, and campsites. Several livestock water developments, including reservoirs, pipelines, and troughs, exist in the unit. Only the part of the unit east of Goodwater Canyon retains its natural character. The southern one-third of Unit 2 is natural. The area north of the WSA continuing to a wash bottom just south of Fuller Bottom Draw is natural; however, an area adjacent to the county-maintained access to The Wedge Overlook has so many vehicle ways, roads, and grazing facilities that much of its natural character is gone.

Unit 3 retains its natural character. A road originating at the confluence of Coal Wash with North Salt Wash has been cherry-stemmed from the unit. Two of the three parcels in Unit 4 retain their naturalness and have virtually no intrusions. A third parcel has some ranching developments and vehicular intrusions that, when coupled with a lack of vegetative and topographic screening, have resulted in a loss of naturalness. A portion of Unit 5 retains its natural character, although intrusions, combined with proximity to Interstate 70, result in substantial impairment of a portion of the area's naturalness.

Most of Unit 6 retains its natural character, primarily because of its rugged terrain and few intrusions. Unit 7 is a relatively large area retaining its natural appearance; this unit features rugged terrain and a prominent landmark, The Pinnacle. Unit 8 lies directly north of Unit 7 and is similar in character; most of it retains its natural character. Most of Unit 9 is unnatural appearing because of cumulative impacts from vehicle use, grazing, and camping south of the San Rafael River, as well as disturbance on Calf Mesa from uranium exploration and mining. Unit 10 appears natural except for a cherry-stemmed road leading to an area of dispersed primitive campsites.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The units are contiguous to and are an extension of the Sids Mountain-Sids Cabin WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for solitude. Much of the inventory area contains terrain similar to the WSA and also provides outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The units are contiguous to and are an extension of the Sids Mountain-Sids Cabin WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The units contain these same outstanding attributes. The popularity of this region for photography, hiking, primitive camping, and exploring is nationally recognized.

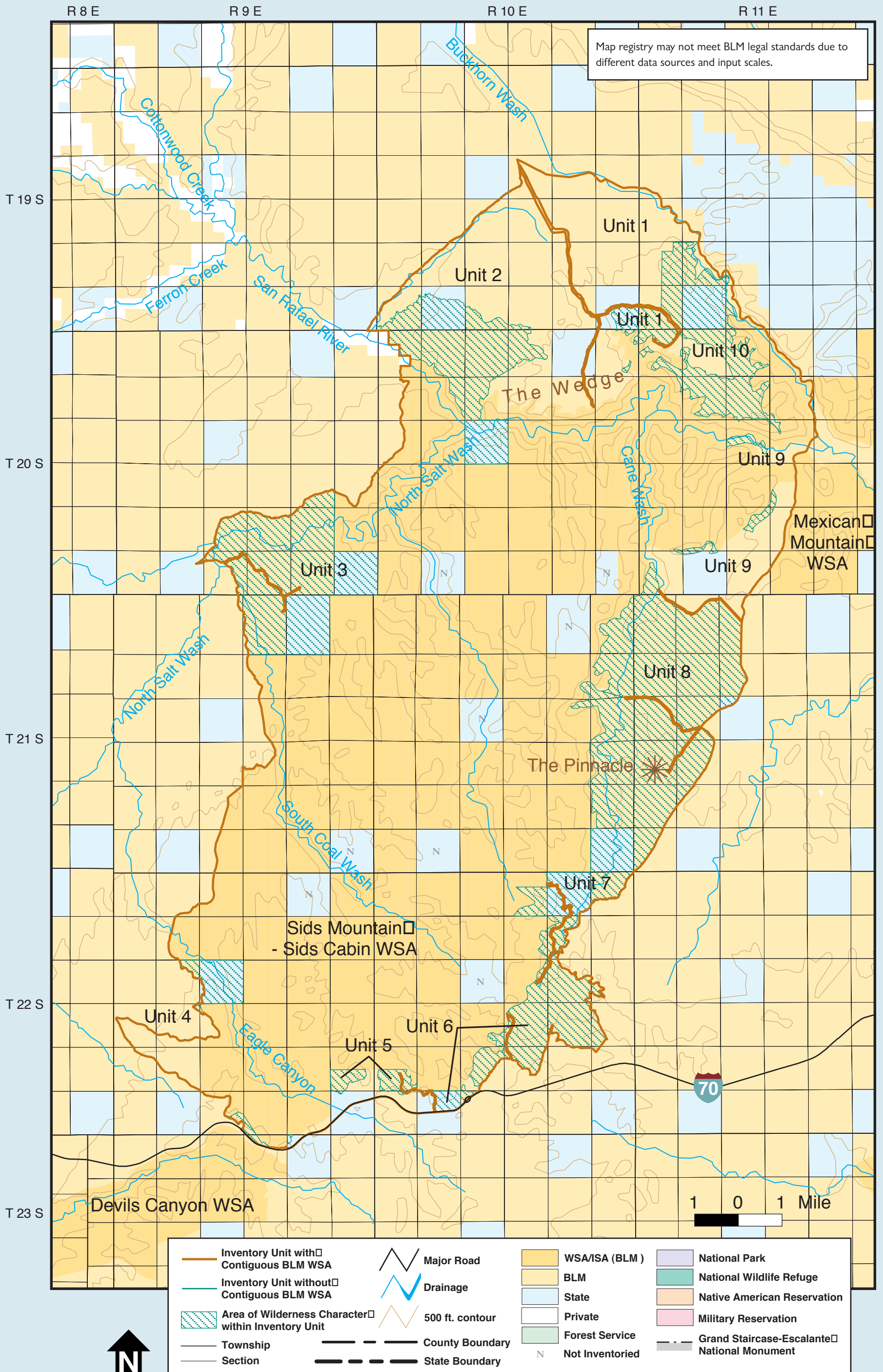
Supplemental Values

The units contain many supplemental values. Aside from their spectacular and colorful scenery, they provide important wildlife habitat and viewing opportunities for wildlife species such as desert bighorn sheep, bald eagles, and peregrine falcons. The units also contain populations of several threatened or endangered desert plants, including the San Rafael cactus (*Pediocactus despanii*). Although most known archaeological and historical sites within the area are found within the contiguous WSA, remains of the Fremont Indian habitation and old mining artifacts are also scattered within the inventory area. Petrified wood, geodes, and other mineral specimens can be found by visitors rockhounding in the area.

Several "special" categories for areas within the inventory units have been established to protect resource values and guide management direction. They include the San Rafael Swell Special Recreation Management Area to recognize the intensive and special recreation values of the area, the Sids Mountain Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) to protect scenic geological resources, the I-70 Scenic Corridor ACEC to protect the visual resources of the area adjacent to a popular travel route, and the San Rafael Canyon ACEC to protect scenic resources.

A photograph of Sids Mountain is shown in the front part of this document on page xvi.

Sids Mountain



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	

EAST CENTRAL REGION—Sids Mountain

Upper Muddy Creek

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
18,100	2,200	20,300 (93%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
1,100	500	1,600 (7%)
Inventory Unit Total		
19,200	2,700	21,900
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

About 20,300 acres of the Upper Muddy Creek inventory unit have wilderness characteristics. Human imprints in this portion of the unit, including minor intrusions (access ways and livestock grazing facilities), are generally located along the county road, leaving the interior roadless and natural appearing. However, about 1,600 acres lack wilderness characteristics.

The core of the inventory area, with its diverse landscape divided by the Muddy Creek drainage, provides outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. A segment of Muddy Creek that runs through the unit is eligible for inclusion as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Unit Description

The Upper Muddy Creek inventory unit is located south of Interstate 70 in Emery County approximately 10 miles southeast of the town of Emery and approximately 45 miles west of Green River. It is bordered by Interstate 70 (and a small parcel of private land along Muddy Creek) on the north, South Salt Wash on the east, and county-maintained roads on the east, south, and west.

Most of the unit includes varied, broken landscape features, including long mesas, buttes, ridges, and colorful badland formations cut by numerous drainages. This area is particularly impressive with its colorful display of badland formations and mineral deposits. The area contains a sparse but diverse landscape of incised plateaus bordered by flatlands. Protection has been afforded a portion of the unit through designation of the I-70 Scenic Corridor Area of Critical Environmental Concern. Human uses include livestock grazing, mineral exploration, and recreation.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the Upper Muddy Creek inventory unit is natural. Intrusions occur around the fringe of the unit, but most are substantially unnoticeable. Faint vehicle ways penetrate the unit a mile or so, but without use these would disappear. Two short

UPPER MUDDY CREEK—Volcanic fins add to the scenic geologic features of the area, providing opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation activities.



Jerry Sintz

roads have been cherry-stemmed from the unit. A number of maintained stock ponds are found mostly within the unit's southern portion, with a few scattered around its edges elsewhere. A couple of drift fences and a corral are also present around the perimeter. Mineral exploration has occurred within the north-central portion of the unit. An abandoned mine and its associated impacts are not natural in appearance; two other areas impacted by off-highway vehicle use and livestock grazing are also unnatural.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The interior of this unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude, given the diverse, broken topography that is riddled with buttes and mesas, and dissected by numerous washes and small canyons. While the elevation change generally is not greater than 400 feet from canyon bottoms to the tops of the buttes and benches, the serrated nature of the landscape and the elevated features that surround the interior provide more than ample topographic screening to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude, particularly for those floating Muddy Creek or hiking into any of the interesting interior drainages.

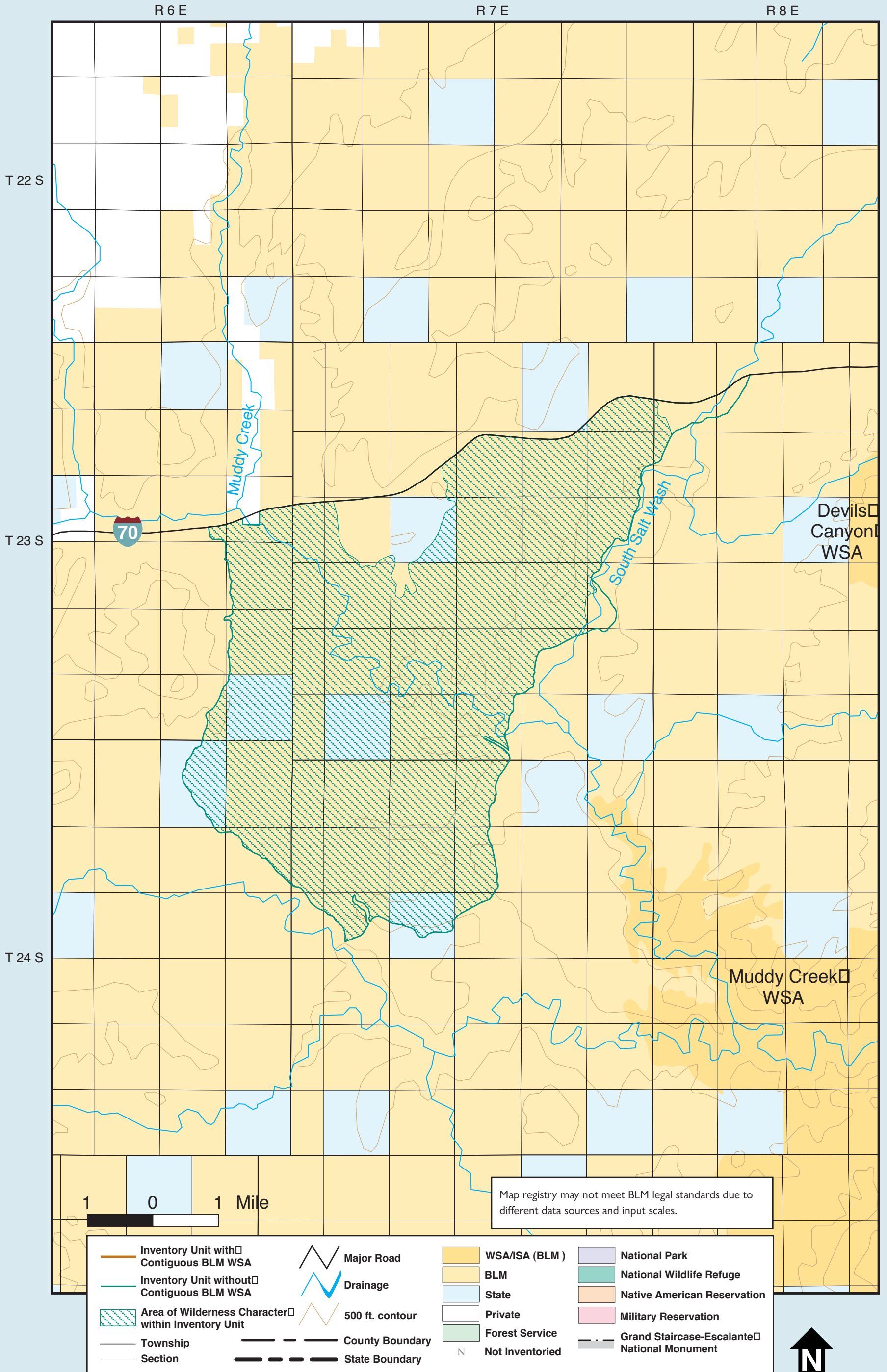
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

This unit offers outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Opportunities abound for hiking, rock-hounding, photography, geologic sightseeing, and even boating within the colorful canyons and plateaus in the interior of the unit. River running opportunities occur along Muddy Creek during the high spring-runoff period. This float is becoming increasingly popular and is included in at least one river rafting guidebook as an outstanding run. The first 10 miles of the 70-mile run are included within the Upper Muddy Creek unit.

Supplemental Values

Supplemental values within the unit predominantly focus around the scenic values of its interesting geologic features. Of particular interest is the presence of lengthy volcanic fins and the colorful mineralogic deposits in the strata, along with the "cone" structures within the interior of the unit. The BLM has identified the segment of Muddy Creek within the unit as being eligible for inclusion as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Upper Muddy Creek



Wild Horse Mesa

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
48,600	5,400	54,000 (75%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
16,300	2,500	18,800 (25%)
Inventory Unit Total		
64,900	7,900	72,800
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

Most of the Wild Horse Mesa inventory unit (54,000 acres) has wilderness characteristics. However, about 18,800 acres, including the northern portion of Middle Wild Horse Mesa, the benchlands just north of the town of Hanksville, and the desert lands east of Goblin Valley State Park, were found to lack wilderness characteristics. Most intrusions within the unit are vehicle ways and seismic lines created years ago for mineral exploration. Wild Horse Mesa is a diverse area with a variety of topographical and geological features, ranging from high, vertical buttes and broken rocky mesas and spires, to colorful canyons. A segment of Muddy Creek that runs through the unit is eligible for inclusion as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Unit Description

The unit is located in southern Emery and northern Wayne Counties. Its southern tip is located about one mile north of Hanksville. Wild Horse Mesa is adjacent to Goblin Valley State Park. Wild Horse Mesa is a diverse area with a variety of topographic and geological features. The widely varying formations include goblins, domes, striated vertical cliffs, and other features of interest. Numerous canyons, drainages, and badlands add diversity. The badlands, crisscrossed by occasional deep canyons, create a moon-like effect and are extremely colorful. There are many "goblin" formations that resemble those found in Goblin Valley State Park.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the unit retains its natural character. Most intrusions are vehicle ways and

seismic lines created years ago by mineral exploration for uranium and, more recently, by coal development on Factory Bench. Many of these vehicle ways receive little or no use and are slowly being rehabilitated through natural processes. However, naturalness has been lost on portions of the unit because of substantially noticeable intrusions. An extensive area of intrusions occurs around a state section in the western portion of the unit. Between Hunt Draw and Muddy Creek is a small homestead along a maintained road. The northwest portion of Middle Wild Horse Mesa has an extensive network of seismograph lines and old roads. Adjacent and to the west is a strip of land that contains numerous vehicle ways leading to dispersed campsites. One cherry-stemmed road extends for approximately 8 miles southward into the unit. East and south of the state park along Well Draw is an area of vehicle ways. The southern portion of the unit contains several vehicle ways, seismic lines, a dump, and other developments. Several lightly used, substantially unnoticeable vehicle ways extend off the cherry-stemmed route. Range developments are found throughout the unit, including fences and a number of stock ponds. None of these intrusions impair the naturalness of the unit.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

This unit contains outstanding opportunities for solitude that are enhanced by the size of the unit and its rugged topography. The topography ranges from spectacular vertical buttes to high, broken mesas cut by countless drainages and canyons. Muddy Creek Canyon is the dominant canyon, but there are many others, including Red Canyon, Wild Horse Canyon, Little Wild Horse Canyon, Coal Mine Wash, and other smaller drainages. A visitor simply has to hike up one of these canyons, or traverse the top of one of the mesas, to feel totally alone.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Over 20 miles of Muddy Creek runs through the unit, part of its 70-mile stretch from Interstate 70 to Hanksville.

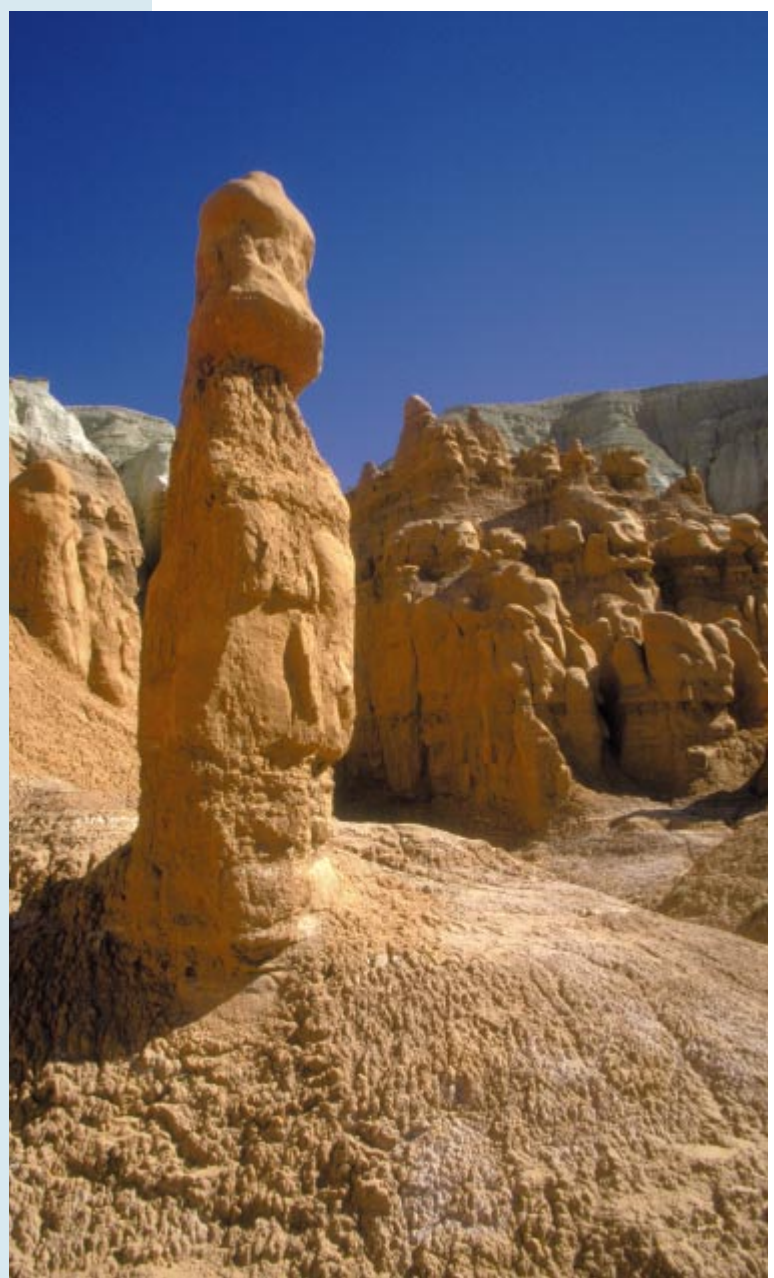
WILD HORSE MESA—Spectacular Entrada Sandstone "goblins" and pinnacles extend for miles from Goblin Valley State Park into this unit.

Muddy Creek is becoming a popular float trip during the high spring-runoff period. Although the most dramatic segment of Muddy Creek runs through the San Rafael Reef just to the north, the portion within this unit provides diversity to the recreational experience. It is an easy day float from the Muddy Creek Road to the creek's confluence with the Fremont River (where the two waterways form the Dirty Devil River) at Hanksville.

Truly outstanding opportunities abound for hiking, horseback riding, geological sightseeing, and photography. What makes this unit outstanding, however, is the geological formations within the eastern Red Canyon area. Red Canyon runs just south of Goblin Valley and is essentially an extension of the spectacular Entrada Formation from which "goblins" and other naturally sculpted faces and figures are formed. These unique features extend for several miles.

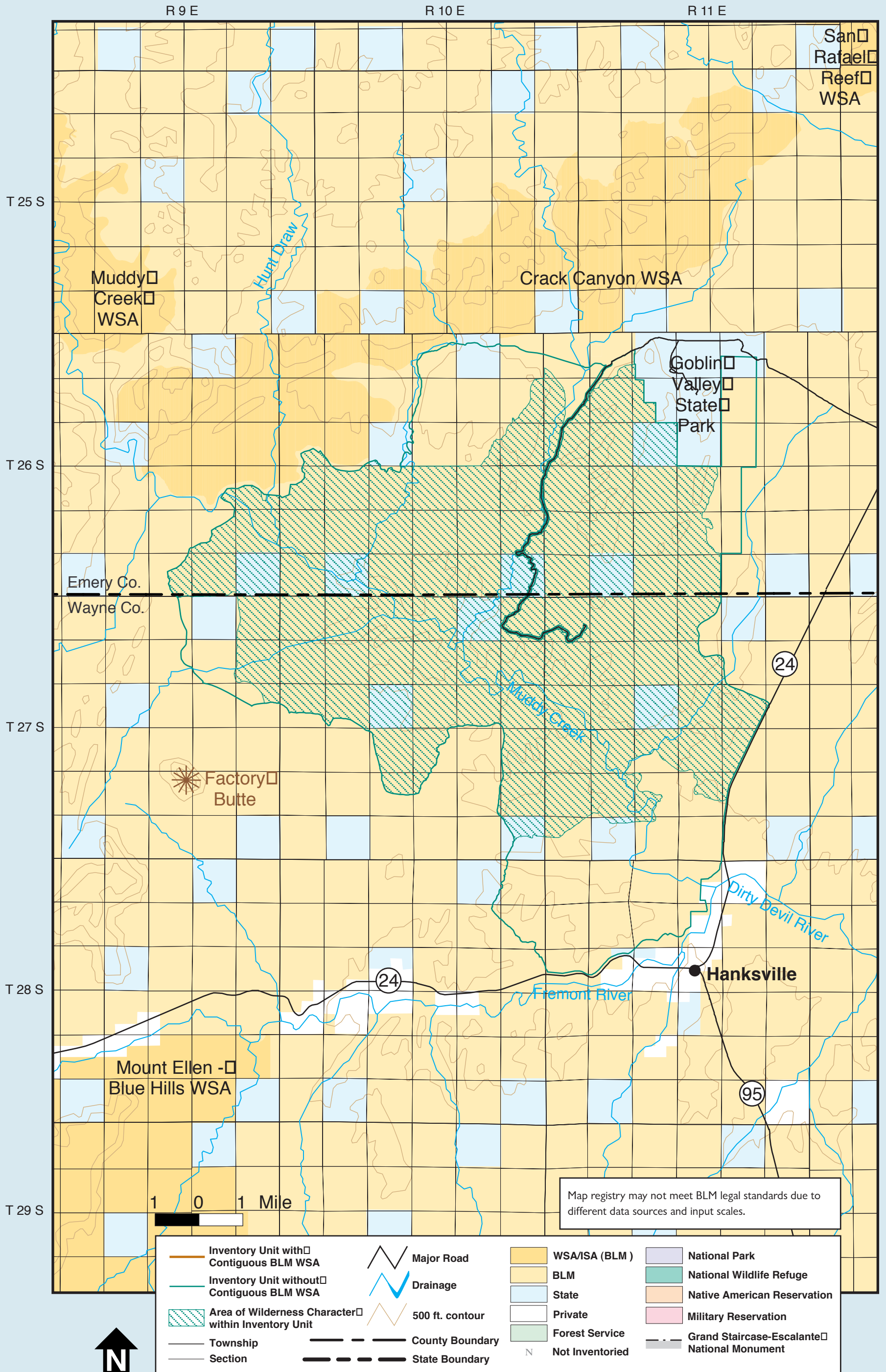
Supplemental Values

In addition to the diverse geological and topographical features already discussed, the area contains geological and paleontological specimens such as agates, petrified wood, sharks teeth, and occasional dinosaur bones. University and commercial geological field trips are frequently taken to the area to view the exposed formations and strata. The segment of Muddy Creek within the unit has been determined by the BLM to be eligible for inclusion as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.



Jerry Sintz

Wild Horse Mesa



Red Desert

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
31,800	3,300	35,100 (82%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
7,400	400	7,800 (18%)
Inventory Unit Total		
39,200	3,700	42,900
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

The Red Desert inventory unit has 35,100 acres that retain wilderness characteristics. Unit 1 is mostly natural in appearance, with its red Entrada Sandstone cliffs, colorfully striped bentonite hills, and rocky canyons providing outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. Unit 1 features striking views of the Henry Mountains, Caineville Reef, and Factory Butte. Most intrusions in Unit 1 are minor and substantially unnoticeable, although a small portion is disturbed by roads and a water project and thus does not have wilderness characteristics. Units 2 and 3 are not of sufficient size to qualify as wilderness and therefore were not inventoried for other wilderness values. All three units are contiguous to a portion of Capitol Reef National Park that has not been administratively endorsed by the National Park Service (NPS) for wilderness. If the NPS does further planning on their lands, a reevaluation of Units 2 and 3 may be appropriate. The portion of the inventory area lacking wilderness characteristics, including part of Unit 1 and all of Units 2 and 3, totals 7,800 acres.

Unit Description

The Red Desert inventory unit is in Wayne County, one mile northwest of Caineville. Capitol Reef National Park is to the west and State Highway 24 to the south. The terrain consists of a domed anticline and small rocky canyons. Entrada Sandstone cliffs tower over the Red Desert floor, which is surrounded by rolling bentonite hills striped in blues, greys, and reds. The badlands contain little vegetation. However, tamarisk is found along wash bottoms and scattered grasses and fishhook cactus are found throughout the unit. Scattered juniper is found in the wetter areas of the low-lying hills.

Recreational use consists of sightseeing, photography, hiking, backpacking, and camping, although visitor use is low. Hartnet Draw Road, which accesses the northern portion of Capitol Reef National Park's popular Cathedral Valley, splits the unit. Outdoor leadership schools use the area for hiking and camping. Livestock grazing also occurs throughout the inventory area.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Unit 1 has largely retained its natural character because of its remote location and diverse terrain. However, a small portion lacks natural character because of four water wells and several branching access roads that are substantially noticeable. Roads have been cherry-stemmed from the unit. Grazing activities and facilities such as fences, water developments, and vehicle ways have not significantly

affected the area's natural character. The same can be said for disturbances associated with recreational and mining activities. Most of these substantially unnoticeable intrusions are near the boundary or are adjacent to maintained roads.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Unit 1 has rolling hills, rocky canyons, and isolated basins. Travelers would find it difficult to cross this rugged terrain. The surrounding red cliffs isolate portions of the unit from its surroundings. Visitors could experience a profound feeling of solitude in this area.

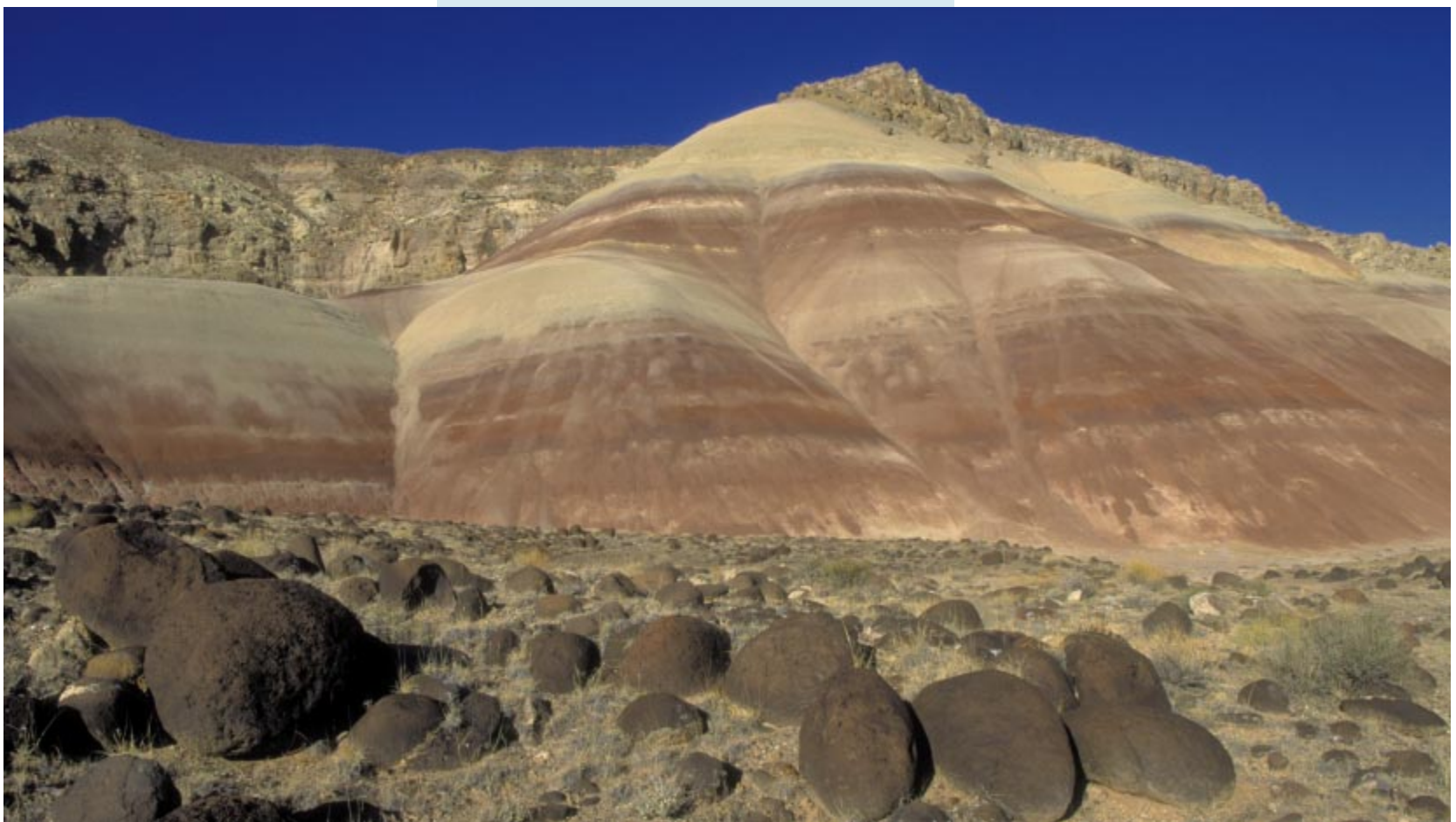
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Unit 1 provides outstanding opportunities for hiking, backpacking, photography, and rockhounding. The Red Desert's encircling cliffs of Entrada Sandstone form spires and scenes reminiscent of Cathedral Valley in Capitol Reef National Park. Outdoor leadership schools use this remote, isolated area because of the challenge and inspiration provided to their students. The banded bentonite hills, with their unique colors and formations, have long appealed to photographers. Caineville Wash offers remote backpacking and exploring opportunities.

Supplemental Values

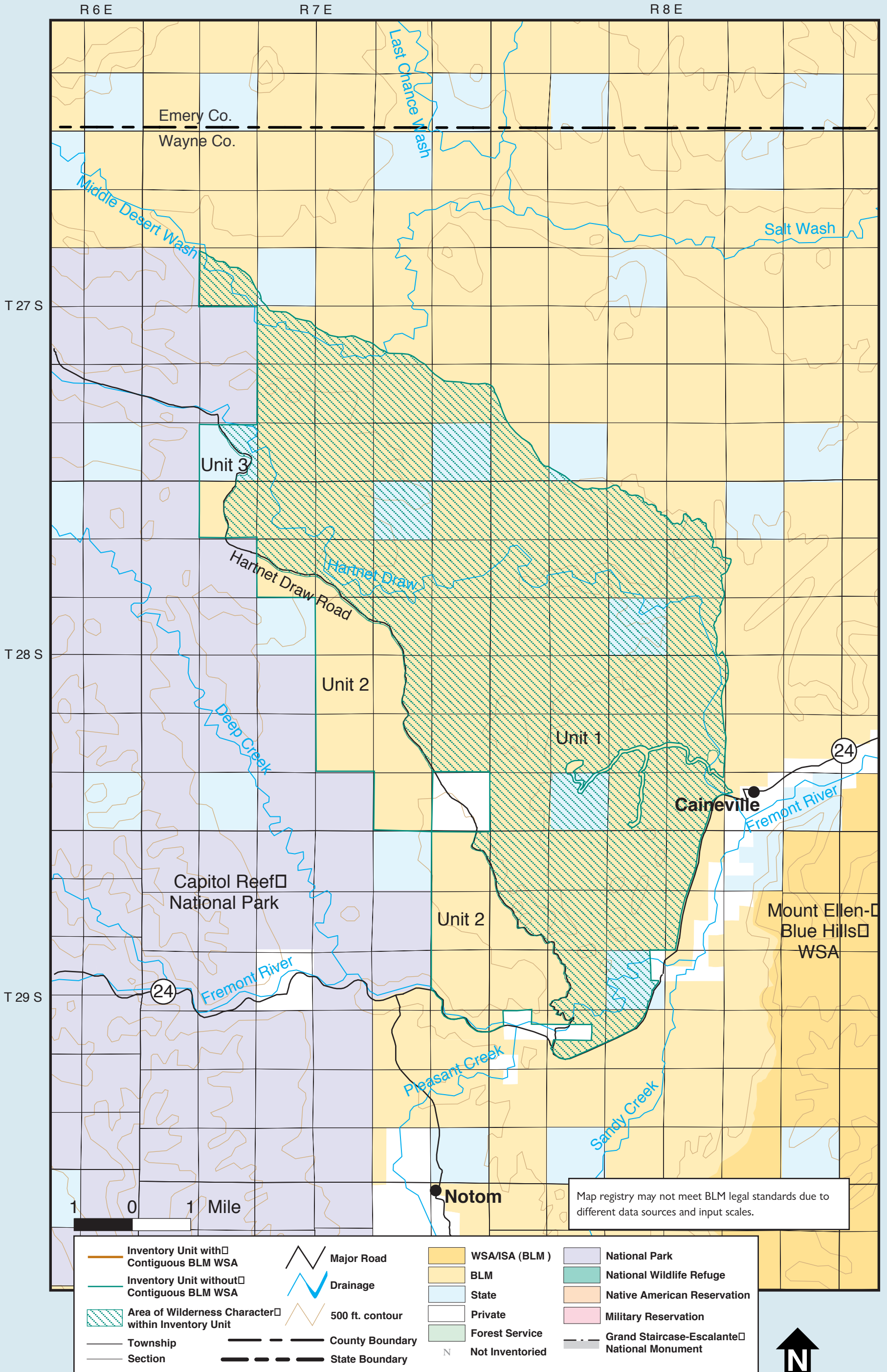
The endangered Wright's fishhook cactus (*Sclerocactus wrightiae*) is found in this unit. The endangered peregrine falcon has also been known to use an area on the western edge of the unit.

RED DESERT—Red Entrada Sandstone cliffs, colorfully striped bentonite hills, and rocky canyons offer numerous opportunities for the sightseer, hiker, or photographer.



Jerry Sintz

Red Desert



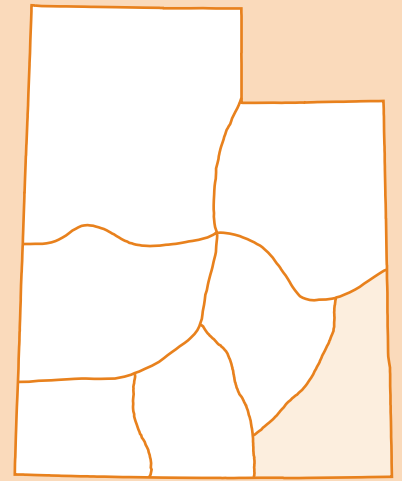
	Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA		Major Road		WSA/ISA (BLM)		National Park
	Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA		Drainage		BLM		National Wildlife Refuge
	Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit		500 ft. contour		State		Native American Reservation
	Township		County Boundary		Private		Military Reservation
	Section		State Boundary		Forest Service		Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
					Not Inventoried		

Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

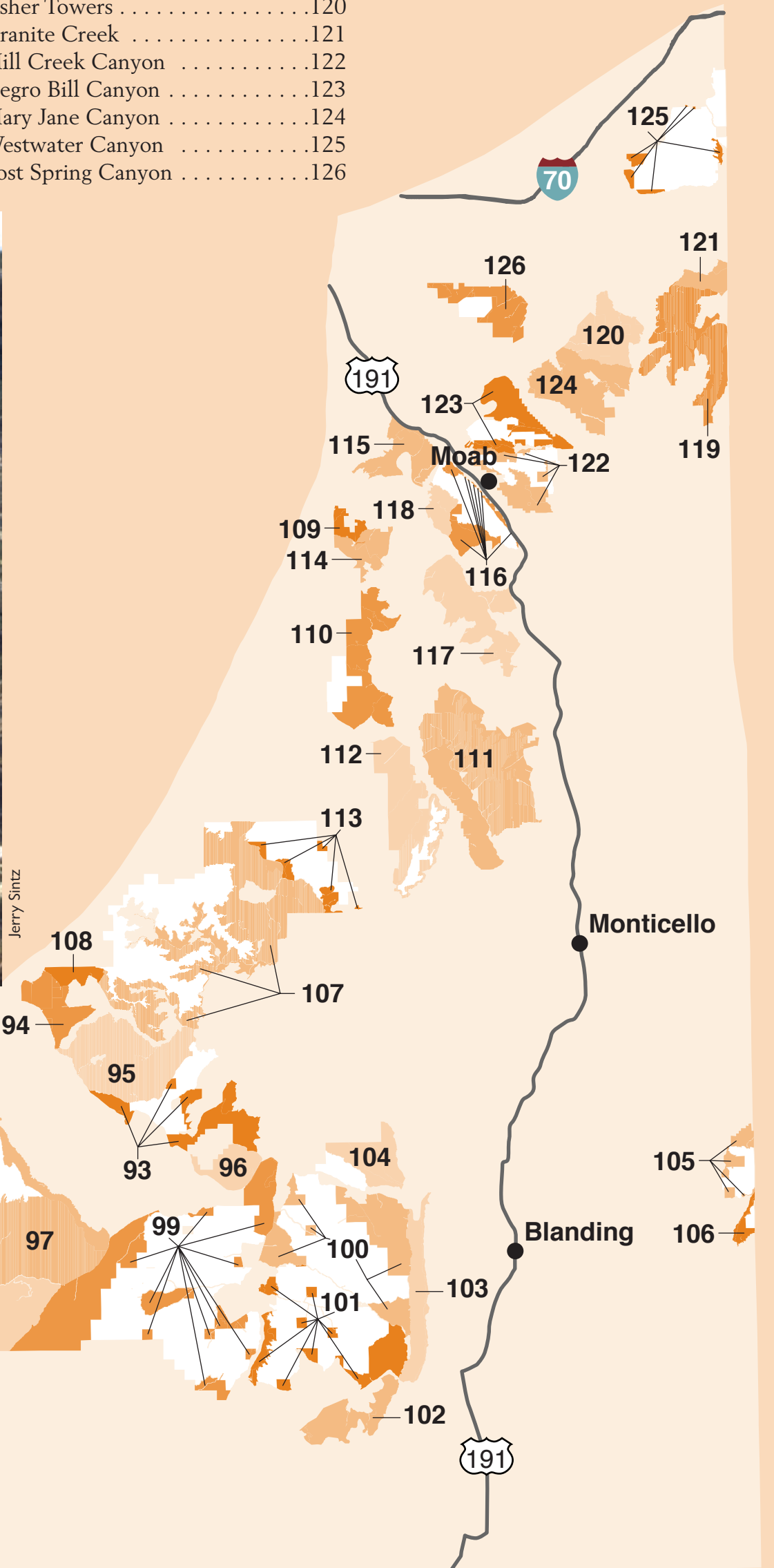
EAST CENTRAL REGION—Red Desert

Southeast Region

Cheesebox Canyon	93	Indian Creek	110
Fort Knocker Canyon	94	Harts Point	111
Gravel and Long Canyons	95	Bridger Jack Mesa	112
Harmony Flat	96	Butler Wash	113
Mancos Mesa	97	Gooseneck	114
Nokai Dome	98	Goldbar	115
Grand Gulch	99	Behind the Rocks	116
Fish and Owl Creeks	100	Hatch Wash	117
Road Canyon	101	Hunter Canyon	118
San Juan River	102	Beaver Creek	119
Comb Ridge	103	Fisher Towers	120
Arch and Mule Canyons	104	Granite Creek	121
Squaw and Papoose Canyon	105	Mill Creek Canyon	122
Cross Canyon	106	Negro Bill Canyon	123
Dark Canyon	107	Mary Jane Canyon	124
Sheep Canyon	108	Westwater Canyon	125
Shafer Canyon	109	Lost Spring Canyon	126



FISH AND OWL CREEKS—A view looking down one of the many tributaries to the lower portion of Mule Canyon.



Cheesebox Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
13,600	2,800	16,400 (86%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
2,480	250	2,730 (14%)
Inventory Unit Total		
16,080	3,050	19,130
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Cheesebox Canyon WSA		15,410
(UT-060-191)		
Natural Bridges National Monument		5,340

Most of the four Cheesebox Canyon inventory units (16,400 acres) are roadless, natural, and have wilderness characteristics. The spectacular canyons in the units lie between the Cheesebox Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and a portion of Natural Bridges National Monument that is administratively endorsed for wilderness. The units are a logical extension of and a link between the WSA and the National Monument. However, parts of Units 2, 3, and 4 (2,730 acres) lack wilderness characteristics. The unnatural portion of Unit 3 is separated from the rest of Unit 3 by a high-standard county road and contains additional roads, mining structures, a chaining, and several substantially noticeable vehicle ways. The unnatural portion of Unit 4 contains several structures and surface disturbances associated with a road and an airstrip. A cherry-stemmed loop road separates portions of Unit 2 from the WSA.

Unit Description

The Cheesebox Canyon inventory units are located in San Juan County about 45 miles west of Blanding. All of the units are contiguous either with the Cheesebox Canyon WSA or with an area administratively endorsed for wilderness within Natural Bridges National Monument. Elevations vary by as much as 3,000 feet. Topographic features include mesas, red cliffs, and relatively flat sandstone

benchlands cut by deeply incised canyons. Vegetation ranges from scattered Douglas fir and ponderosa pine to thick piñon and juniper woodlands to sparse desert shrub communities. Canyoneering, hiking, camping, and livestock grazing are the area's most dominant uses.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

All of Unit 1 appears natural. Most of the natural character of Units 2, 3, and 4 is also retained. A few human imprints are found in all four units within the portions having wilderness characteristics, but these imprints are dispersed and substantially unnoticeable. The canyons within the units are pristine. Old uranium exploration and mining remnants result in the most noticeable impacts on the naturalness of the general area and detract somewhat from the natural appearance of the uplands. Uranium mining impacts surround the units and form boundaries in several locations.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The deep and narrow canyons provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. Every canyon extends into the contiguous

WSA, with some also protruding into portions of Natural Bridges National Monument. Outstanding opportunities for solitude are present above the canyon rims when considered in conjunction with the contiguous WSA and National Monument.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The units offer outstanding and relatively accessible opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. These opportunities are similar to and frequently a continuation of the opportunities present in the contiguous WSA and the portion of the National Monument that is administratively endorsed for wilderness. Opportunities include exploring the wild and remote canyons, canyoneering, finding and viewing well-preserved cultural sites, and engaging in multiday backpacking trips involving several loop routes.

Supplemental Values

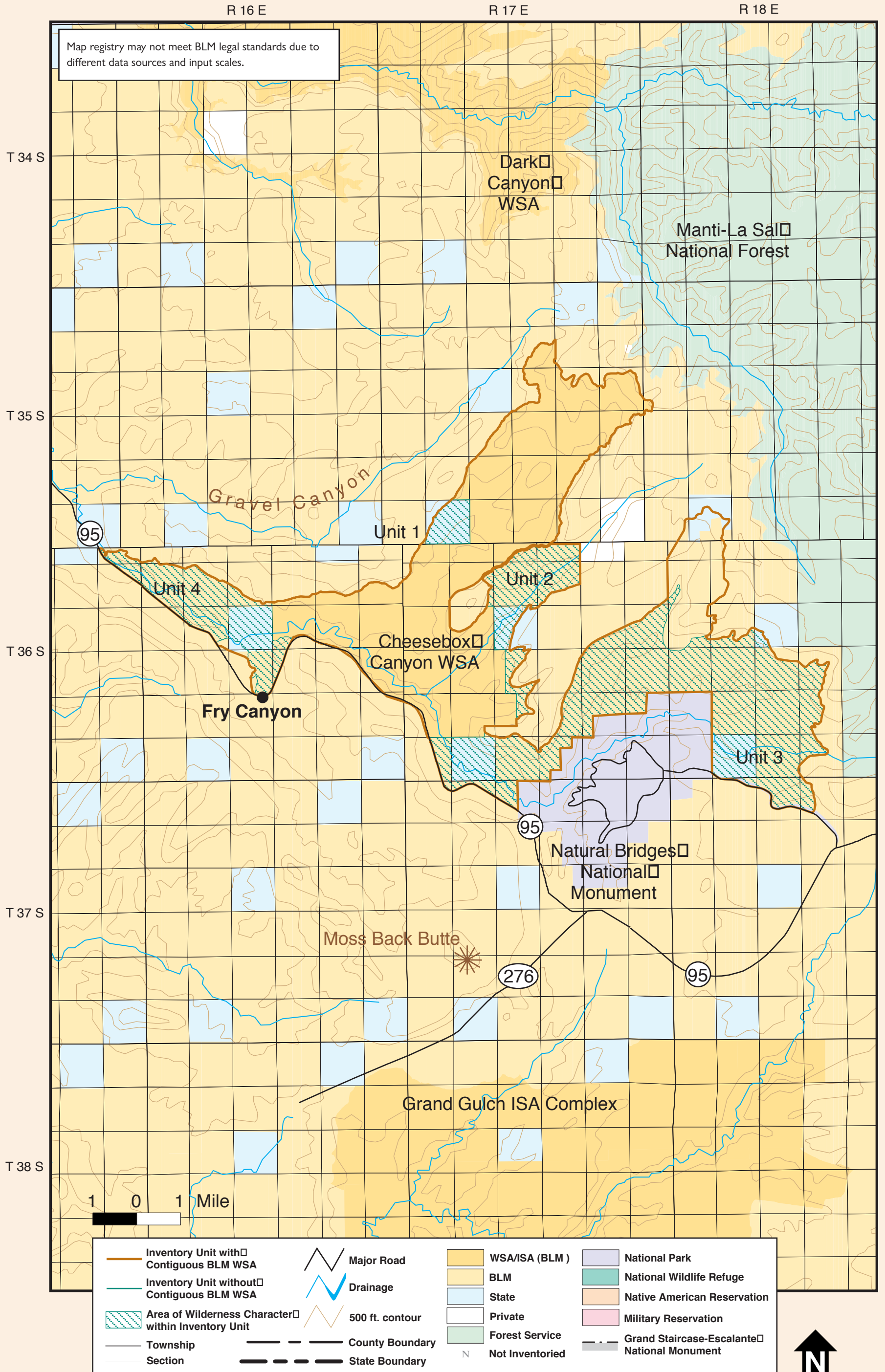
The area contains several historic names that are associated with outlaws, such as Hideout Canyon, and battle sites where skirmishes between Native Americans and Anglo-European settlers took place. Historic points of interest are found along a route traversing the rim of White Canyon and accessing the Colorado River crossing at Hite. A portion of the area has been designated as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern for its scenic values.

CHEESEBOX CANYON—A view of the upper ends of the intricate canyon systems that flow into Natural Bridges National Monument; the Bears Ears in the Manti-La Sal National Forest are in the background.



BLM photo

Cheesebox Canyon



SOUTHEAST REGION—Cheesebox Canyon

Fort Knocker Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
12,800	800	13,600 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
12,800	800	13,600
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

All of the Fort Knocker Canyon inventory unit (13,600 acres) has wilderness characteristics and is natural; the few minor human imprints are located along boundary roads and are outside the boundary. wilderness characteristics is exemplified by the outstanding and challenging canyon recreation available. The Black Hole section of White Canyon is described in several guidebooks. The canyon system provides outstanding opportunities for hiking, canyoneering (hiking requiring wet suits, life vests, and ropes), multiday backpacking, and exploring.

Unit Description

The Fort Knocker Canyon inventory unit is located in San Juan County about 65 miles west of Blanding. Terrain consists of flat benchlands, as well as Fort Knocker and White Canyons. Vegetation is a sparse mixture of desert shrubs on the benches and scattered cottonwood riparian communities in the wider portions of the canyons. The inventory unit is currently used for canyoneering, hiking, camping, and livestock grazing.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The entire unit retains its natural character. The few human imprints within the area are not noticeable. The unit is roadless, penetrated only by two short cherry-stemmed roads. Fort Knocker and White Canyons, in particular, remain pristine. The naturalness of the area is enhanced by its rugged terrain.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

With the exception of the portion of the unit adjacent to Utah Highway 95, the

area provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. The remote location; dramatic, rugged terrain; and deep, sheer-walled canyons all combine to create a feeling of extreme isolation.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The canyon system provides outstanding opportunities for canyoneering in some sections. Hiking, multiday backpacking, and exploring the upper canyon reaches require less ability, but these are still high-quality experiences.

Supplemental Values

Scenic quality is excellent. The benches above the canyon system provide outstanding views of surrounding red-rock buttes and mesas. The unit contains Anasazi ruins, some of which are well preserved because of their remote location and the lack of vehicle access.

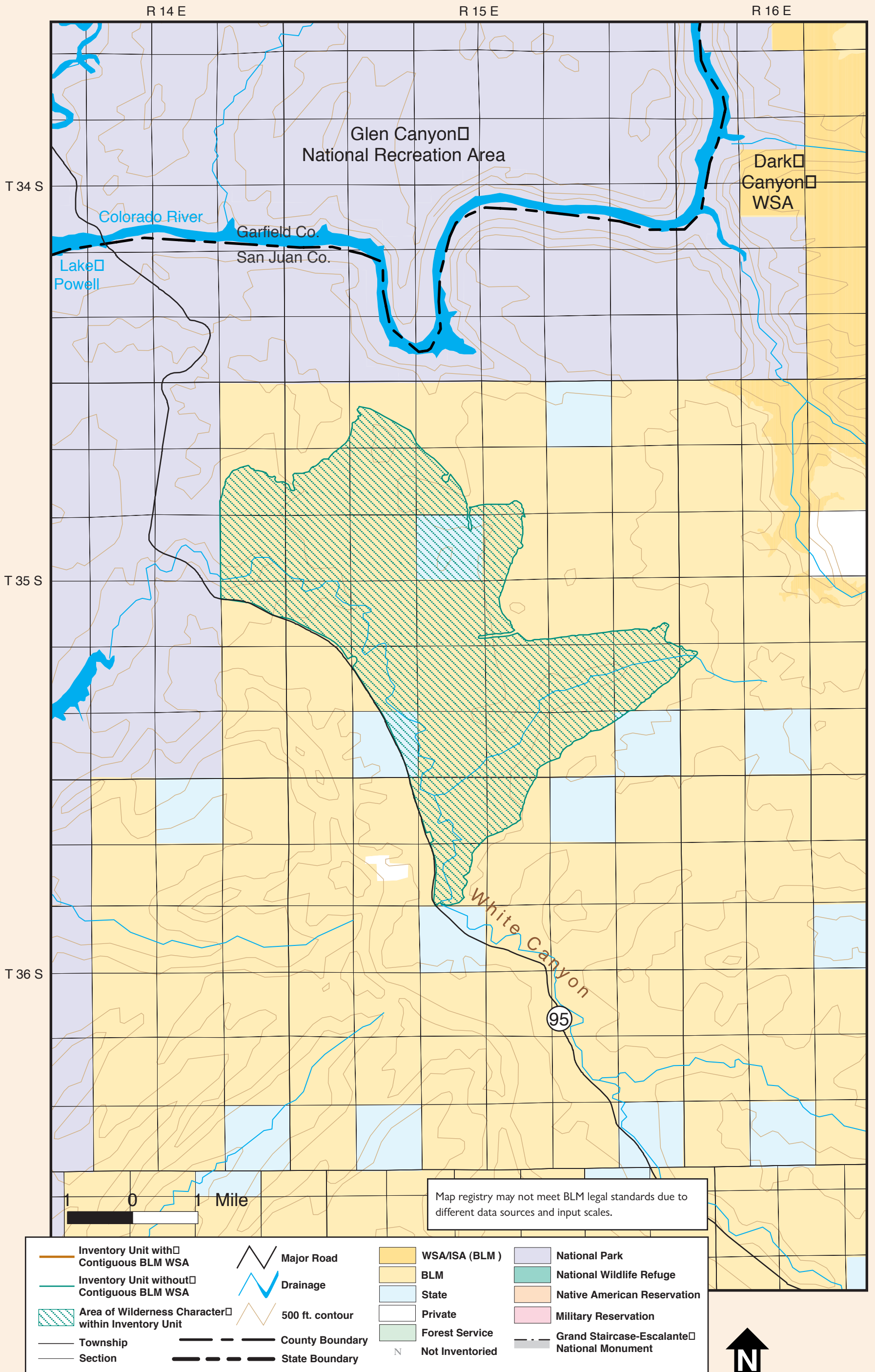
A portion of White Canyon, upstream from and outside the unit, has been identified by the National Park Service as having potential for Congressional designation as part of the National Wild and Scenic River system.

FORT KNOCKER CANYON—Although extremely scenic, Fort Knocker Canyon can also be dangerous when flash flooding occurs.



BLM photo

Fort Knocker Canyon



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	

Gravel and Long Canyons

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
37,100	5,100	42,200 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
37,100	5,100	42,200
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

All of the Gravel and Long Canyons inventory unit (42,200 acres) has wilderness characteristics. The unit's canyons are roadless and natural, providing outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Occasional old uranium exploration access ways on the mesas are substantially unnoticeable. Some of the canyon hiking routes are considered to be among the premier routes on the Colorado Plateau.

Unit Description

The Gravel and Long Canyons inventory unit is located in San Juan County, 40 miles west of Blanding. Terrain includes mesas, 1,000-foot red-rock cliffs, slickrock benchlands, and deeply incised canyons. Vegetation is predominantly thick piñons

and junipers that gradually transition into sparse desert shrub communities at lower elevations. Camping, hiking, all-terrain vehicle riding, mountain biking, and live-stock grazing are the current uses.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The unit retains its natural character. Although some mining activity has occurred in the past, the remnants of this activity, such as old vehicle ways and mining prospects, are substantially unnoticeable and slowly being reclaimed by natural forces. The piñon and juniper woodlands appear natural in contrast to some large chainings near, but outside, the unit. White Canyon contains minor signs of human activity, but most of the canyon and its tributaries are pristine.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude, especially within the tributary canyons to White Canyon. For example, the upper reaches of Gravel Canyon are isolated from all human influence, except for jet contrails, and are rarely visited. The top of Found Mesa can be accessed in only one location and

provides opportunities for solitude above the canyons. Substantial piñon and juniper woodlands screen visitors from each other, as well as from uranium mining scars.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit provides outstanding opportunities for extended backpacking trips in narrow canyon environments. Some of these trips require advanced ability and specialized skill. The unit also offers easily accessible day-hiking trips in White Canyon, as well as challenging hikes along mesa tops and red-rock cliffs. While old uranium mining impacts detract somewhat from naturalness, some of the access ways provide outstanding routes for walking and horseback riding. Spectacular views of the nearby red-rock buttes and distant Dark Canyon Plateau, Little Rockies, and Henry Mountains provide interesting scenic diversity to trips into and out of the unit's narrow canyons.

Supplemental Values

The unit possesses spectacular scenic view points, including many unique angles for viewing Jacobs Chair. The unit is within a BLM Area of Critical Environmental Concern, designated because of its outstanding scenic values.

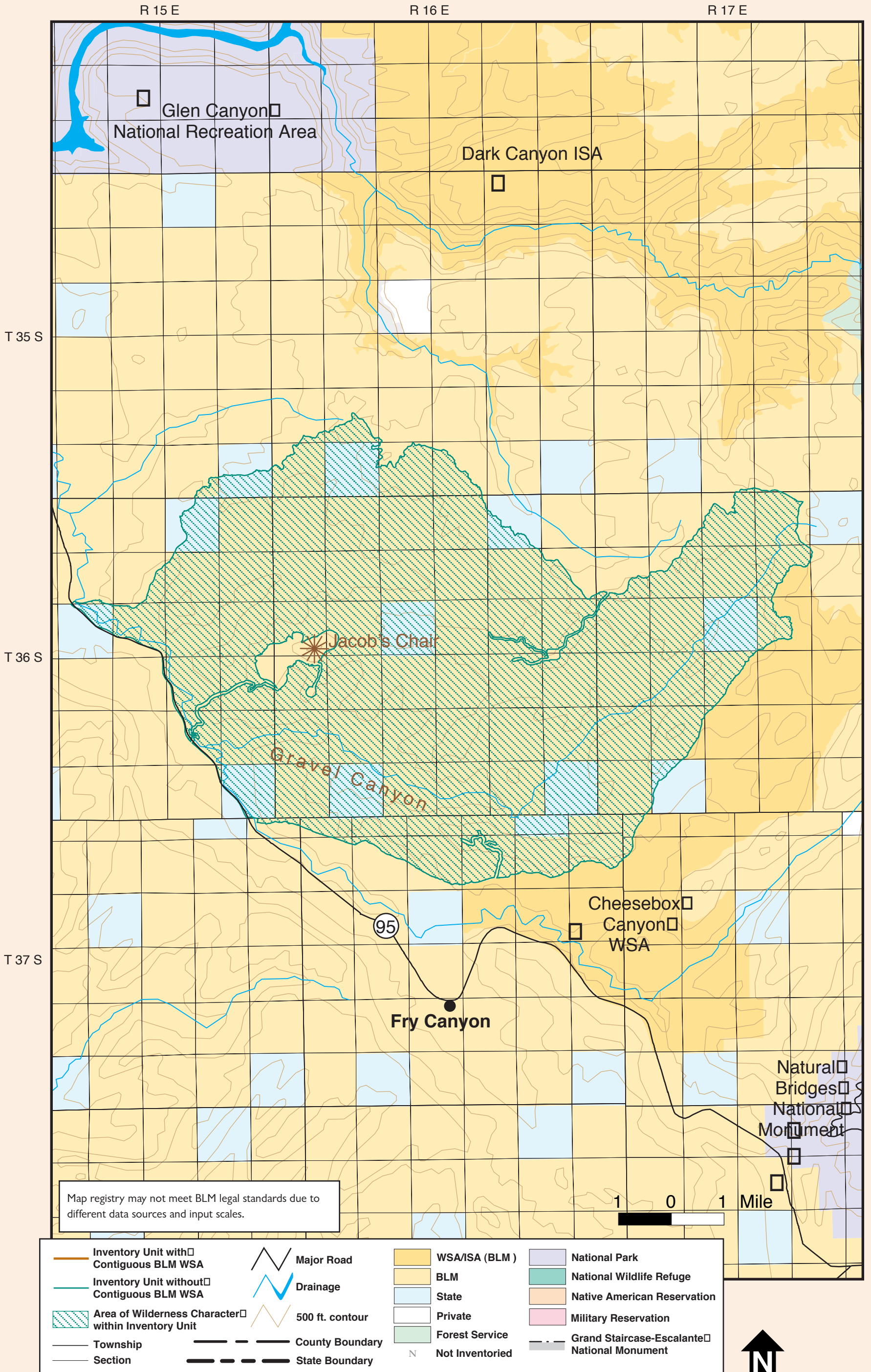
A small population of bighorn sheep uses the area year-round. In addition the isolated canyons reportedly contain well-preserved cultural sites.

GRAVEL AND LONG CANYONS—The unit is part of a designated scenic area that also includes Cheesebox Butte, the Cheesebox Canyon WSA, and two other inventory units.



BLM photo

Gravel and Long Canyons



SOUTHEAST REGION—Gravel and Long Canyons

Harmony Flat

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
10,100	500	10,600 (98%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
100	100	200 (2%)
Inventory Unit Total		
10,200	600	10,800
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Natural Bridges National Monument		5,340

Most of the Harmony Flat inventory unit (10,600 acres) has wilderness characteristics. The unit contains outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation among the upper reaches of Armstrong and Tuwa Canyons. However, several small portions of the unit (200 acres) lack wilderness characteristics because of old highway rights-of-way and chainings.

Unit Description

The Harmony Flat inventory unit is located in central San Juan County, 25 miles west of Blanding. It is contiguous to a portion of Natural Bridges National Monument (NBNM) that has already been administratively endorsed by the National Park Service for wilderness designation. The terrain consists primarily of a plateau varying in elevation from 6,000 to 6,700 feet that is deeply incised by Armstrong and Tuwa Canyons. These canyons are two of the major tributaries of White Canyon, joining in NBNM near Owachomo Bridge. Piñon pine, along with some juniper and buffaloberry, is the dominant vegetation, while pockets of sagebrush dominate a few flats.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the unit appears natural, with human imprints being substantially unnoticeable. However, several small areas that total 200 acres are not natural. These include one short road (perhaps 200 yards long) leading to a reclaimed landfill, a small area west of the access road to the NBNM water well, abandoned rights-of-

way from old route locations along the edge of the unit, and a portion of an old chaining.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. The unit's remoteness, the rolling piñon woodland, and Armstrong and Tuwa Canyons all contribute to a sense of isolation.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

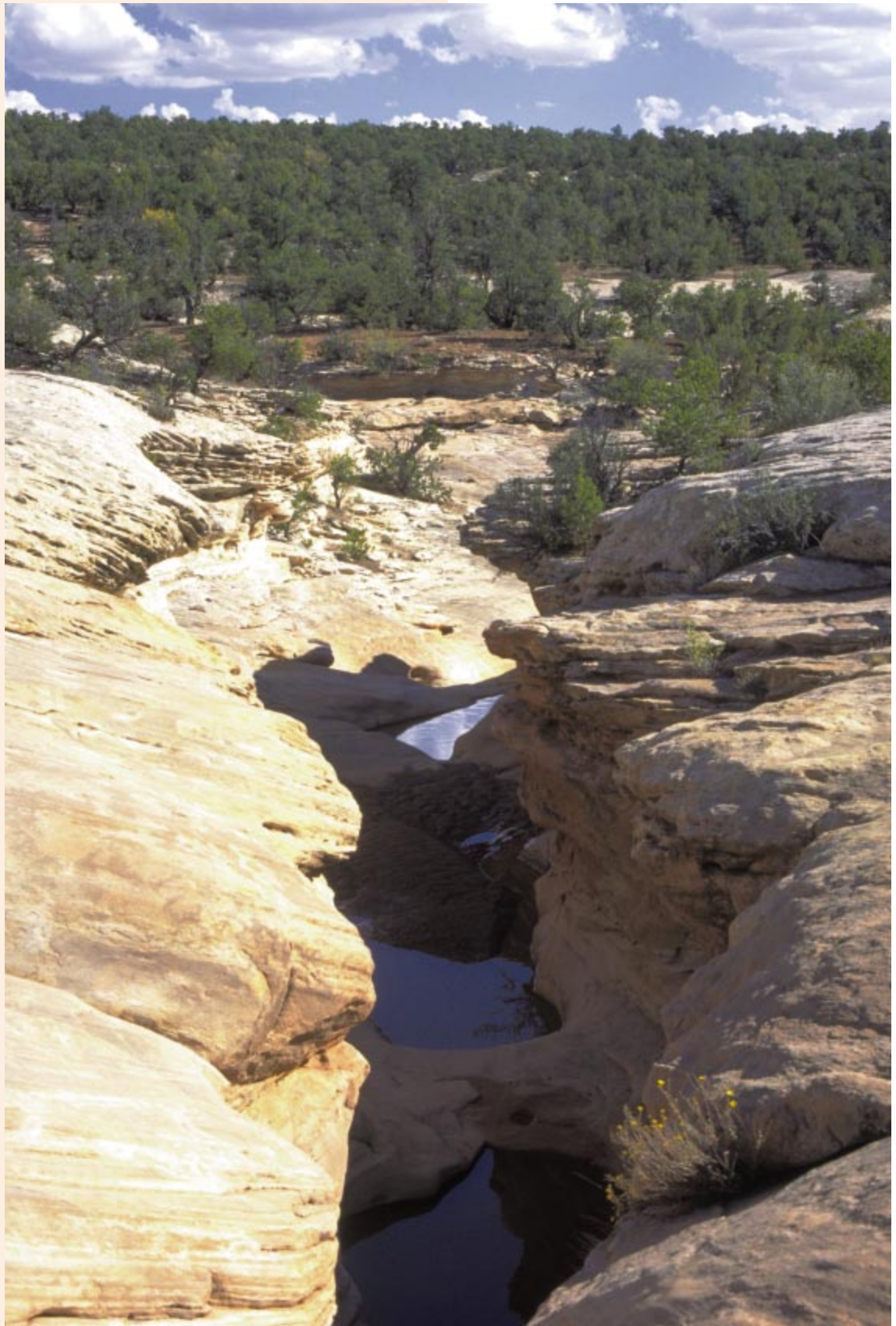
The remote location and the impressive surroundings provide outstanding opportunities for dispersed, undeveloped

recreation, including hiking, backpacking, and hunting. Considerable challenges are offered to the recreationist who enters White Canyon by way of the Armstrong or Tuwa drainages. Archaeological features also contribute to the unit's lure.

Supplemental Values

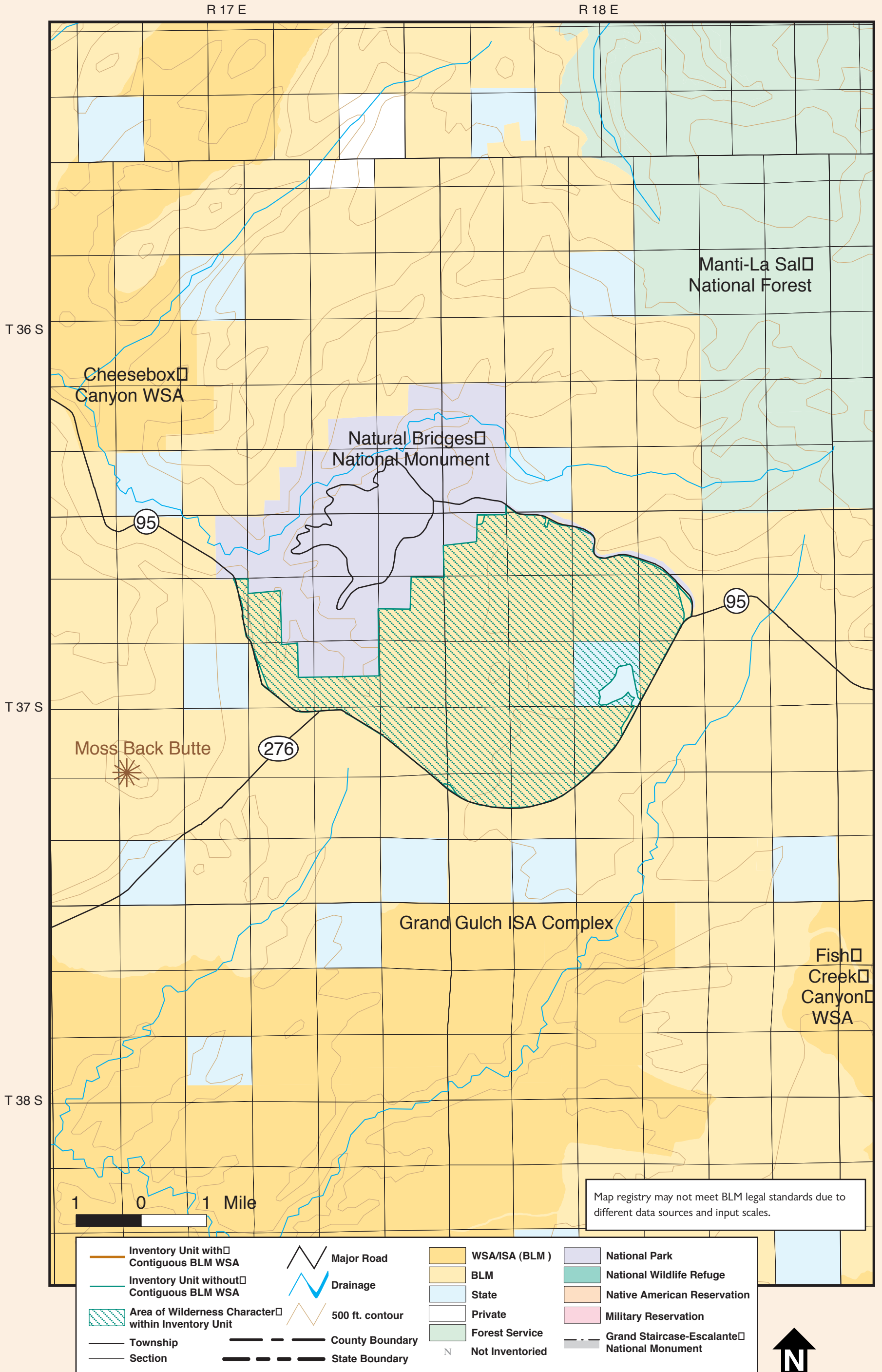
The National Park Service estimates that hundreds of archaeological sites lie within the unit. Although no comprehensive archaeological survey has been completed, a casual hike revealed scores of stone flakes and potsherds, as well as one habitation site. Scenic quality is high, especially in the Armstrong and Tuwa drainages.

HARMONY FLAT—A view of the upper drainage of scenic Armstrong Canyon.



Chris Barns

Harmony Flat



SOUTHEAST REGION—Harmony Flat

Mancos Mesa

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
62,600	9,000	71,600 (86%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
11,300	300	11,600 (14%)
Inventory Unit Total		
73,900	9,300	83,200
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Mancos Mesa WSA (UT-060-181)		51,440

About 71,600 acres of the Mancos Mesa inventory unit have wilderness characteristics. The unit retains its generally natural appearance with the exception of about 11,600 acres below the eastern rim of the mesa, which lack wilderness characteristics because of disturbance from old uranium exploration activities. The bladed scars have eroded, making them mostly impassable, but they are still substantially noticeable. The remainder of the unit, including the large mesa dissected by spectacular Moqui and Steer Pasture Canyons, provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation.

Unit Description

The Mancos Mesa inventory unit is located in southwestern San Juan County about 50 miles west of Blanding. It is contiguous to BLM's Mancos Mesa Wilderness Study Area (WSA) as well as the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA). The terrain consists of a westward-sloping mesa top angling down towards Lake Powell. Elevations transition from over 6,700 feet in the eastern portion of the unit to less than 4,500 feet in its western portion. The mesa is dissected east to west by Moqui Canyon, a major 20-mile canyon with sheer walls rising over 600 feet. Areas of concentrated wind-blown sand have created several steep sliding sand areas in Moqui Canyon. Six miles of Steer Pasture Canyon add to the broken terrain in the southeast portion of the mesa. The mesa is primarily Navajo Sandstone, with Wingate Sandstone in the inner canyons. The mesa top terminates in the east and southeast at a rim defined by an 800-foot sheer cliff. Beneath the rim are highly eroded badlands. Vegetation consists of blackbrush, piñon, juniper, Mormon tea, buffaloberry, cacti, yucca, Indian ricegrass, and other sparse perennial and annual grasses. Cottonwood trees and riparian vegetation can be found adjacent to springs and in the bottoms of major canyons.

Human uses have included grazing, mineral exploration, and recreation. Most mineral exploration was for uranium around 1979. Recreational use includes hiking, camping, hunting, exploring for cultural sites, and driving off-highway vehicles.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The unit generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature and retains its natural character, with the exception of the area below the eastern rim. This narrow area between the rim and the boundary road is heavily impacted by old uranium exploration scars, consisting of bladed routes to numerous old drill holes. These scars have eroded severely, making them mostly impassable, but they are still visible and are substantially noticeable. Other human impacts include a few substantially unnoticeable vehicle ways, fences, small stock ponds, and old faint seismic lines. These impacts are widely scattered and are all well screened by the unit's broken terrain and vegetation.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. The varied topography, including over 20 miles of Moqui Canyon and its tributaries and 6 miles of Steer Pasture Canyon, provide abundant opportunities to find isolation in a secluded

place. The unit's large size, its blocked configuration, and the vegetative screening provided by the piñons and junipers, as well as the cottonwoods in the bottom of Steer Pasture Canyon, also contribute to the unit's outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The rugged nature of the terrain, excellent geologic scenery, and unique landforms provide truly outstanding opportunities for dispersed, undeveloped recreation. There are opportunities for hiking, backpacking, camping, sightseeing, photography, nature study, and exploring and viewing cultural resources. The view from the top of the mesa over the sheer-walled cliff is very impressive. The badlands between the cliff and boundary roads provide a highly scenic, colorful, and challenging area for hiking, exploring, and photography. The two major canyons (Moqui and Steer Pasture) also provide excellent hiking opportunities in a remote, rugged setting.

Supplemental Values

The scenic quality of the unit is exceptional. Scenic highlights include Moqui and Steer Pasture canyons, views from the top of the mesa cliff, and the Red House Cliff badlands below the southern cliff.

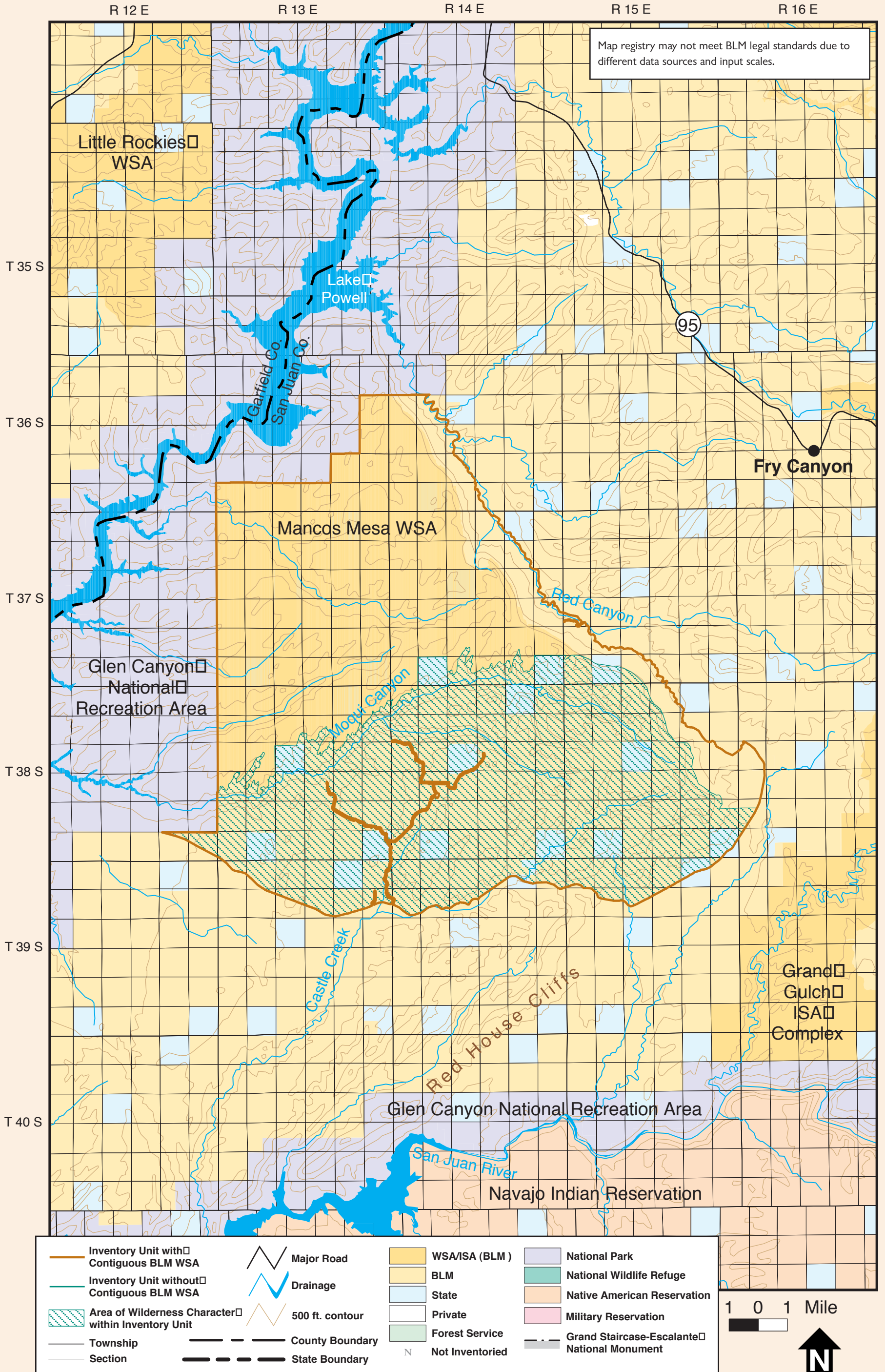
The area provides desert bighorn sheep habitat, although numbers are presently low. Archaeological values are thought to be significant, based upon surveys within contiguous NRA lands. During the field evaluation for this report, several ruins and petroglyphs, were observed.

MANCOS MESA—Moqui Canyon is just one of the scenic highlights that adds to the long list of exceptional supplemental wilderness values for this inventory unit.



Eric Finstick

Mancos Mesa



SOUTHEAST REGION—Mancos Mesa

Nokai Dome

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
93,500	7,900	101,400 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
93,500	7,900	101,400
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area		

All three of the large and remote Nokai Dome inventory units (101,400 acres) retain their generally natural appearance and have wilderness characteristics. Unit 2 does have some old disturbances resulting from mining exploration, but these are substantially unnoticeable. Unit 3, with its series of major canyons, colorful badlands, and impressive 1,000-foot cliffs, provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. All of the units provide outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation, either on their own or when considered in conjunction with the contiguous portion of the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA) that has been proposed for wilderness.

Unit Description

The units are located in southwestern San Juan County about 50 miles west of Blanding. Two of the three units are contiguous to a portion of the Glen Canyon NRA that has been proposed for wilderness. The terrain in the eastern portion of the inventory units consists of a rugged, broken, prominent mesa that slopes towards Lake Powell to the west and transitions into rolling hills. Major canyons, all located in the eastern portion of the area, include Mikes Canyon, the East Fork of Mikes Canyon, the West Fork of Mikes Canyon, Castle Creek Canyon, and Johnnies Hole Canyon. The mesa is formed primarily of Navajo Sandstone, with Wingate Sandstone in the inner canyons. Vegetation includes blackbrush, piñon, juniper, Mormon tea, buffaloberry, cacti, yucca, Indian ricegrass, and other sparse perennial and annual grasses. Cottonwood trees and riparian vegetation are found adjacent to springs and in the major canyon bottoms.

Primary human uses include grazing, past mineral exploration, hiking, camping, hunting, and exploring for cultural sites.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

All three units generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature and retain their natural character. The only human imprints in Unit 1 are three faint vehicle ways totaling less than 3 miles. These are all substantially unnoticeable, given the topographic and vegetative screening and the minimal degree of disturbance. Human imprints in Unit 2 include five vehicle ways that provide access to old drill holes and drill pads. These vehicle ways, which lack maintenance and current use, were initially spot-bladed and remain visible, especially from the air. However, given the large size, vast expanse, and topography of this unit, the vehicle ways are substantially unnoticeable. Human imprints in Unit 3 include eight vehicle ways that lead primarily to old drill holes and drill pads. One is a faint seismic line. The individual and cumulative impact of these human imprints is substantially unnoticeable because of the large size of the unit, the wide distribution of imprints, the minimal degree of the disturbance, and the extremely rugged terrain.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

All three units provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. Units 1 and 2 enhance the solitude opportunities present in the contiguous portion of the Glen

Canyon NRA that is proposed for wilderness. Units 2 and 3 also provide outstanding opportunities on their own. In Unit 2, this is because of the size, configuration, rugged terrain, broken sandstone hills, and vegetative screening provided by piñons and junipers. In Unit 3, the extremely rugged topography includes over 20 miles of major secluded canyons.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Units 1 and 2 provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation only in conjunction with the contiguous Glen Canyon NRA area proposed for wilderness. Lake Canyon is a popular off-highway vehicle camping and play area, which impacts primitive recreation opportunities. There are opportunities for hiking, backpacking, camping, and sightseeing, but none is outstanding either on an individual basis or in combination with others. However, Unit 3 provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation on its own. The rugged terrain and excellent scenery provide outstanding opportunities for dispersed, undeveloped recreation. Opportunities exist for hiking, backpacking, camping, sightseeing, photography, nature study, exploring, and viewing of cultural resources. The badlands between the cliff and boundary roads provide a highly scenic, colorful, and challenging area for hiking, exploring, and photography.

Supplemental Values

Unit 1 has potential for cultural resources, although no surveys have been conducted.

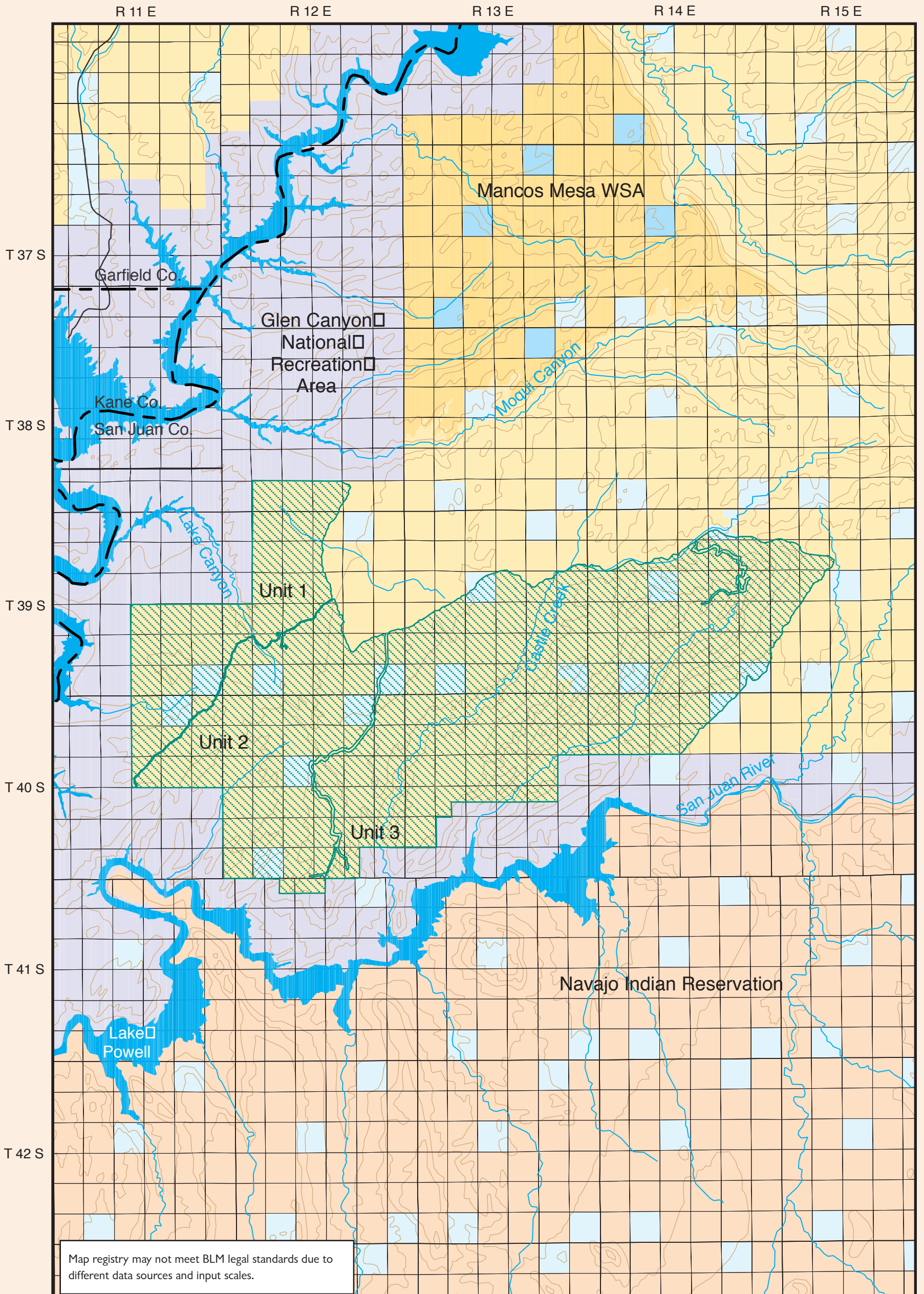
Unit 2 also has potential for cultural resources, has desert bighorn sheep habitat, and provides outstanding scenery in Lake Canyon. Unit 3 has a high potential for cultural resources, has excellent desert bighorn sheep habitat, and provides outstanding scenery. Scenic highlights include the five major canyons, views from the top of the 1,000-foot mesa, and the colorful and highly eroded Red House Cliffs.

NOKAI DOME—Mikes Canyon, as well as numerous other canyons in the inventory units, provides excellent hiking, backpacking, sightseeing, and photographic opportunities.



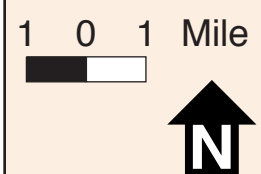
Eric Finstick

Nokai Dome



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	



Grand Gulch

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
47,800	8,090	55,890 (95%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
1,770	1,220	2,990 (5%)
Inventory Unit Total		
49,570	9,310	58,880
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Grand Gulch ISA Complex		107,920
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area— San Juan Unit		12,850

The vast majority of the eleven Grand Gulch inventory units (55,890 acres) appear natural and retain their wilderness characteristics. These units are associated with the Grand Gulch Instant Study Area (ISA) Complex, one of the premier areas for primitive recreation in the southwestern United States. However, portions of the inventory units (2,990 acres) have been so modified by human activities, such as chaining or wood cutting, that wilderness characteristics has been lost. The outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation found in the contiguous ISA Complex and the San Juan Unit of Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, which has been administratively endorsed for wilderness, extend into the inventory units.

Unit Description

The Grand Gulch inventory units are located in south-central San Juan County about 25 to 50 miles southwest of Blanding. All of the inventory units except Unit 7 are contiguous with the ISA Complex. In the case of Unit 5, the inventory unit is contiguous to the ISA Complex along a vehicle way that runs for two miles along the southern boundary of the unit. Units 6, 7, and 8 are also contiguous to the San Juan Unit of Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (NRA), which has been administratively endorsed for wilderness by the National Park Service (NPS).

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Units 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 11 are predominantly natural throughout. The wild land of Grand Gulch Plateau in Unit 1 appears natural for the most part; however, the

large chaining on Mormon Flat, along with an adjacent enclosure, is substantially noticeable. Also lacking in natural character are small areas around two stock ponds (including one with a short cherry-stem) and a corral. Unit 3 appears predominantly natural; numerous seismic exploration lines seen on aerial photographs are unnoticeable on the ground. Small areas without wilderness characteristics include intrusions such as old bladed rights-of-way and a large stock pond. The unit contains one 2.5-mile-long cherry-stemmed route to a developed stock pond. Unit 4 is separated from Unit 3 by the access route to Collins Spring (San Juan County Route 260), which has been cherry-stemmed. There is one 0.25-mile cherry-stemmed route to an old drill hole; otherwise, Unit 4 appears natural. The flat areas of Unit 9 were chained and are without wilderness characteristics; only the portion of the unit outside the chained area appears natural. So many wood-cutting vehicle ways exist in the northern portion of Unit 10 that the cumulative effect over much of the unit has impacted its wilderness characteristics. In addition, part of the state section was chained and has not recovered sufficiently to appear natural. Only broken headwaters and other remote portions of the unit are predominantly free of human impacts.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory units are contiguous either to the ISA Complex or to a portion of the Glen Canyon NRA that has been administratively endorsed for wilderness. These contiguous areas have outstanding opportunities for solitude. In Unit 1, the forest of the Grand Gulch plateau and deep canyon of upper Grand Gulch provide excellent opportunities for solitude on their own. Units 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, and 11 provide outstanding opportunities for solitude only when considered as extensions of contiguous areas with wilderness characteristics. Unit 3 offers outstanding opportunities for solitude in its own right;

the area is only infrequently visited and the wide-open landscape makes one feel all the more alone. The relatively isolated Unit 6 also offers excellent opportunities for solitude. Much of Unit 10 is without wilderness characteristics; however, the remaining parts offer opportunities for solitude as an extension of the ISA Complex. Although the opportunities for solitude vary among the individual units, all eleven add to the outstanding opportunities found within the contiguous ISA Complex and NPS lands.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory units are contiguous either to the ISA Complex or to a portion of the Glen Canyon NRA that has been administratively endorsed for wilderness. These contiguous ISA Complex and NPS lands possess outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, including horseback riding, backpacking, hiking, climbing, photography, and cultural and historical exploration. All of these outstanding opportunities extend into the inventory units. The opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation vary among the individual units, but all eleven add to the outstanding opportunities found within the contiguous ISA Complex and NPS lands.

Supplemental Values

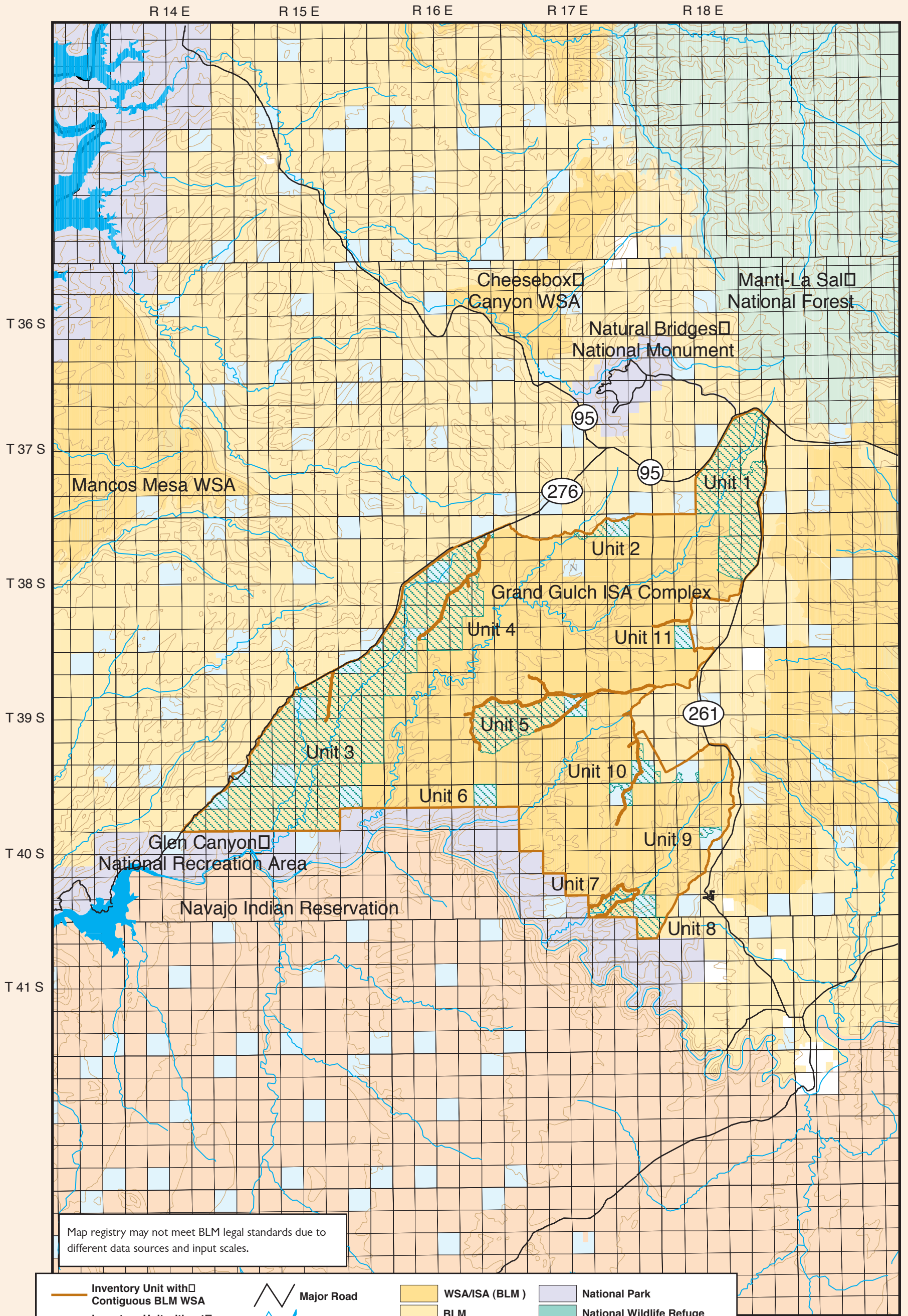
The breathtaking scenery and fascinating geology of many of the Grand Gulch inventory units are important supplemental values. The presence of the Hole-In-The-Rock Emigrant Trail testifies to an important historical episode in the Euro-American settlement of the Four Corners area. Most outstanding, however, are the hundreds of archaeological sites within the inventory units—evidence of a rich and vibrant human past in this region.

GRAND GULCH—The Grand Gulch inventory units and the contiguous Grand Gulch ISA Complex are rich in archaeological sites and other evidence of past human occupation.



Eric Finstick

Grand Gulch



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	

1 0 1 Mile



SOUTHEAST REGION—Grand Gulch

Fish and Owl Creeks

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
26,410	5,200	31,610 (92%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
2,070	600	2,670 (8%)
Inventory Unit Total		
28,480	5,800	34,280
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Fish Creek Canyon WSA (UT-060-204)		49,650

Most of the Fish and Owl Creeks inventory units (31,610 acres) are natural and have wilderness characteristics. The units with wilderness characteristics enhance the outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation in the contiguous Fish Creek Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA). The beautiful forest and sandstone of the upper watershed of Owl Creek, along with the impressive geological and archaeological resources of lower Mule Canyon, are spectacular complements to the WSA. However, a portion of Unit 5 is so heavily impacted by bladed roads, range developments, and woodcutting vehicle ways that it is without wilderness characteristics. The inventory units contain a total of 2,670 acres that are without wilderness characteristics.

Unit Description

The Fish and Owl Creeks inventory units are located in south-central San Juan County about 20 miles southwest of Blanding. They surround the Fish Creek Canyon WSA. Unit 1 includes Cyclone Flat and the upper watershed of the South Fork of Fish Creek; its vegetation is a mixture of sagebrush, rabbitbrush, juniper, and piñon. Unit 2 is a small section on Cedar Mesa between Utah Highway 261 and the WSA boundary. It is south of San Juan County Route 253 and north of the "Emigrant Trail" to Owl Canyon and is covered with piñon and

juniper. Also covered with piñon and juniper, Unit 3 encompasses the headwaters of Owl Creek and is found east of Utah Highway 261, south of the "Emigrant Trail," and north of the Snow Flat Road (San Juan County Route 237). Unit 4 is an area of broken hills between lower Fish Creek and Road Canyon. It is bordered by San Juan County Route 237 on the south, the Comb Wash Road (San Juan County Route 235) on the east, and an unmaintained vehicle way that serves as the Fish Creek Canyon WSA boundary on the north. Road Canyon WSA and a Road Canyon inventory unit are on the other side of San Juan County Route 237.

Unit 5 is the largest and most varied of the units. It includes several miles of spectacular Mule Canyon. Elevation ranges from 4,600 feet to 6,500 feet, with corresponding changes in typical vegetation from the sage/rabbitbrush association to piñon and juniper. Unit 5 is bordered on the east by San Juan County Route 235 (on the other side of which lies the Comb Ridge inventory unit) and on the north by Utah Highway 95, a state land section, San Juan County Route 236, San Juan County Route 233a, and a seismic exploration line. Unit 6 is composed of state land.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Inventory Units 1, 2, 3, and 6 appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature and retain their natural character as piñon woodlands and sagebrush flats throughout. Units 4 and 5, although mostly natural in character, contain unnatural portions. However, the major features of Unit 5—Mule Canyon and its tributary canyons—are predominantly natural.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory units are all contiguous to and logical extensions of the Fish Creek Canyon WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for solitude. Units 1, 2, 4, and 6 provide outstanding opportunities for solitude only when considered in conjunction with the contiguous WSA. Units 3 and 5, on the other hand, are of sufficient size and character to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude on their own.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory units are contiguous with the Fish Creek Canyon WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. All of the units are logical extensions of the WSA, enhancing its opportunities for primitive recreational pursuits such as horseback riding, hiking, backpacking, photography, and cultural exploration. These opportunities in Units 1, 2, 4, and 6 are outstanding only in conjunction with the WSA. However, the upper reaches of Owl Creek and lower Mule Canyon in Units 3 and 5 provide outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation on their own.

Supplemental Values

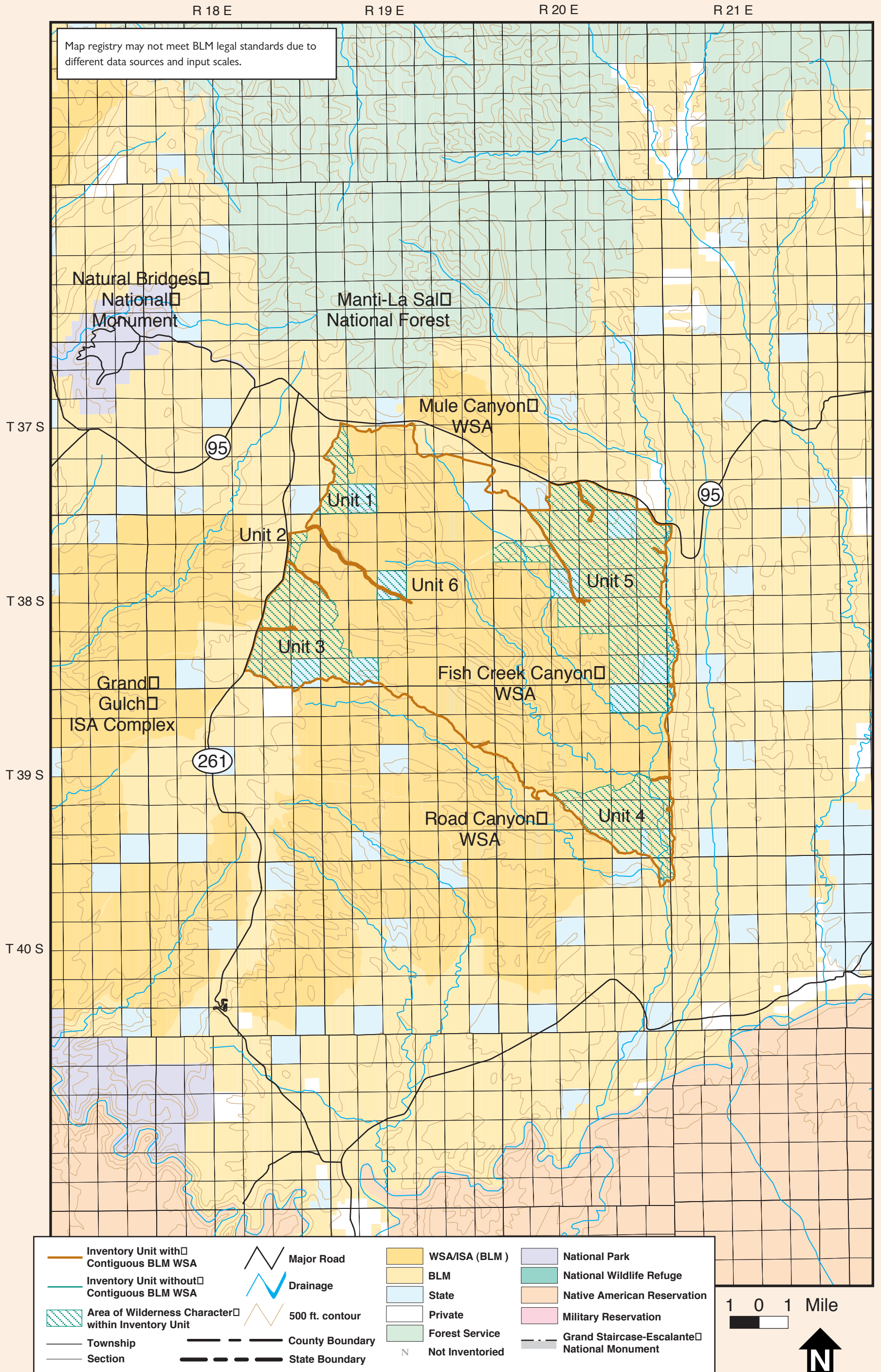
Archaeological sites within the inventory units range from lithic concentrations to cliff dwellings and probably number in the hundreds. Scenic qualities are also superb, encompassing impressive vistas of ancient ruins, cottonwood-filled canyons, and spectacular cliffs.



FISH AND OWL CREEKS—The impressive geological and archaeological resources of lower Mule Canyon are spectacular complements to the contiguous Fish Creek Canyon WSA.

Eric Finstick

Fish and Owl Creeks



Road Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
11,850	5,150	17,000 (88%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
2,110	300	2,410 (12%)
Inventory Unit Total		
13,960	5,450	19,410
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Road Canyon WSA (UT-060-201)		54,820

All ten Road Canyon inventory units are contiguous with the Road Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and have portions with wilderness characteristics (17,000 acres). These units are predominantly natural and enhance the WSA's outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive forms of recreation.

Recreation opportunities include hiking, horseback riding, camping, climbing, photography, and cultural exploration. Small portions of several units (2,410 acres) are unnatural and lack wilderness characteristics because of extensive woodcutting, recreational use, or agricultural practices.

Unit Description

The Road Canyon inventory units are located in south-central San Juan County 15 miles west of Bluff. They surround the Road Canyon WSA, with their boundaries following substantially noticeable human impacts wherever possible. Unit 1 includes the upper watershed of Road Canyon; its boundaries are located along the closest roads west of the WSA boundary, chained areas, and private land. Unit 2 is on Cedar Mesa between Utah Highway 261 and the tributaries of Lime Creek on the western boundary of the Road Canyon WSA. The vegetation in Units 1 and 2 is predominantly juniper and piñon. Units 3 and 4 lie north of the Valley of the Gods Road and are dominated by impressive sandstone buttes. The sparse vegetation here and in Units 5 and 6 is

predominantly sagebrush and rabbitbrush. Unit 5, one of the smaller units, is situated northeast of San Juan County Route 226 and east of Lime Creek. Its terrain slopes gently toward Lime Creek.

Unit 6, by far the largest of the units, drains into Comb Wash. In the east and north, this unit is dominated by the rolling hills surrounding lower Road Canyon. The unit is bordered by San Juan County Route 226 or the original alignment of this road on the southwest, a power line and U.S. Highway 163 on the south, and San Juan County Route 237 on the east and northeast. Unit 7, the smallest unit, is State land south of San Juan County Route 237. Units 8, 9, and 10 are state inholdings within the Road Canyon WSA that are accessed by cherry-stemmed roads or vehicle ways. The road to Unit 8 leads nearly to the edge of Road Canyon. The road to Unit 9 leads to the edge of Lime Canyon. The vehicle way leading to Unit 10 provides access to Cigarette Spring Cave.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

All of the smaller units—3, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 10—appear natural throughout, as does the larger Unit 6. At the southwestern edge of Unit 6, the routes used to define part of the WSA boundary are either substantially or (in most places) completely unnoticeable on the ground, resulting in Unit 6 being contiguous to the WSA.

Portions of Units 1, 2, and 4 are also natural. The natural portion of Unit 1 includes much of a densely forested upper watershed but excludes a connected series of bladed areas in the southwestern corner. A large portion of Unit 2 is a maze of woodcutting routes; the cumulative effect of these numerous vehicle ways has created an area that appears unnatural. Unit 4 appears natural throughout, with the exception of a popular camping loop off the Valley of the Gods Road.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory units are contiguous with the Road Canyon WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for solitude. Given their small size, Units 1-5 and 7-10 possess outstanding opportunities for solitude only in conjunction with the contiguous WSA. Unit 6, on the other hand, is large enough and has enough topographic variation to provide solitude opportunities on its own.

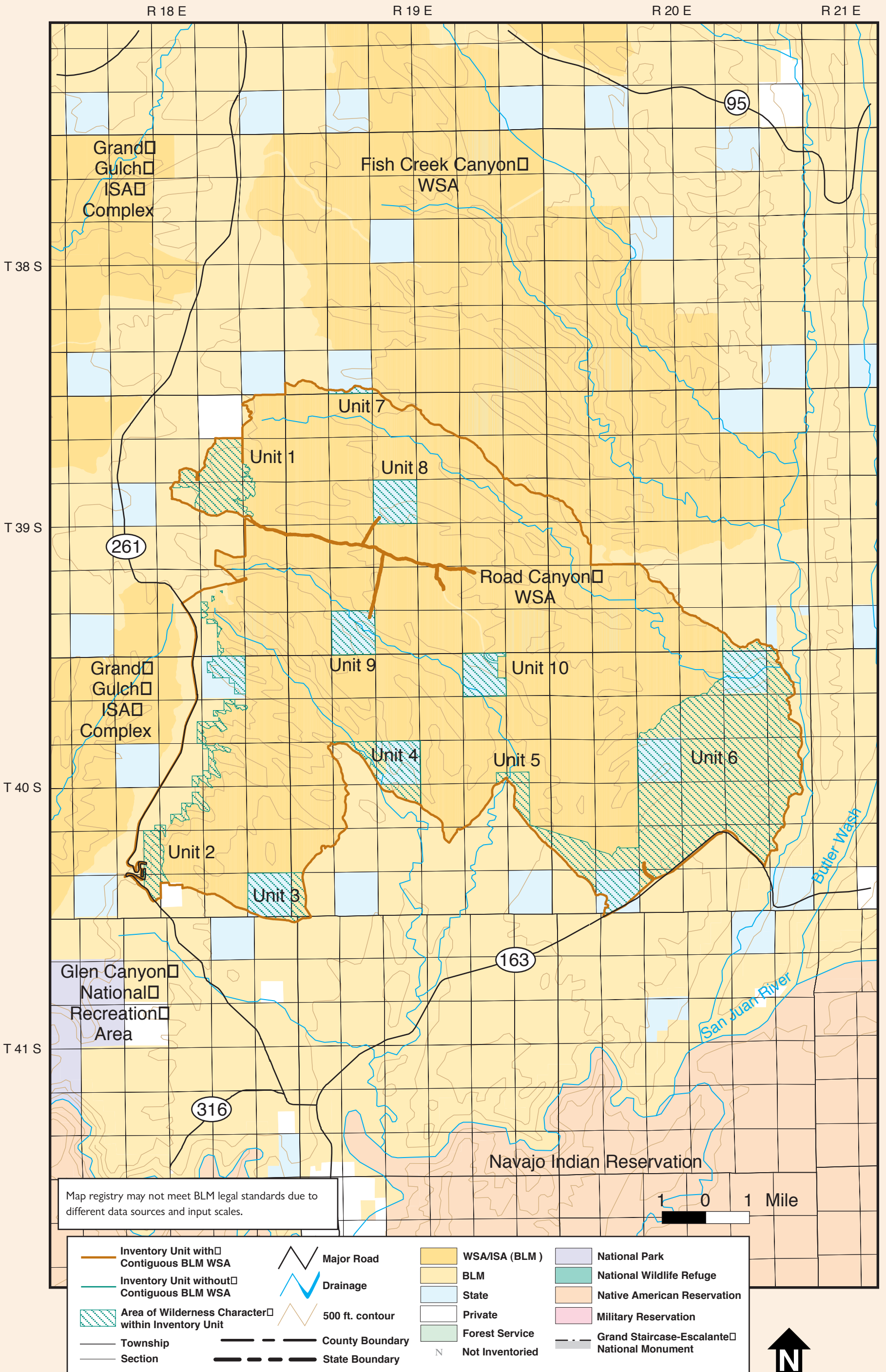
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The units are contiguous with the Road Canyon WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Units 1, 2, and 7-10 offer recreation opportunities only in conjunction with the WSA. Despite their small size, Units 3-5 offer rock formations for outstanding primitive climbing opportunities, challenging for even the most accomplished rock climbers. Unit 6 presents outstanding opportunities for hiking, camping, horseback riding, and photography on its own.

Supplemental Values

The important archaeological sites within the unit probably number in the hundreds. Scenic quality for the unit is exceptionally high in both the Road Canyon and Lime Creek areas. The latter is part of the Valley of the Gods, a destination for tourists from around the globe.

Road Canyon



SOUTHEAST REGION—Road Canyon

San Juan River

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
14,200	500	14,700 (96%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
500	100	600 (4%)
Inventory Unit Total		
14,700	600	15,300
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

Most of the San Juan River inventory unit (14,700 acres) has wilderness characteristics. The area is predominantly natural in appearance and offers outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation centered around the San Juan River. However, the western edge and several other small parts of the inventory unit (600 acres) are unnatural or otherwise lack wilderness characteristics because of the presence of old oil field developments, rights-of-way, or limestone quarrying.

Unit Description

The San Juan River inventory unit is located in south-central San Juan County 10 miles west of Bluff. The inventory unit boundary follows powerlines and an old road down to the San Juan River on the west, powerlines and a bladed semicircular road on the north, the road and vehicle way down Comb Wash to the San Juan River on the east, and the Navajo Indian Reservation boundary (the middle of the San Juan River) on the south. The terrain is dominated by Sugarloaf Butte (elevation

5,535 feet) and the 1,000-foot gorge of the San Juan River. Mormon tea and rabbitbrush, along with a variety of grasses, are the most common plants on the upland mesa. Near the San Juan River, saltbush and tamarisk are plentiful. Both Lime Creek and Comb Wash have groves of cottonwood as well as tamarisk.

Several mining claims exist within the inventory unit, but only a limestone quarry on state land shows any signs of activity. The upland mesa of the unit is grazed, with stock ponds being present as well as one underground water pipeline that links several stock developments near the center of the unit. There are several outstanding scenic views from the rim of the San Juan River gorge.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the unit appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature. However, the area from west of Lime Creek to the western boundary of the unit is unnatural in character because it is crossed by the old highway and several constructed routes that access plugged and abandoned oil wells. East of Lime Creek, an old route paralleling the San Juan River is not significantly noticeable, due in part to the route's extremely narrow construction. However, the plugged oil wells at the end of this route are a significant sign of human activity; the boundary of the unit excludes them. The north-central boundary delineating wilderness characteristics excludes a water pipeline, and two routes of approximately 1.25 and 1.75 miles in the same area have been cherry-stemmed from the unit. In addition, nearly a quarter section of State

land currently being used as a limestone quarry is unnatural in character. The eastern portion of the unit having wilderness characteristics excludes the buildings on the State land in Comb Wash.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit provides varied opportunities for solitude. The mesa tops are open and exposed but so infrequently visited that opportunities for solitude may exist. The area around Sugarloaf Butte is extremely rugged; here solitude is almost guaranteed. The opportunity for solitude in the San Juan River gorge is generally very high, lessened only by passing boaters.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit provides varied opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The mesa top offers stunning scenic views of the San Juan River gorge. Sugarloaf Butte and the broken land around it offer ample challenge for any level of climbing skill. The San Juan River offers exceptional opportunities for rafting, kayaking, or canoeing.

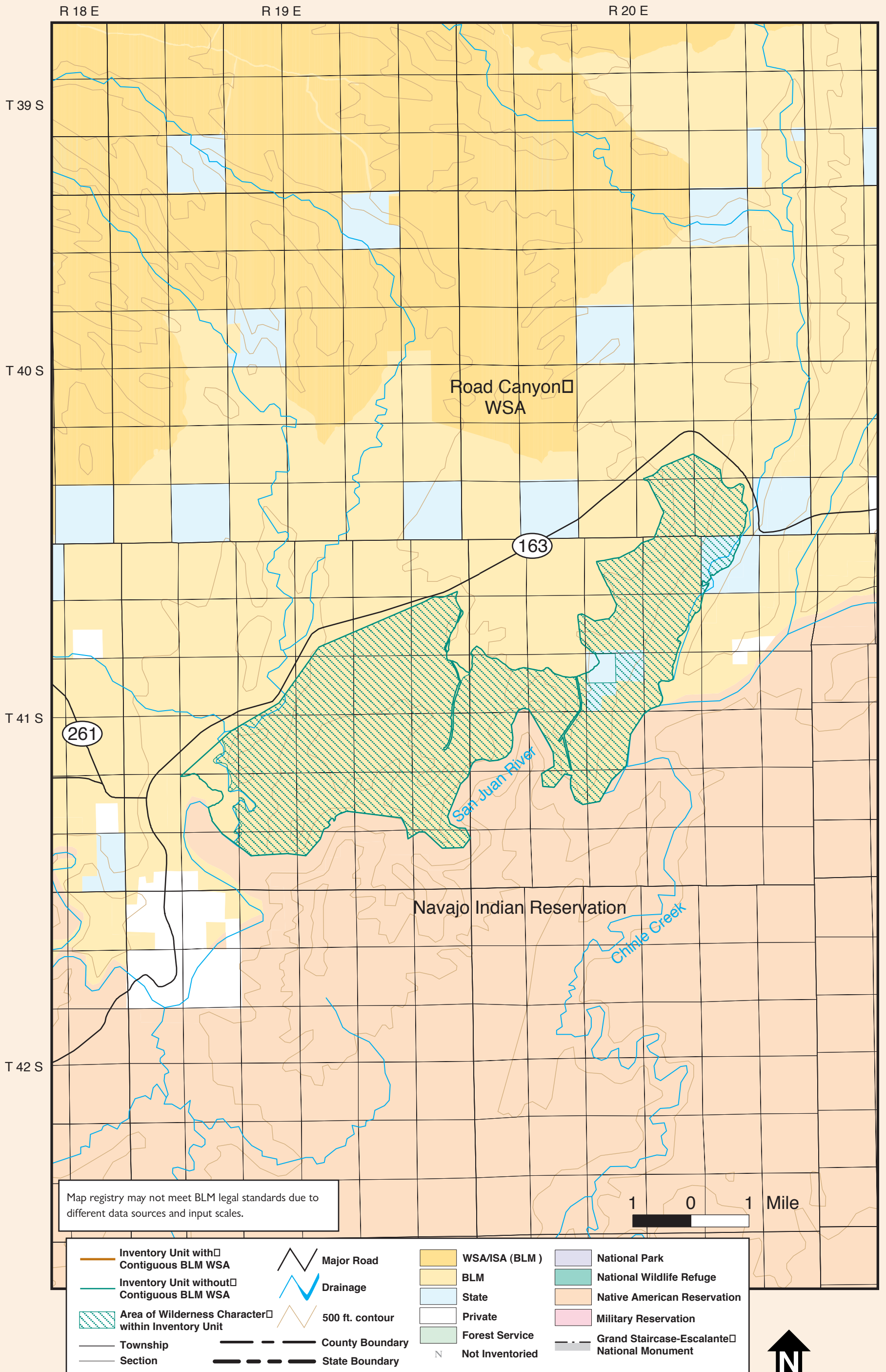
Supplemental Values

The scenic quality of the unit is exceptionally high. Views of Monument Valley and the San Juan River are breathtaking. The central portion of the unit includes a hanging abandoned rincón formation from the river's past. The beautiful, complex erosional patterns of interbedded gray limestone and red mudstone around Sugarloaf Butte are visually striking.

SAN JUAN RIVER—The colorful formations of the Rapplee anticline are a striking feature within the inventory unit.



San Juan River



Comb Ridge

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
14,000	800	14,800 (85%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
2,400	200	2,600 (15%)
Inventory Unit Total		
16,400	1,000	17,400
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

Most of the Comb Ridge inventory unit (14,800 acres) has wilderness characteristics. However, the area east of Butler Wash (2,600 acres) is significantly impacted by human disturbance and lacks wilderness characteristics.

Solitude opportunities are limited because of the unit's narrow width and the proximity of boundary roads. However, opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation, especially hiking, are outstanding. Comb Ridge is known for its impressive geology, scenic vistas, and variety of important archaeological sites, all of which are accessible only by primitive means.

Unit Description

The Comb Ridge inventory unit is located in south-central San Juan County about 20 miles southwest of Blanding. It is separated from the Road Canyon inventory unit by San Juan County Route 237 (Snow Flat Road) and from the Fish and Owl Creeks inventory unit by San Juan County Route 235 (Comb Wash Road). The terrain consists primarily of a striking ridge of up-warped Navajo Sandstone that rises gradually from the east and then drops precipitously on the west. The higher elevations support primarily juniper, along with some piñon pine. Lower elevations support Mormon tea, sagebrush, yucca, rabbitbrush, greasewood, blackbrush, and squawbush. Cottonwoods and tamarisk dominate the drainages.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The sheer walls and short, stark canyons of most of the Comb Ridge inventory unit appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature. A few vehicle ways do cross Butler Wash, but they are substantially unnoticeable and largely impassable by vehicles because of erosion.

The area east of Butler Wash lacks wilderness characteristics because of the cumulative impact of numerous vehicle ways.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Marginal opportunities for solitude exist. The unit is quite narrow (generally less than two miles wide throughout) and most of it is treeless, exposing the visitor to constant views of the boundary roads. However, opportunities for solitude may be present in the many slot canyons on the eastern side.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Outstanding opportunities exist for primitive and unconfined recreation. Challenging hikes and spectacular scenic views (among the most impressive in southern Utah) from the top of Comb Ridge reward the visitor. However, skill is required to access the beautiful and often rugged heart of this unique place.

Supplemental Values

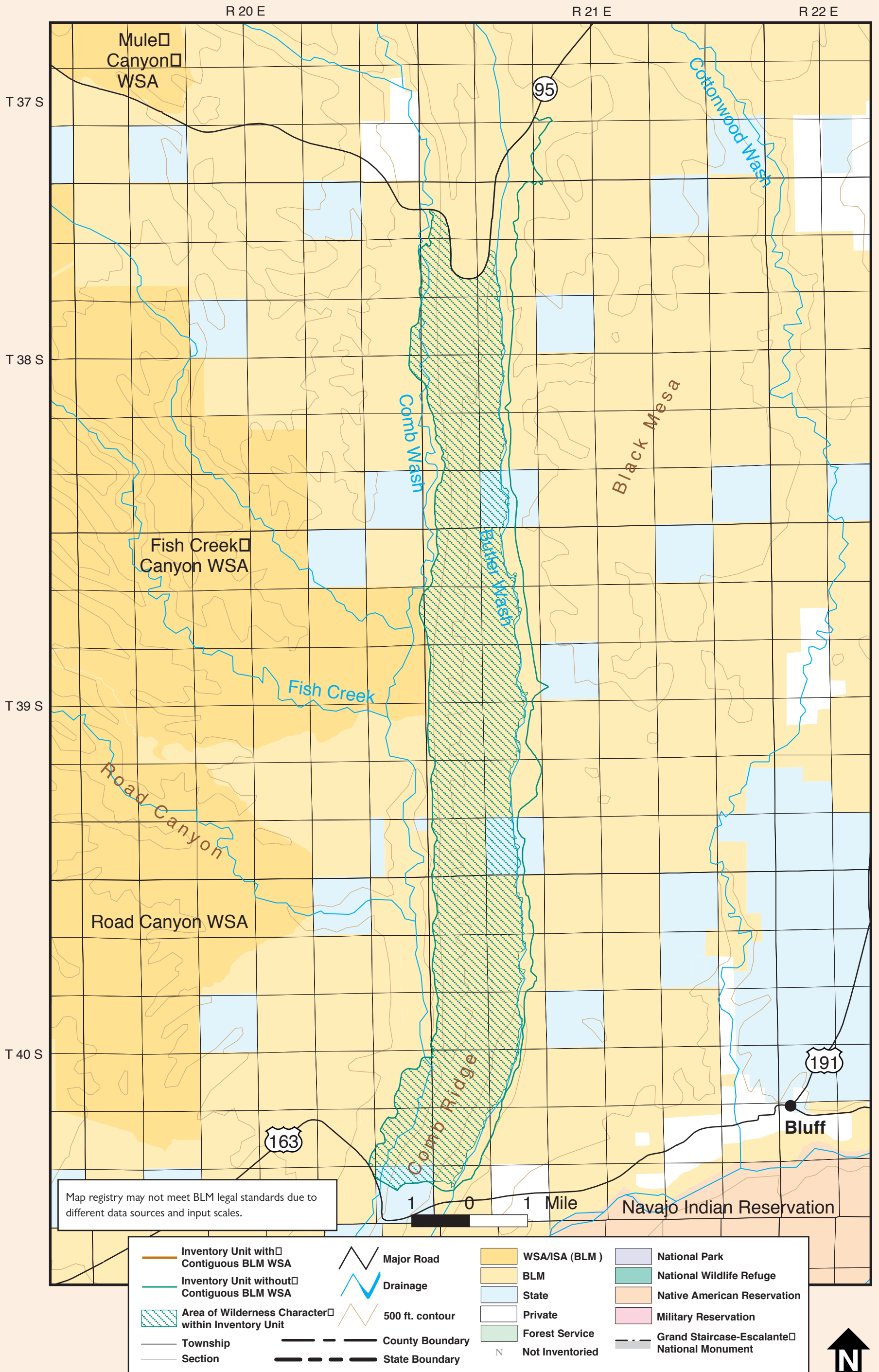
The scenic quality of this unit is excellent. Even the most casual visitor cannot help being impressed by the massive up-warp of Navajo sandstone forming the spine of Comb Ridge. Several cliff dwellings and rock art panels highlight the significant archaeological resources found here.

COMB RIDGE—Challenging hikes and some of the most impressive views in southern Utah reward the visitor to Comb Ridge.



Jerry Sintz

Comb Ridge



SOUTHEAST REGION—Comb Ridge

Arch and Mule Canyons

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
13,600	1,260	14,860 (100%)
Inventory Unit Total		
13,600	1,260	14,860
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

The three Arch and Mule Canyons inventory units (14,860 acres) associated with the Mule Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA) are separated from the WSA and each other by roads. While the units are predominantly natural, these roads create small, discrete, narrow inventory units without wilderness characteristics. If the Manti-La Sal National Forest were to complete wilderness suitability studies on the contiguous Forest Service lands, then these findings should be reevaluated. However, as stand-alone units, these units do not have wilderness characteristics.

Unit Description

The Arch and Mule Canyons inventory units are located in south-central San Juan County about 15 miles west of Blanding. The units' boundaries follow legal land lines or, where possible, substantially noticeable human impacts. The route up Arch Canyon shows evidence of having been constructed and is readily passable (and frequently driven) beyond the National Forest boundary; it is a road and serves to separate Units 1 and 2. The route past Hotel Rock shows evidence of construction at both ends; although the portion coming off the south end of Little Baullie Mesa is impassable to all but the most ardent four-wheel drive enthusiasts, this route also is a road and separates Units 2 and 3. Vegetation is predominantly piñon and juniper woodland, with associated bitterbrush, manzanita, buffaloberry, sagebrush, oak, and serviceberry. Cottonwoods, willows, and tamarisk dominate Arch Canyon.

All three units have been grazed; there are numerous stock ponds, corrals, and fences present. Little Baullie Mesa was chained but has revegetated naturally; the chained area is unnoticeable except on aerial photographs. There is also a plugged and abandoned drill hole and a seismic exploration line on Little Baullie Mesa.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Unit 1 has two vehicle routes (2.3 and 0.3 miles in length), four stock ponds, and a large corral on Texas Flat. The remainder of the unit, including Texas Canyon and the portion of Arch Canyon southwest of its boundary road, appears predominantly natural. Unit 2 is natural in Arch Canyon northeast of the boundary road. Although Little Baullie Mesa has been chained, the chaining is no longer noticeable on the ground. The area has revegetated with piñons that are now 15 feet tall and appears predominantly natural. A few noticeable piles of slash, several long vehicle ways, and one road (approximately 2 miles long) are all that remain of the chaining. There is also one seismic exploration line that has partially revegetated.

Conditions similar to the Little Baullie Mesa portion of Unit 2 exist in the Little Baullie Mesa portion of Unit 3. The remainder of Unit 3 appears predominantly natural and is without intrusions except for one vehicle route (0.5 mile long) that serves as an access to the Comb Wash Cave.

ARCH AND MULE CANYONS—

Although the units are known for their inspiring archaeological remains and stunning scenery, none currently possesses wilderness characteristics.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The size of the inventory units, their separation from other areas having wilderness characteristics, and the frequent use of the roads up Arch Canyon and past Hotel Rock limit opportunities for solitude. The popularity and confining nature of Arch Canyon further limits opportunities for solitude in Units 1 and 2.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Opportunities for primitive recreation such as horseback riding, camping, hiking, backpacking, climbing, photography, and the discovery of cultural resources exist in all three inventory units. However, the size of the units, separated as they are from other areas with wilderness characteristics, and the fact that they are bounded by popular vehicle routes prevents these opportunities from being outstanding.

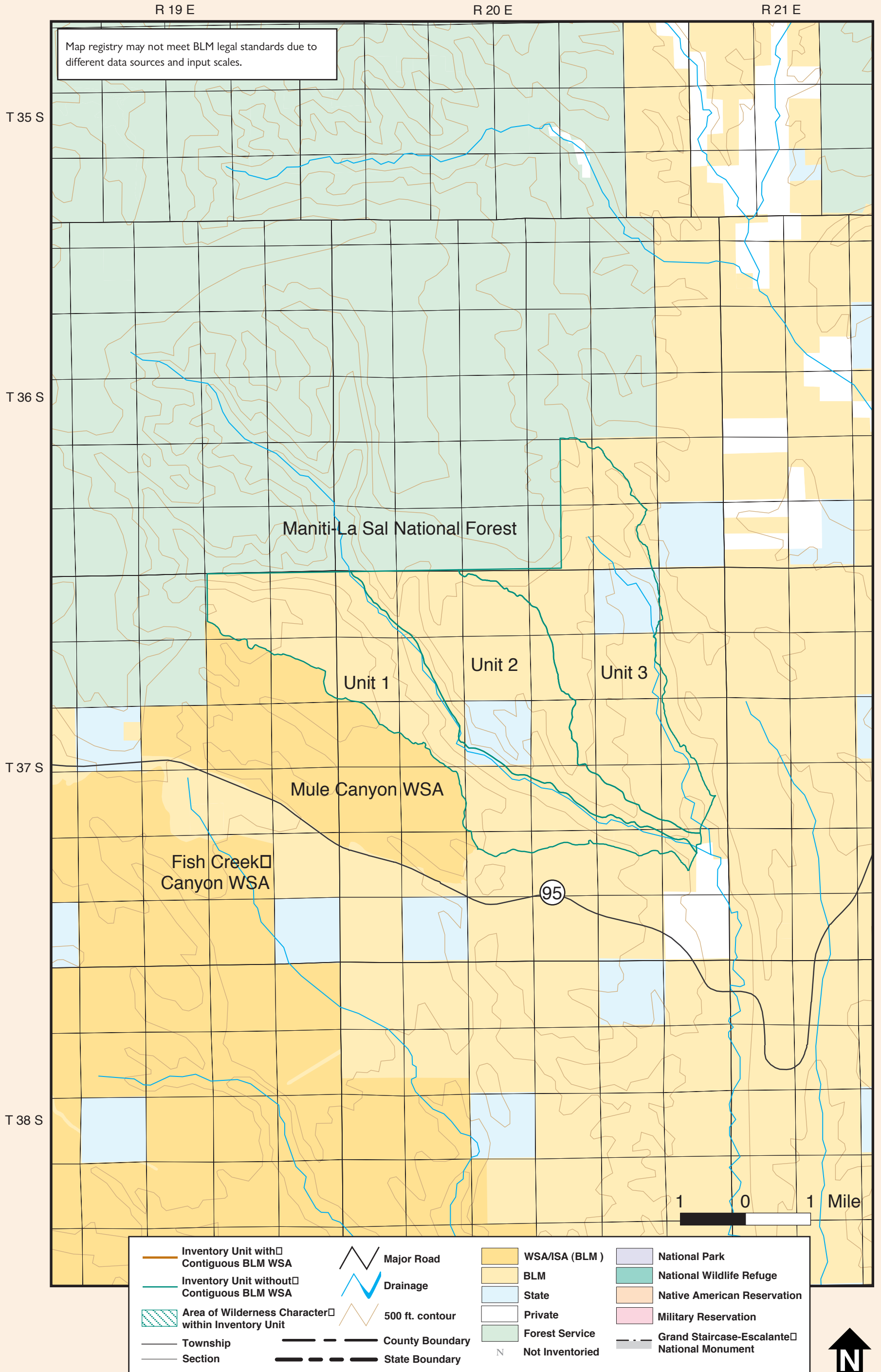
Supplemental Values

The Arch and Mule Canyons inventory units are known for their combination of interesting archaeology and breathtaking scenery.



Jerry Sintz

Arch and Mule Canyons



SOUTHEAST REGION—Arch and Mule Canyons

Squaw and Papoose Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
3,680	1,240	4,920 (99%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
70	0	70 (1%)
Inventory Unit Total		
3,750	1,240	4,990
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Squaw and Papoose Canyon WSA (UT-060-227)		6,676
(CO-030-265A)		4,611

Most of the four Squaw and Papoose Canyon inventory units (4,920 acres) have wilderness characteristics. Contiguous to the Squaw and Papoose Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA), the units are logical extensions of this WSA, enhancing its outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive forms of recreation. Recreation opportunities include hiking, horseback riding, camping, and cultural exploration. A few small portions of the units (70 acres) lack wilderness characteristics, primarily because of disturbance from past chainings.

Unit Description

The Squaw and Papoose Canyon inventory units are located in eastern San Juan County on the border of Colorado, approximately 25 miles east of Blanding. The units are all contiguous to the Utah portion of the Squaw and Papoose Canyon WSA. Unit 1 is also contiguous to the Colorado portion of the Squaw and Papoose Canyon WSA. Unit 1 encompasses Mares Tail Canyon and is bounded on the east by the Utah and Colorado state line and on the north and west by a gravel road and private property. Unit 2 includes much of the west side of the Squaw Canyon drainage and is likewise bounded by gravel roads and private property.

Unit 3 is almost entirely state land in Squaw Canyon just downstream from the confluence with Papoose Canyon. Unit 4

is on the Squaw Point mesa, bounded on the east and south by a bladed road.

Vegetation in Units 1 and 2 is predominantly piñon and juniper. Unit 3 has a mixture of sagebrush and saltbush, with tamarisk and impressive cottonwoods along the Squaw Canyon riparian zone. Unit 4 has been chained and is now mostly sagebrush. Elevation varies from 6,500 feet in Unit 1 to 5,200 feet in Unit 3.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The area surrounding Mares Tail Canyon, which makes up Unit 1, appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature and retains wilderness characteristics throughout. One exception is a 1.25-mile cherry-stemmed road to a plugged and abandoned well pad. The west side of Squaw Canyon in Unit 2 appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the exception of a small borrow pit area in the north. An old chaining has substantially recovered, with excellent natural regeneration of junipers.

In Unit 3, old mineral prospects are largely unnoticeable, so this entire unit in the middle of Squaw Canyon retains its wilderness characteristics. The boundary of the southeastern corner of this unit is almost invisible, but a more practical boundary could not be found. Unit 4 was impacted by the chaining of Squaw Point in the mid-1960s, and the eastern portion of the chained area remains unnatural in appearance. However, the western portion has been reclaimed naturally and appears once again to be affected primarily by the forces of nature.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The units are contiguous to the Squaw and Papoose Canyon WSA, which provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. Unit 1 provides excellent opportunities for solitude in Mares Tail Canyon. Only when considered in conjunction with the contiguous WSA are the opportunities for solitude outstanding within all four units.

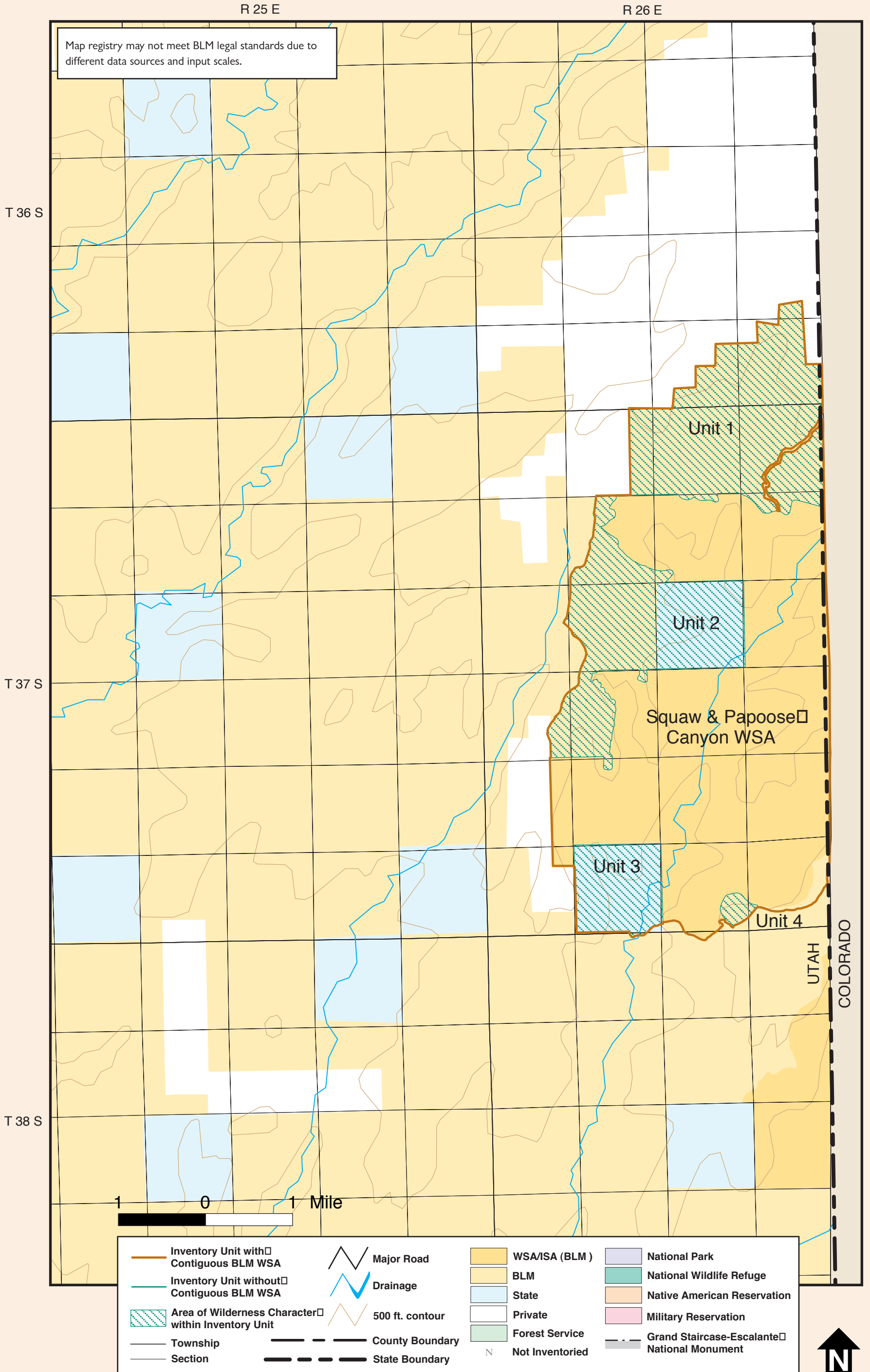
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The units are contiguous with the Squaw and Papoose Canyon WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. There are excellent opportunities for primitive forms of recreation—particularly hiking, backpacking, and horseback riding—in Units 1 and 3. Only in conjunction with the contiguous WSA are opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation outstanding within all four units.

Supplemental Values

Squaw and Papoose Canyon, like neighboring Cross Canyon, is an important ecological island in a surrounding sea of lands altered by agriculture. There is a permanent water source in Squaw Creek, which is an enhancement in this predominantly arid region. Although no extensive cultural inventory has been completed, it is probable that many archaeological sites exist.

Squaw and Papoose Canyon



Cross Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
1,400	400	1,800 (69%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
700	90	790 (31%)
Inventory Unit Total		
2,100	490	2,590
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Cross Canyon WSA (UT-060-229/CO-030-265)		12,588

The Cross Canyon inventory unit is contiguous with the Cross Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA), which is situated in both Utah and Colorado (12,588 acres). Most of the Cross Canyon inventory unit (1,800 acres) has wilderness characteristics. The unit is a logical extension of the WSA, enhancing its outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive recreation—particularly hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, photography, and cultural exploration—along the perennial waters of Cross Canyon. However, part of the unit (790 acres) lacks wilderness characteristics because of previous road construction and a chaining.

Unit Description

The Cross Canyon inventory unit is located in eastern San Juan County, Utah, on the border of Colorado, approximately 30 miles southeast of Blanding. It is contiguous to the Utah and Colorado Cross Canyon WSA.

The Cross Canyon inventory unit encompasses the eastern half of Squaw Point and part of the western half of the Cross Canyon drainage. It is bounded by the Colorado state line on the east, the Cross Canyon Road (San Juan County Route 214) and private land, on the south, and the road across Squaw Point on the west and north. Vegetation consists primarily of juniper trees, along with some piñon pine, Mormon tea, and bitterbrush. Cottonwood, willows, and tamarisk thrive along the perennial waters of Cross Canyon.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Benches leading down to the perennial water in Cross Canyon appear predominantly natural, with human imprints being largely unnoticeable. However, Squaw Point was chained in the mid-1960s; although the plateau shows some signs of returning to a natural vegetative regime, the chaining is noticeable and the area is not natural. An old constructed route leads to the top of Squaw Point, forming the boundary of the area with wilderness characteristics.

The remainder of the unit appears essentially natural, with the exception of one cherry-stemmed road (.7 miles long) leading to a large stock pond.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit is contiguous with the Cross Canyon WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for solitude. There are opportunities for solitude in the side drainages of Cross Canyon, but given the small size of this unit, these opportunities are outstanding only in association with the contiguous WSA.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit is contiguous with the Cross Canyon WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The unit itself possesses opportunities for hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, photography, and visiting prehistoric cultural sites in a primitive setting. Because of the small size of this unit, however, these opportunities are outstanding only in association with the contiguous WSA.

Supplemental Values

Impressive archaeological sites, consisting of standing walls of core-and-veneer construction, are found in the unit. Although the chaining on Squaw Point destroyed several sites, those remaining are of such quality that they have been included in proposals for a regional Anasazi National Park. The permanent water source in Cross Canyon makes this area especially rich in wildlife.

CROSS CANYON— A view of the southern end of the Cross Canyon inventory unit.



BLM photo

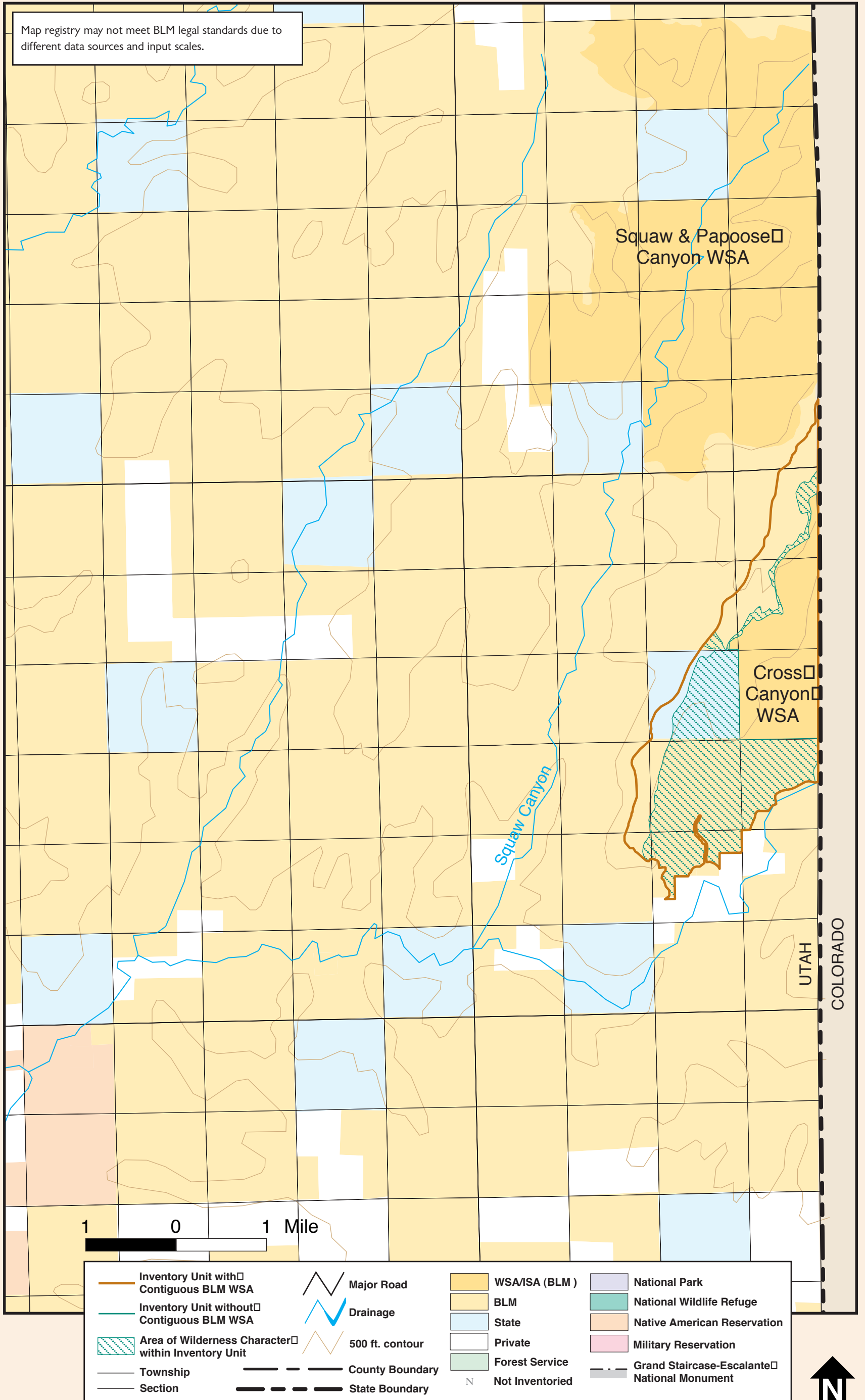
Cross Canyon

R 26 E

Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

T 37 S

T 38 S



UTAH
COLORADO

SOUTHEAST REGION—Cross Canyon



Dark Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
66,400	5,400	71,800 (99%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
1,000	0	1,000 (1%)
Inventory Unit Total		
67,400	5,400	72,800
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Dark Canyon WSA (ISA)		68,030
Canyonlands National Park— The Maze Area		18,100
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area—Dark Canyon Unit	105,980	
Dark-Woodenshoe Canyon Wilderness, Forest Service		45,000

The vast majority of the four Dark Canyon inventory units (71,800 acres) retain their wilderness characteristics. They are logical extensions of the contiguous Dark Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA), the Forest Service Dark-Woodenshoe Canyon Wilderness, and specific units of Canyonlands National Park and Glen Canyon National Recreation Area that have been administratively endorsed for wilderness by the National Park Service. However, Unit 4 (1,000 acres) does not have wilderness characteristics because it is isolated by a road and is not large enough to stand alone.

The inventory units offer a wide variety of outstanding primitive recreation opportunities, including extended off-trail travel in extremely remote and little-known areas. A substantial portion of the units' boundaries follows the edges of piñon and juniper chainings, which have been excluded from the units. A few older chainings, which are difficult to recognize on the ground, were found to be substantially unnoticeable and have been included within unit boundaries. Faint evidence of past oil and gas exploration, some current livestock facilities, and vehicle-based recreation impacts exist, but these are all substantially unnoticeable across the entire inventory area.

Unit Description

The Dark Canyon inventory units are located in San Juan County approximately 30 air miles from Monticello. The units are large and complex, stretching across ten 7.5-minute topographic maps and having well over 200 miles of boundaries. Several routes and chained areas have

been cherry-stemmed from the units. Terrain generally consists of plateaus, benches, and parks overlooking the large canyon systems that are within the contiguous WSA and designated Forest Service wilderness. Vegetation includes Douglas fir and ponderosa pine at 8,500 feet, substantial piñon and juniper woodlands, sagebrush parks, and riparian vegetation in drainages at 5,500 feet.

Current uses include hiking, backpacking, canyoneering, horseback riding, all-terrain vehicle use, hunting, photography, viewing of unique geological and archaeological features, and livestock grazing.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Units 1, 2, and 3 retain their natural character, given their extremely remote location. Vast portions of Unit 3, including the Sweet Alice Hills, Sweet Alice Canyon, Bull Valley, and Imperial Valley, appear untouched by human activity. In terms of naturalness, with the exception of Unit 4, all of the units are a logical extension of the contiguous WSA or designated wilderness. The 20 or so vehicle ways, the few scattered livestock facilities, and the recreational impacts from all-terrain vehicles and camping are all dispersed over large distances and are substantially unnoticeable. The inventory units have convoluted shapes because of the topographic boundaries of the contiguous WSA and a large number of long cherry-stems. Many of the cherry-stems contain substantial islands of disturbance, primarily from chaining projects.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The Dark Canyon inventory units provide outstanding opportunities for solitude because of their remote location, limited access, low use levels, and diverse terrain. Thick woodlands and deep canyons provide screening. The units are large and contiguous to several even larger roadless areas. In fact, the units are part of one of the largest and wildest roadless areas in the lower 48 states, thus creating intense feelings of isolation for those specifically seeking such opportunities. Many places offer a virtual guarantee of experiencing zero encounters with other visitors, even during the highest-use seasons.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Although the Dark Canyon inventory units do not contain the famous 2,000-foot deep canyons of the contiguous WSA, they nonetheless offer outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation of a different nature. These include hiking or horseback riding along the canyon rims, where distant views are panoramic and views into the canyon are spectacular. What makes these opportunities especially outstanding are the large number of cross-country travel options that can be used to diversify or connect a canyon-oriented trip, or to provide an extended all-upland trip that is completely off-trail.

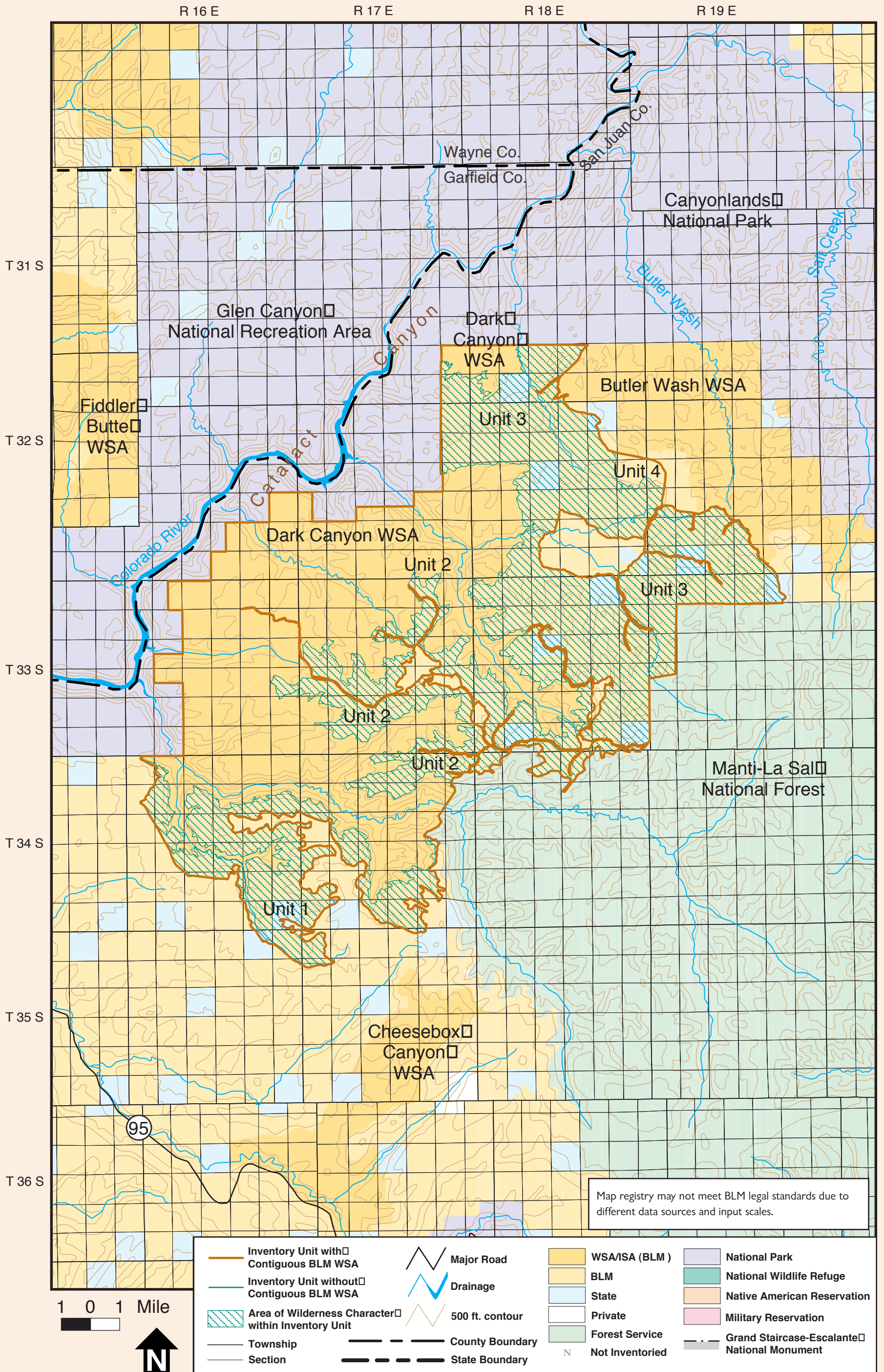
Fable Valley is relatively popular with backpackers and occasional horse packers because of the canyon's natural beauty and high concentration of archaeological sites. While most of Fable Valley is included in the Dark Canyon WSA, Units 2 and 3 provide the only access to this valley, including three trails that continue into the WSA. Accessing Fable Valley upstream from Gypsum Canyon is an extremely technical prospect that requires advanced rock-climbing ability. This and other portions of the inventory area are used by Outward Bound and other outdoor educational organizations.

Supplemental Values

Scenic values include expansive views of the 2,000-foot deep Dark and Gypsum Canyons, the colorful and unique buttes in Beef Basin, and, in the distance, the Henry Mountains, the Needles area of Canyonlands National Park, and Cataract Canyon along the Colorado River. The units contain a substantial concentration of prehistoric and historic ruins, many unusually situated in open parks instead of along cliffs. The units also contain several old cabins and named historic trails associated with early cowboy use, some of whom were fictionalized in one of Louis L'Amour's famous novels. Wildlife populations are relatively large and viewable, including several wilderness-associated species like bighorn sheep, peregrine falcons, and Mexican spotted owls.

A photograph of Dark Canyon is shown in the front part of this document on page vi.

Dark Canyon



SOUTHEAST REGION—Dark Canyon

Sheep Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
4,700	640	5,340 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
4,700	640	5,340
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Glen Canyon National Recreation Area's Dark Canyon		18,595

All 5,340 acres of the Sheep Canyon inventory unit retain their wilderness characteristics. The area is contiguous with the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area's Dark Canyon (18,595 acres), which has already been administratively endorsed for wilderness designation. The inventory unit has outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation when considered in conjunction with the adjacent National Recreation Area. The unit includes the popular Sundance Trail, which is the primary hiking access route to the lower end of Dark Canyon.

Unit Description

The Sheep Canyon inventory unit is located in San Juan County about 80 miles northwest of Blanding. It is separated from the adjacent Dark Canyon and Fort Knocker Canyon units by boundary roads.

The terrain consists of relatively flat benchland, sandstone outcrops, and the heads of two northward-draining canyons on the north. Vegetation is a sparse mixture of juniper and desert shrubs.

Hiking on the Sundance Trail, cattle grazing, and occasional car camping along boundary roads are the current uses.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The unit retains its natural character because of its remote location and roadless character. No known archaeological or geological features attract visitors or users to the area, along with their resulting impacts. Impacts to naturalness from six primitive campsites, two old seismic lines, a corral, and a stock pond are substantially unnoticeable.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The entire unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. Despite the unit's relatively flat terrain and small size,

enough screening exists from the topography and junipers to provide opportunities for solitude to the few visitors who venture into the interior. The contiguous Dark Canyon unit of Glen Canyon National Recreation Area enhances opportunities for solitude.

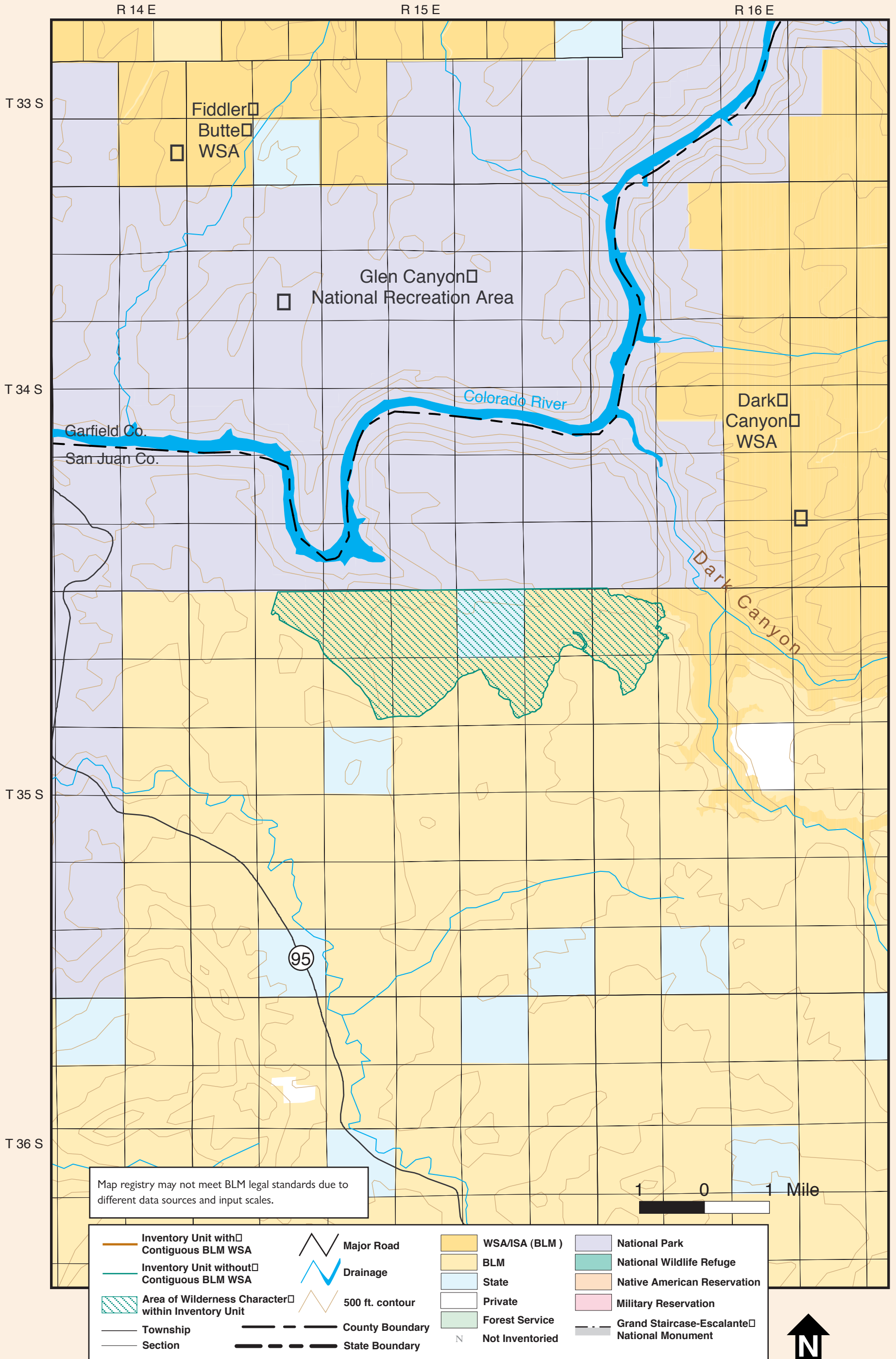
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Opportunities for dispersed recreation are outstanding. The Sundance Trail provides a challenging day hike or overnight backpacking opportunity. The rim of Sheep Canyon on the north offers views of the Mille Crag Bend in Lake Powell. Numerous scenic view points and potential campsites with outstanding views of Dark Canyon are just a short hike from the boundary. Travel into Sheep Canyon requires ropes and advanced canyon hiking abilities.

Supplemental Values

The unit offers a spectacular view from its northern edge into Dark Canyon and Lake Powell. The original Sundance Road along the eastern boundary may be of historical interest.

Sheep Canyon



SOUTHEAST REGION—Sheep Canyon

Shafer Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
1,900	0	1,900 (56%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
1,200	300	1,500 (44%)
Inventory Unit Total		
3,100	300	3,400
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Canyonlands National Park-Shafer Canyon Unit		2,320

Part of BLM's Shafer Canyon inventory unit (1,900 acres) has wilderness characteristics in conjunction with the contiguous Shafer Canyon Unit of Canyonlands National Park, which has been administratively endorsed for wilderness by the National Park Service (NPS). The BLM inventory unit includes the red-rock cliffs immediately below Dead Horse Point State Park.

A total of 1,500 acres lacks wilderness characteristics because of impacts upon naturalness from uranium mining, oil and gas exploration, and other activities.

Unit Description

The Shafer Canyon inventory unit is located along the border of San Juan and Grand Counties about 15 air miles southwest of Moab (1 hour by vehicle). Most of the unit's northern boundary is adjacent to Dead Horse Point State Park. On its western side, in the East Fork of Shafer Canyon, the unit is contiguous with the Shafer Canyon Unit of Canyonlands National Park. The eastern portion of the

inventory unit is basin-like and includes the lower portions of the cliffs and talus slopes below Dead Horse Point State Park, as well as a larger open area of small ravines and gently sloping flats between the talus slopes and the Potash boundary road. The south-central portion of the unit is almost all cliffs and talus slopes between the Dead Horse Point State Park boundary and the Potash road. Overall, the unit is characterized by reddish bare-rock surfaces on the cliffs and talus slopes, with sparse, low-growing vegetation on the flatter areas. Utah junipers are widely scattered in protected areas.

The unit is highly visible as the immediate foreground view from Dead Horse Point State Park. The Potash boundary road provides access to the Shafer and White Rim trails in Canyonlands National Park and is frequently used by commercial four-wheel drive tour operators, drivers of off-highway vehicles, and mountain bikers. Several areas along the south-central part of the unit are used as vehicle-accessible campsites. Desert bighorn sheep, known to occupy the unit, are hunted when permits are available. The area is currently leased for livestock grazing, and there is evidence of past uranium exploration and oil and gas drilling in portions of the unit.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the western portion of the unit is natural, with the exception of the disturbed and still noticeable uranium exploration area in the northwestern corner of the East Fork of Shafer Canyon. The eastern part of the area has lost its natural character, primarily as a result of past uranium

mining and oil and gas exploration, as well as its proximity to potash mining operations.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Most of the western portion of the unit has outstanding opportunities for solitude in conjunction with the contiguous Shafer Canyon Unit in Canyonlands National Park, which has been endorsed by the NPS for wilderness designation.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

A portion of the unit provides outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation when considered in conjunction with the contiguous Shafer Canyon Unit of Canyonlands National Park, which has been endorsed by the NPS for wilderness designation. In the natural part of the western portion of the unit, there are opportunities for hiking, viewing unusual rock formations, and primitive camping in the East Fork of Shafer Canyon. The rest of the natural portion is either all cliff and talus slope or immediately adjacent to the well-traveled Potash road. Desert bighorn sheep are hunted in the unit when permits are available.

Supplemental Values

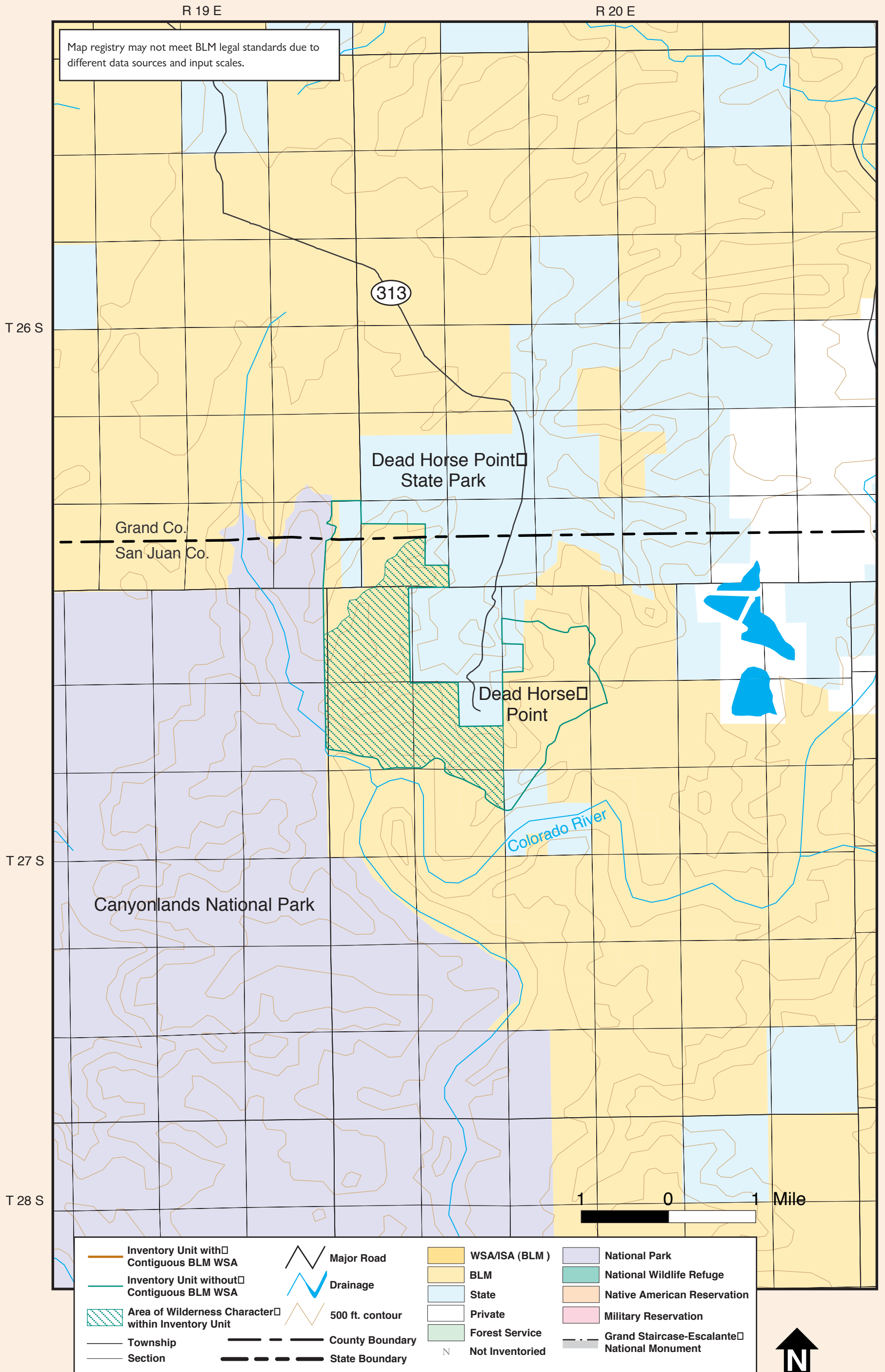
The talus slopes and red-rock cliffs of the unit are highly visible scenic areas from Dead Horse Point State Park and the Potash boundary road. The unit contains both desert bighorn sheep and peregrine falcon populations. Petrified wood associated with the Chinle formation is also found in the area.

SHAHER CANYON—The highly scenic sandstone cliffs north of the Shafer Trail are just one of the area's outstanding features.



Jerry Sintz

Shafer Canyon



Indian Creek

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
19,000	2,640	21,640 (88%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
1,850	1,170	3,020 (12%)
Inventory Unit Total		
20,850	3,810	24,660
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Indian Creek WSA (UT-060-164)		6,870
Canyonlands National Park— The Maze Area		105,980

Approximately 21,640 acres of the four Indian Creek inventory units have wilderness characteristics, including a portion of Indian Creek Canyon with its labyrinth of tributary drainages. Roads divide the area into four units. Each unit is contiguous either to the Indian Creek Wilderness Study Area (WSA) or to the Maze area of Canyonlands National Park, which has been recommended for wilderness by the National Park Service (NPS). Consequently, all four units are part of a large and exceptionally scenic wild area. About 3,020 acres lack wilderness characteristics because of disturbance from off-highway vehicle activity, camping, and mineral exploration.

INDIAN CREEK—Heavily dissected canyons and drainages and colorful geologic features are found in this exceptionally scenic wild area.

Unit Description

The Indian Creek inventory units are located along the eastern side of Canyonlands National Park and the Indian Creek WSA. They are within San Juan County and are located about 20 air miles southwest of Moab. For the most part, the units consist of a labyrinth of canyons, draws, and small buttes of mostly bare sandstone separated by flatter open areas and benches. The two most prominent features are Indian Creek, with its riparian vegetation, and Lockhart Canyon. Vegetation includes cottonwood and tamarisk in drainage bottoms and blackbrush and Utah junipers on the flats and benches.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

All four inventory units are primarily natural in character. While each unit shows disturbance from off-highway vehicle use, camping, and mining exploration, these impacts are largely confined to fringe areas along the roads separating the four units. Within the upper reaches of Indian Creek in the southeastern corner of Unit 4, a large area has been impacted by off-highway vehicle use and mining exploration and has thus lost its natural character. However, the complex and remote canyons and benches in the majority of this unit show only minor evidence of human presence, either past or present.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The natural portions of the units have outstanding opportunities for solitude. They are heavily dissected by canyons and small drainages. The large number of hiking routes in canyons, along benches, and across small plateaus make it easy to find secluded spots. The opportunities for solitude within the units are supplemented by those found in the contiguous WSA and the Maze area of Canyonlands National Park.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The natural portions of the units provide outstanding opportunities for hiking and backpacking, with a choice of many different routes. The scenic and geologic features of the area invite exploration. Routes may be extended by making use of the contiguous WSA and the Maze area of Canyonlands National Park.

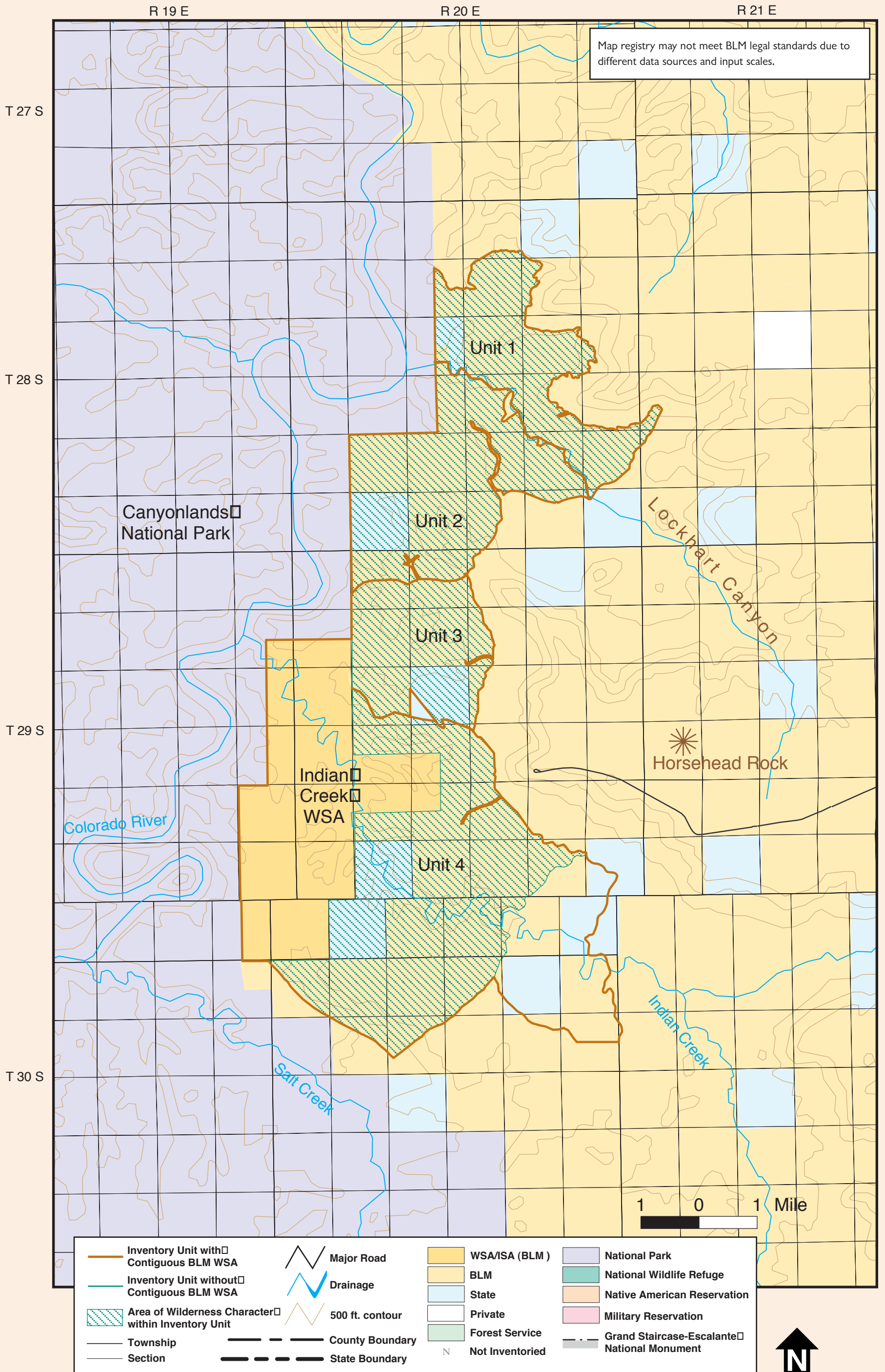
Supplemental Values

The units contain a portion of Indian Creek, an intermittent stream with many tributary canyons. The area provides scenic landforms and features similar to parts of the Maze area in Canyonlands National Park. Desert bighorn sheep are known to inhabit the area, and peregrine falcons may also be present.



Jerry Sintz

Indian Creek



SOUTHEAST REGION—Indian Creek

Harts Point

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
18,000	1,700	19,700 (27%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
45,200	7,300	52,500 (73%)
Inventory Unit Total		
63,200	9,000	72,200
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

Most of the Harts Point inventory unit (52,500 acres) has lost its wilderness characteristics. The area without wilderness characteristics contains numerous roads, seismic lines, drill pads, evidence of past uranium exploration/mining, substantially noticeable vehicle ways, and livestock facilities.

The area with wilderness characteristics (19,700 acres) remains largely natural, with only a few substantially unnoticeable mineral exploration impacts that are revegetating. The inner core of the unit with wilderness characteristics contains portions of three prominent geographic features: Harts Point Plateau, Harts Draw, and Rone Bailey Mesa. Outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation exist in the natural portion of the unit. While large portions clearly do not have wilderness characteristics, the heart of the unit obviously contains high quality wilderness values. The use of topographic features was determined to be the

best method for distinguishing the boundary around those lands having wilderness characteristics.

Unit Description

The Harts Point inventory unit is located in San Juan County about 30 miles north of Monticello. The terrain consists of a large northward-draining canyon, a high plateau with continuous cliffs on its west and north sides, and a prominent mesa in the northeast corner. Vegetation varies from piñon and juniper woodlands at 6,500 feet to desert shrub and grass communities at 4,800 feet. Several perennial streams and springs support cottonwood trees. Tamarisk is the dominant riparian vegetation.

Current uses include rock climbing, woodcutting, use of off-highway vehicles, camping, hiking, and cattle grazing.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

A portion of the unit retains its natural character because of its remote location, rugged terrain, and challenging vehicle access. This natural portion receives far less vehicle-based recreation use than the remaining portions. Vegetation growth and screening is also greater in this portion of the unit.

Most of the remaining area has lost its natural character because of the presence

of over 50 roads, additional vehicle ways regularly driven by the public and livestock managers, a proliferation of constructed and maintained livestock management facilities, extensive oil and gas exploration impacts, and other readily apparent historical surface-disturbing activities.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Portions of the unit provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. These opportunities are greatest in Harts Draw and at the northern end of Harts Point. However, opportunities for solitude are limited along Utah Highway 211 because of noticeable human activity at a popular rock-climbing area and a major tourist attraction at Newspaper Rock.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Opportunities for easy day hiking from many scenic campsites are excellent. Day hiking and backpacking opportunities exist in Harts Draw, with an overnight stay common to access the middle of the canyon.

Supplemental Values

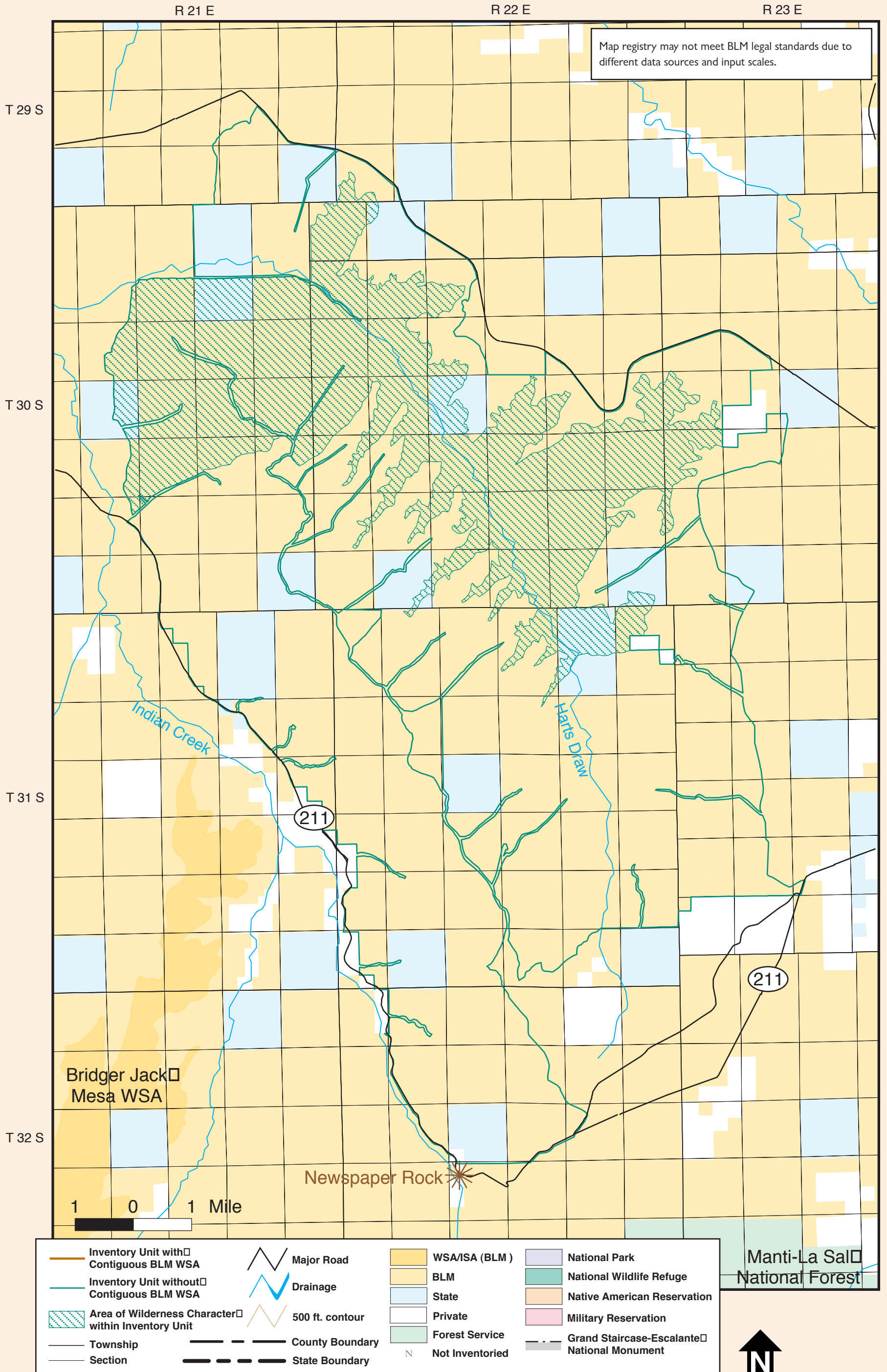
Scenic quality is high for the entire unit, with expansive views of the La Sal Mountains, the Needles District of Canyonlands National Park, and sheer 1,000-foot red rock cliffs. The unit contains several well-known rock art and geologic attractions.

HARTS POINT—Many opportunities exist in the inventory unit to view the scenic canyon cliffs of Harts Draw.



BLM photo

Harts Point



SOUTHEAST REGION—Harts Point

Bridger Jack Mesa

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
23,500	2,900	26,400 (86%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
3,800	480	4,280 (14%)
Inventory Unit Total		
27,300	3,380	30,680
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Bridger Jack Mesa WSA (UT-060-167)		5,290
Canyonlands National Park-Needles Unit		61,182

About 26,400 acres of the Sixshooters (Unit 1), Lavender Mesa (Unit 2), and Lavender Creek/Bridger Jack Mesa Cliffs (Unit 3) portions of the Bridger Jack Mesa inventory units have wilderness characteristics. The remaining 4,280 acres lack wilderness characteristics, including three small areas along the boundary of Unit 2, a portion of Unit 3 from the west side of Lavender Creek Wash to the bench west of Bridger Jack Mesa, and portions of Unit 3 off of San Juan County's Cottonwood Canyon Road. The three units include the major red-rock scenic cliffs and the Sixshooter Peaks located south of Utah Highway 211.

Unit Description

The Bridger Jack Mesa inventory units are located entirely within San Juan County about 20 air miles northwest of Monticello along the southeastern side of Canyonlands National Park. All three units are contiguous to an area in the Park that has been administratively endorsed by the National Park Service for wilderness designation. Unit 3 is also contiguous to and surrounds the Bridger Jack Mesa Wilderness Study Area (WSA). The units encompass a variety of landforms, including mesas, buttes, canyons, and valleys. Lavender Mesa, with its sheer walls of Wingate sandstone, is the area's dominant feature. Vegetation includes riparian plants such as cottonwood and tamarisk as well as low-growing desert plants such as sage, rabbitbrush, and blackbrush on the flats and benches. Juniper trees are highly scattered at lower elevations, with denser stands of piñon and juniper at higher elevations.

Visitors heading for Davis and Lavender Canyons in Canyonlands National Park travel by vehicle between the inventory units. Car camping along the park border occurs within both of these canyons in the inventory units. Current uses include

recreation and livestock grazing. Past uses included uranium mining and exploration along the bench west of the Bridger Jack Mesa WSA boundary and along the east side of Lavender Mesa. The Dugout Ranch, which The Nature Conservancy recently purchased, is adjacent to the units.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of Units 1 and 2 are natural. These natural areas include the major red-rock scenic cliffs and peaks south of Utah Scenic Byway 211, as well as the upper portion of the Dry Fork of Lavender Creek. In all three units, the natural areas are contiguous with the Bridger Jack Mesa WSA or with lands recommended for wilderness designation within Canyonlands National Park. Two vehicle routes and a large unnatural area within Unit 3 separate the natural portions of the units. The large unnatural area on the west side of Unit 3 contains uranium exploration and mining impacts, off-highway vehicle impacts, and multiple roads and vehicle ways. Other portions of Unit 3 were also found to be unnatural because of similar impacts and old chainings. Small portions of Unit 2 were found to be unnatural as the result of uranium mining.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The Sixshooters, Lavender Mesa, and upper Dry Fork of Lavender Creek portions of the inventory units are contiguous with the Needles Unit of Canyonlands National Park, which has been recommended for wilderness. In combination with the Needles Unit, the Sixshooters area and the upper Dry Fork of Lavender Creek contain outstanding opportunities for solitude. The Lavender Mesa unit, with its many side canyons, juniper benches, and isolated mesa tops, contains outstanding opportunities for solitude on its own. The natural portion of the

Lavender Creek/Bridger Jack Mesa Cliffs unit surrounds the Bridger Jack Mesa WSA. In combination with this WSA, the natural portion of this unit has outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Opportunities for climbing the North and South Sixshooter Peaks in Unit 1 are outstanding. There are also some opportunities for hiking and horseback riding. Opportunities for hiking, climbing, primitive camping, and viewing cultural resources in the Lavender Mesa and upper Dry Fork of Lavender Creek units are outstanding when considered in conjunction with the contiguous Needles Unit in Canyonlands National Park. The natural portion of the Lavender Creek/Bridger Jack Mesa Cliffs area, when considered along with the Bridger Jack Mesa WSA, also has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Supplemental Values

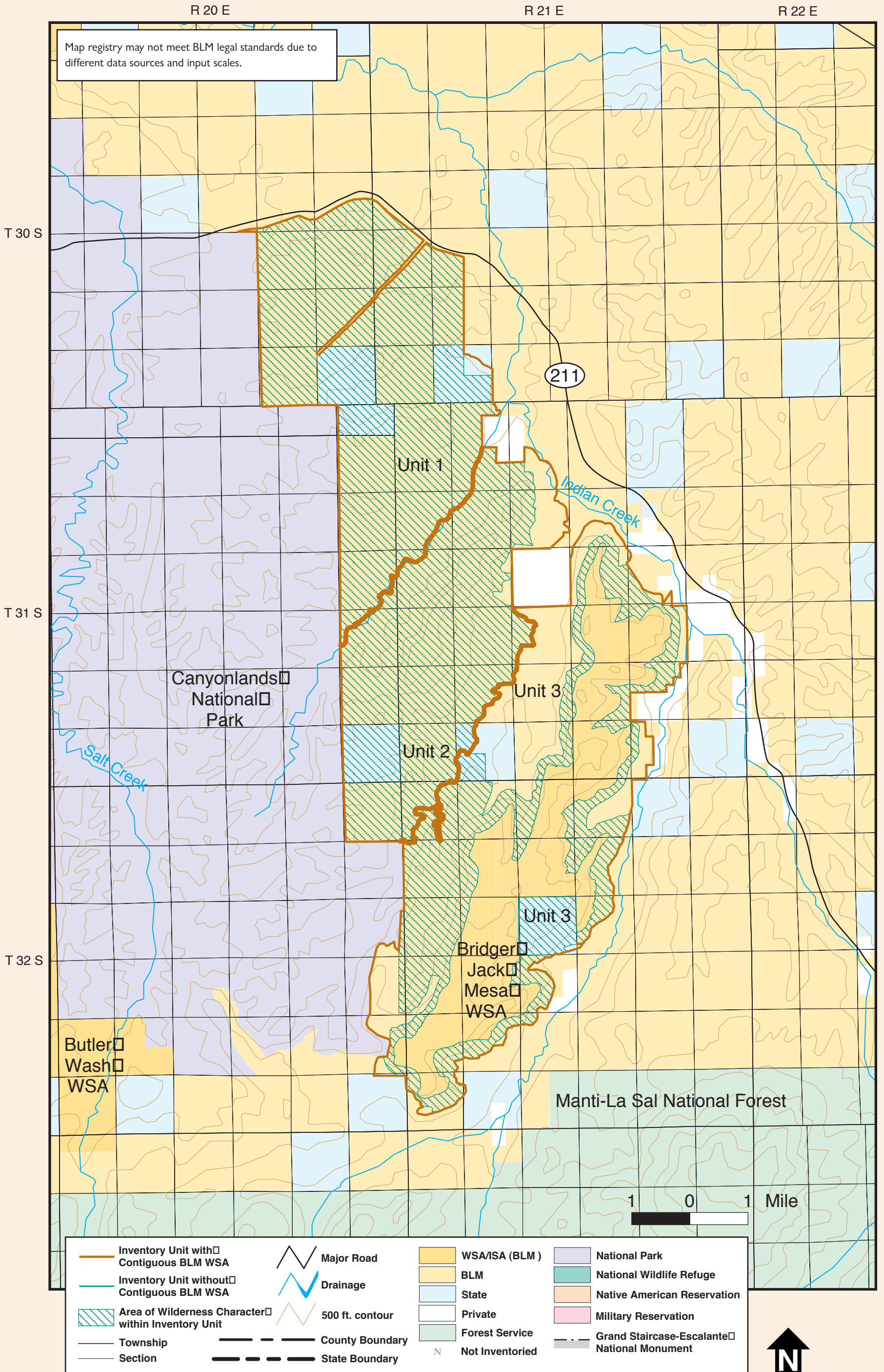
Lavender Mesa, being virtually inaccessible, has undisturbed vegetation that may have research value. Lavender Mesa, North Sixshooter Peak, and South Sixshooter Peak are highly scenic and form a long segment of the view along Utah Scenic Byway 211 to Canyonlands National Park. Other scenic features within the units include at least one large natural arch and one natural bridge. The area is habitat for several species of raptors, including golden eagles and possibly peregrine falcons. Well-preserved cliff dwellings and other outstanding cultural resources are also present.



BRIDGER JACK MESA—One of many scenic highlights of these units, North Sixshooter Peak looms in the background.

Jerry Sintz

Bridger Jack Mesa



Butler Wash

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
2,000	1,780	3,780 (78%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
1,000	40	1,040 (22%)
Inventory Unit Total		
3,000	1,820	4,820
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Canyonlands National Park—		
The Needles Unit		61,182
Butler Wash WSA (UT-060-169)		24,190
South Needles WSA (UT-060-169A)		160

Most of the five Butler Wash inventory units (3,780 acres) have wilderness characteristics. Units 1 and 3 are entirely roadless and natural. However, portions of Units 2 and 4 and all of Unit 5 (1,040 acres total) lack wilderness characteristics because of roads, a substantially noticeable livestock water pipeline system, a chaining project, and oil and gas exploration impacts. The units with wilderness characteristics have outstanding opportunities for solitude, which are enhanced by the contiguous Butler Wash Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and the South Needles WSA. Opportunities for primitive recreation are also outstanding; extended backpacking trips can be taken through the units and two WSAs into a remote corner of the Needles Section of Canyonlands National Park.

BUTLER WASH— Opportunities exist for extended backpacking trips through the scenic inventory units, as well as through the contiguous Butler Wash WSA, into a remote corner of the Needles Section of Canyonlands National Park.

Unit Description

The Butler Wash inventory units are located in San Juan County about 55 miles west of Monticello. The five separate units are contiguous to either the Butler Wash WSA or the South Needles WSA. Terrain consists of relatively small flat mesas and shallow canyons that deepen and drain to the north. Vegetation is predominantly piñon and juniper woodland interspersed with sagebrush parks. Hiking, camping, viewing of archaeological sites, and cattle grazing are all current uses.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Units 1 and 3 are natural. However, portions of Units 2 and 4 are unnatural because of roads, livestock-related developments, and disturbance from mining and oil and gas exploration. The portions of these units that appear natural overall contain a few substantially unnoticeable fences and five short vehicle ways leading to primitive campsites. Unit 5 contains a chaining that is unnatural in appearance. In addition, Units 4 and 5 are contiguous with BLM land recommended suitable for wilderness in 1991 to protect adjacent National Park values.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The five units are contiguous to and form an extension of the Butler Wash WSA and

a portion of the Needles Section of Canyonlands National Park that has been administratively endorsed for wilderness. The WSA and National Park Service (NPS) areas have already been determined to possess outstanding opportunities for solitude. The remoteness, varied topography, and vegetative screening of the Butler Wash inventory units further enhance these solitude opportunities.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The units offer outstanding opportunities for beginning or ending high-quality extended backpacking trips into the contiguous Butler Wash WSA and the Needles Section of Canyonlands National Park. Although dramatic scenery and challenge is found mostly within the contiguous areas, the Butler Wash inventory units also have outstanding opportunities when considered in combination with the WSA and NPS lands. Day hikes or horse-back rides from the boundary road can involve off-trail travel to spectacular viewpoints as well as to archaeological features. The roadless and open sagebrush parks provide a diverse setting for primitive recreation, in contrast with the dramatic topography and deep canyons to the north.

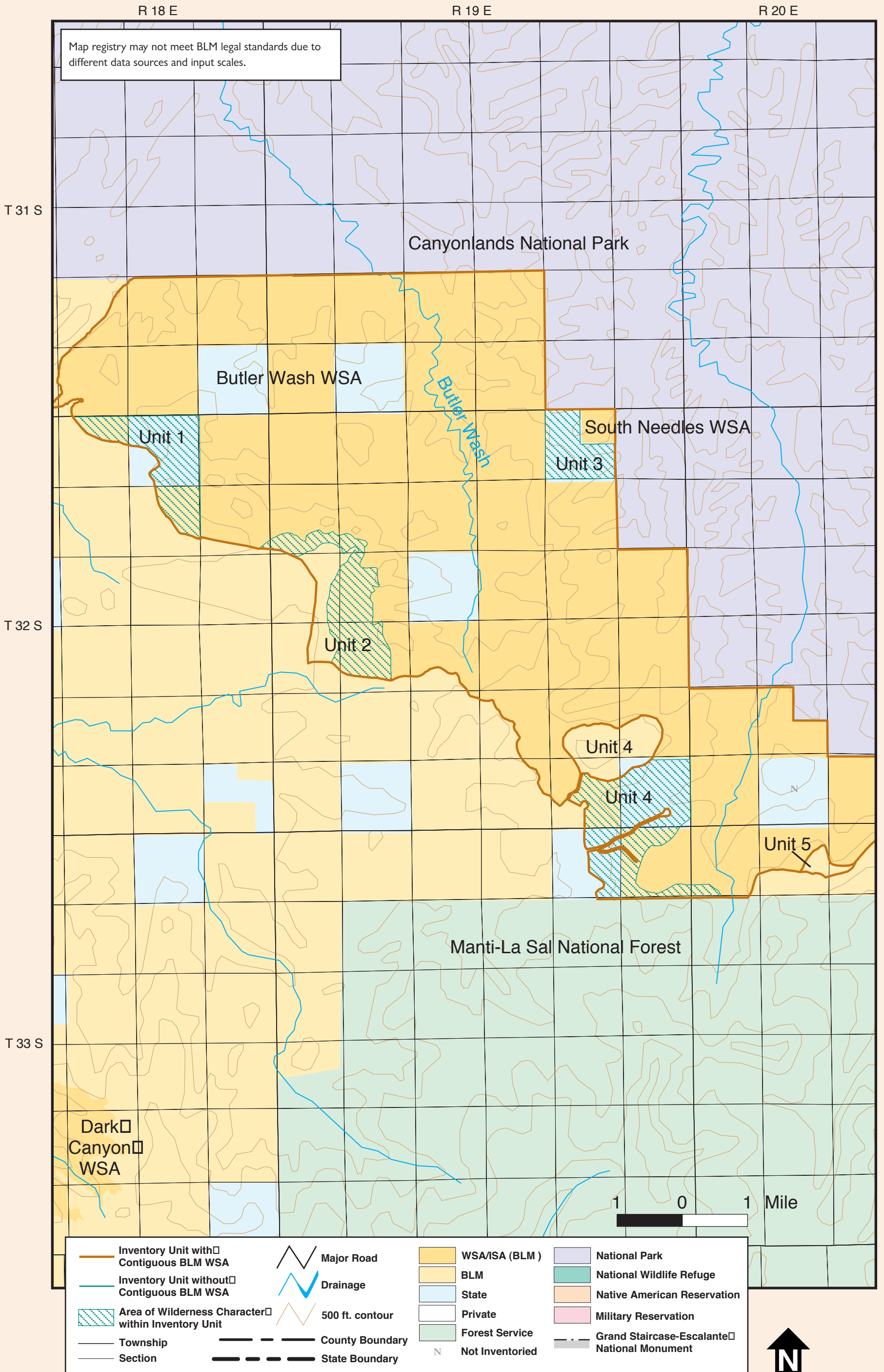
Supplemental Values

Scenic quality is high for most of the five units. There are expansive views into Canyonlands National Park and Beef Basin. The units also contain a number of well-preserved archaeological sites.



BLM photo

Butler Wash



Gooseneck

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
4,800	60	4,860 (52%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
4,100	300	4,400 (48%)
Inventory Unit Total		
8,900	360	9,260
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Canyonlands National Park		
Little Bridge Canyon Unit		5,100
The Maze Unit		105,980

The southern portion of the Gooseneck inventory unit, an area of approximately 4,860 acres, has wilderness characteristics when considered in conjunction with two contiguous National Park Service (NPS) areas that have already been administratively endorsed for wilderness. The unit includes the Gooseneck, a highly scenic entrenched meander of the Colorado River that is widely recognized as "the view" from Dead Horse Point State Park.

The remaining 4,400 acres, including the area north of the Chicken Corners Road, lacks wilderness characteristics. This northern area is roaded and no longer natural because of oil and gas exploration, film location access, stock pond construction, and the use of vehicles for camping, sightseeing, and off-road driving.

Unit Description

The Gooseneck inventory unit is located entirely within San Juan County about 15 air miles southwest of Moab (1.5 hours by four-wheel drive). On its western boundary, it is contiguous to two areas in Canyonlands National Park (CNP). The northwestern part of the unit borders the Little Bridge Canyon NPS area, while the southwestern part of the unit borders the Maze Unit. The Colorado River is the most prominent feature of the Gooseneck inventory unit, with Pyramid Butte being another well-known landmark. Overall, the unit is characterized by barren reddish sandstone buttes and cliffs; several large, relatively flat areas dominated by blackbrush; and an area of riparian vegetation along the Colorado River. Utah juniper trees are scattered in protected areas.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the southern portion of the unit, south of the Chicken Corners road, as well as the western part of the unit are natural in character. This portion includes the Gooseneck, the canyon of the Colorado River, and the flats and red rock escarpment south of the Chicken Corners Road. On the other hand, the natural character of the northeastern portion of the unit has been significantly impacted from past potash mining, stock pond construction, old petroleum exploration, film location access, and the use of vehicles for camping, sightseeing, and off-road driving.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The Gooseneck inventory unit has outstanding opportunities for solitude in conjunction with the two contiguous units in CNP that have already been administratively endorsed for wilderness designation.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Opportunities exist for traveling by canoe and camping along the Colorado River. There are also opportunities for short day hikes, such as the hike from the end of the Chicken Corners Road to the Gooseneck.

Supplemental Values

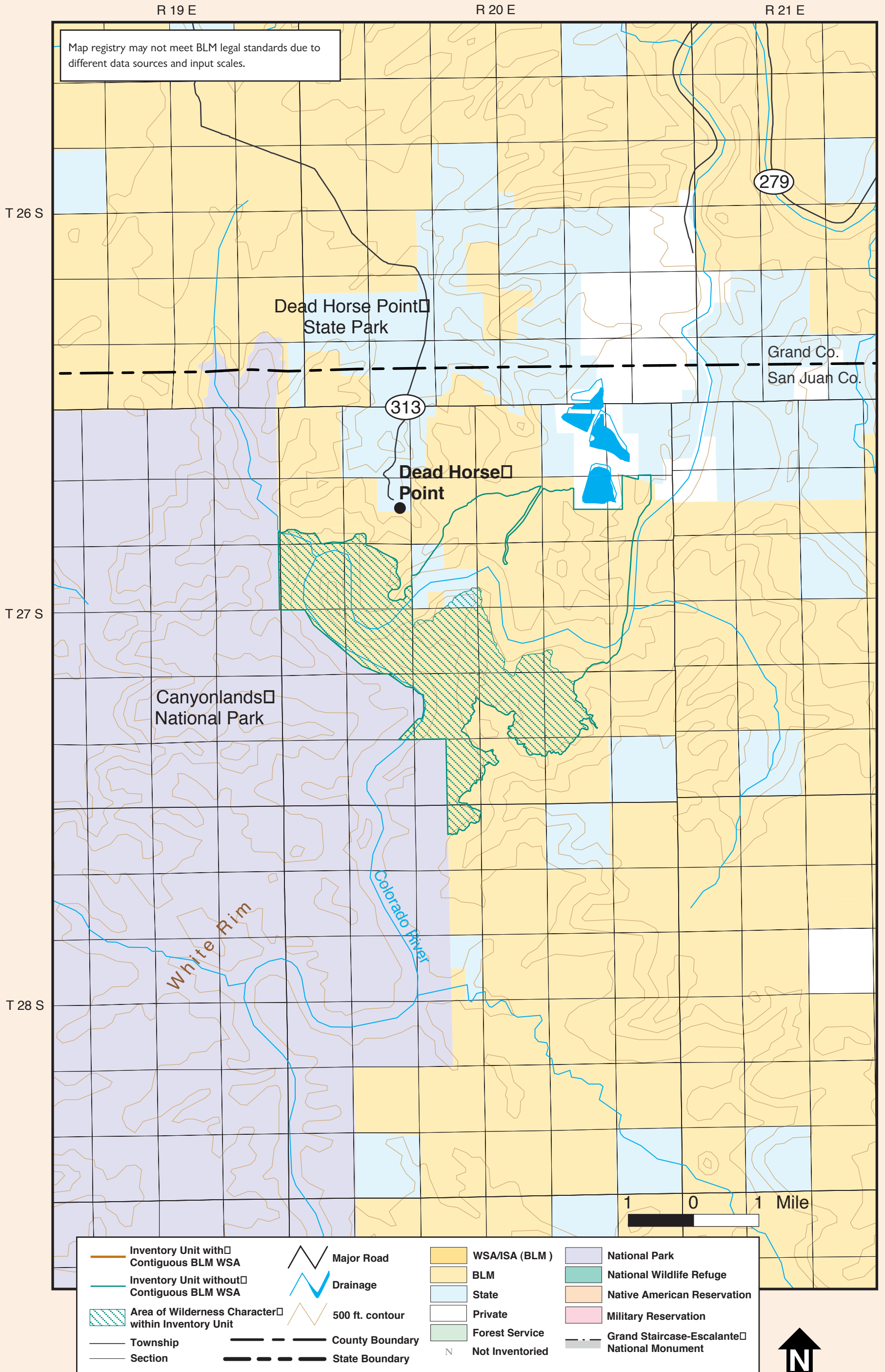
The Colorado River is the main feature of the unit. Within the unit, the river becomes deeply entrenched in a steep-walled red and gray canyon. Many features are highly scenic, including the talus slopes, red rock cliffs, and the Gooseneck, a large meander loop of the Colorado River. These landforms are widely publicized as "the view" from Dead Horse Point State Park. Bighorn sheep and peregrine falcons use portions of the unit. Petrified wood can be found in its northern portion.

GOOSENECK—From "the view" at Dead Horse Point State Park, the highly scenic, entrenched meander of the Colorado River known as the Gooseneck is clearly visible.



Jerry Sintz

Gooseneck



Goldbar

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
6,500	1,600	8,100 (54%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
6,600	400	7,000 (46%)
Inventory Unit Total		
13,100	2,000	15,100
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

A portion of the Goldbar inventory unit (8,100 acres) has wilderness characteristics. Its core area, which is composed of several major canyons and their numerous branches, is roadless, predominately natural, and spectacular. Surrounding eroded sandstone formations, including several arches and many other intriguing erosional features, add to the unit's outstanding qualities. The rugged, broken landscape gives a feeling of remote solitude almost immediately upon entering it.

Approximately 7,000 acres located in the east and north do not have wilderness characteristics because of a proliferation of vehicle routes. In addition, part of this area is separated from the unit's core either by roads or by a railroad right-of-way.

Unit Description

Goldbar is immediately west of Moab and north of the Colorado River. The unit includes the cliffs of Poison Spider Mesa and a series of canyons. Other erosional features include Long Canyon and the Dry Fork of Bull Canyon, which is north and west of the river. Six canyon systems with numerous branches and forks, five named arches, and numerous spectacular sandstone features carved from the Navajo Formation are found within the unit. The Wingate and Kayenta Formations are exposed in some of the deeper canyons, such as Day Canyon in the west. Vegetation includes juniper and some piñon in pockets of soil scattered throughout the mostly sandstone surface. Cottonwoods, tamarisk, and other riparian species are found in the canyons.

Current uses of the area include hiking and exploring the canyons and arches, mountain biking, and off-highway vehicle (OHV) driving. Marked trails exist for hiking, mountain biking, and OHV use. Portions of the Poison Spider Mesa routes

and the Golden Spike trail are within the unit. Livestock grazing and associated range developments occur in parts of the unit, and substantial mining activity has taken place in the past in its northwestern corner. The tunnel right-of-way for the Potash mine railroad is also within the unit.

The higher cliff terrain in the northeast portion provides panoramic views of the Moab Valley, Arches National Park, and Behind the Rocks Wilderness Study Area.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

A portion of the inventory unit retains its natural character and shows little evidence of human presence. The area west of the railroad right-of-way and south of the Golden Spike route contains an area of slickrock, canyons, cliffs, and monoliths that is almost entirely natural in appearance. One cherry-stemmed road between Day Canyon and Long Canyon receives little use and does not intrude into the canyons. An old road and some mining exploration scars in Day Canyon are revegetating and are substantially unnoticeable in this large and spectacular canyon. The route is no longer accessible by vehicles and is difficult to find because of vegetation at the mouth of the canyon. The extreme upper end of the Dry Fork of Bull Canyon, ending in spectacular cliffs and an 800-foot pour-off, is also natural in character.

The remaining portions of the unit west and north of the Golden Spike route and east of the railroad right-of-way are separated from the "core" natural area. These portions contain some areas that have been heavily impacted by roads and other vehicle routes.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The natural portion of the unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude in its series of branching canyons and rugged sandstone outcrops. Although this portion of the area is

bounded by a heavily traveled route and a railroad right-of-way, the terrain is such that the area provides an exceptional sense of solitude. Winding canyons, steep cliff walls, and broken slickrock benches shut out all but the immediate vicinity.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit contains outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Opportunities are exceptional for hiking, exploring the maze of canyons and sandstone benches, sightseeing, and photographing the spectacular canyons, sandstone formations, and arches. Close proximity to the city of Moab makes these opportunities even more outstanding.

Supplemental Values

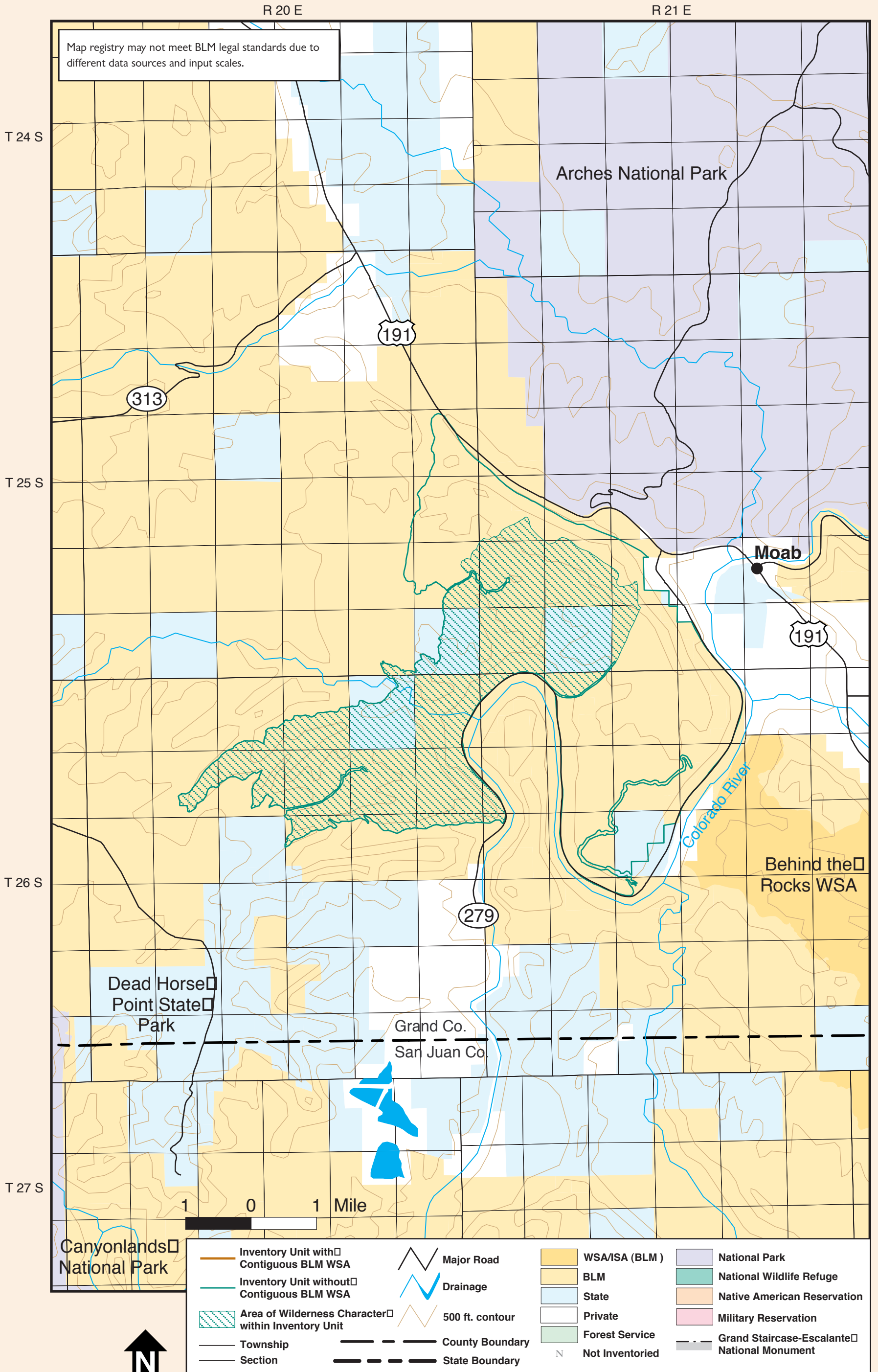
In addition to its arches (Corona Arch, Bowtie Arch, Goldbar or Jeep Arch, Jughandle Arch, and Pinto Arch), this unit contains a maze of twisting canyons and unusual rock formations. Rock-art panels and other cultural sites can also be found. Dinosaur footprints are located just off the Potash Road, and bighorn sheep can be found in the Long Canyon area.

GOLDBAR—Bowtie Arch is just one of the many geologic features contributing to the spectacular scenery of the Goldbar inventory unit.



Jerry Sintz

Goldbar



Behind the Rocks

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
3,400	500	3,900 (45%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
4,400	500	4,900 (55%)
Inventory Unit Total		
7,800	1,000	8,800
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Behind the Rocks WSA (UT-060-140A)		12,635

About 4,900 acres of the two Behind the Rocks inventory units lack wilderness characteristics, while approximately 3,900 acres do have wilderness characteristics based on their roadless nature and natural appearance. The portions with wilderness characteristics enhance the contiguous Behind the Rocks Wilderness Study Area (WSA).

Numerous connecting seismic lines, other oil and gas exploration impacts, recreational impacts, and roads dominate the portions of the units found not to have wilderness characteristics. Recreational impacts, in particular, have intensified over the last decade. Instead of being reclaimed naturally, these impacts remain substantially noticeable, primarily because of high use levels from the nearby community of Moab.

Unit Description

The Behind the Rocks inventory units are located in San Juan and Grand Counties less than a mile west of Moab. The Behind the Rocks WSA separates the inventory units into two units, one on the east and one on the west side of the WSA. The western unit (Unit 1) is adjacent to the Hunter Canyon inventory unit, separated by a road. The topography of the western unit consists of large red-rock fins, domes, and knobs cut by several sandy drainages flowing into Hunter Canyon. Vegetation in the western unit is primarily piñon and juniper, with scattered brush-dominated parks. The topography of the eastern unit (Unit 2) consists of a dramatic 1,000-foot red-rock cliff that also forms a scenic backdrop for Moab. Vegetation in the eastern unit is sparse, consisting of a few isolated brush and weed plants. Current uses include substantial jeep and mountain bike use, some all-terrain vehicle and motorcycle use, day hiking, and livestock grazing in the western unit. The eastern unit contains the popular Moab Rim and Hidden Valley trails, which are easily accessible from Moab.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Portions of the inventory units retain their natural character. The areas with natural character are extremely rugged, consisting of a 1,000-foot vertical cliff above Moab and the upper portion of Hunters Canyon. These areas are inaccessible to four-wheeled vehicles and, in many cases, also to mountain bikes. The area without natural character is dominated by a large number of interconnected, substantially noticeable seismic lines, constructed drill pads, roads, and vehicle ways.

Most of the eastern unit is natural, being a continuous, unscarred vertical cliff-face. One small area within the eastern unit, however, does not have wilderness characteristics; it is cut off from the rest of the unit by a road and from the WSA by another road. This area contains a large number of vehicle and mountain bike "play areas," as well as shortcuts between the two roads. Most of the western unit does not have wilderness characteristics because of the previously noted high density of seismic lines, constructed drill pads, roads, and vehicle ways, many of which interconnect.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory units are contiguous to and are an extension of the Behind the

Rocks WSA. The two inventory units have outstanding opportunities for solitude when considered in conjunction with the WSA.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Portions of the inventory units provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation that complement and are a logical continuation of similar opportunities available in the contiguous WSA. There are opportunities for cross-country hiking, geologic and cultural sightseeing, and photography. In addition, the units provide opportunities for rock scrambling and climbing within walking distance of the community of Moab. The units contain the popular Moab Rim and Hidden Valley trails, which access the contiguous WSA.

In the eastern unit, the Hidden Valley and Moab Rim trails provide foot access through the only practical slots along a continuous 1,000-foot cliff face. Ambitious and skilled individuals can scramble off the trail to reach isolated scenic viewpoints and rock art panels. The western unit contains extensions of the same types of tall, narrow fins located within the WSA. These fins form isolated and interconnecting passageways that create interesting off-trail travel routes.

Supplemental Values

The inventory units have spectacular scenic viewpoints overlooking the Colorado River, from which surrounding geographic features such as the La Sal Mountains and Arches and Canyonlands National Parks can be seen. The units'

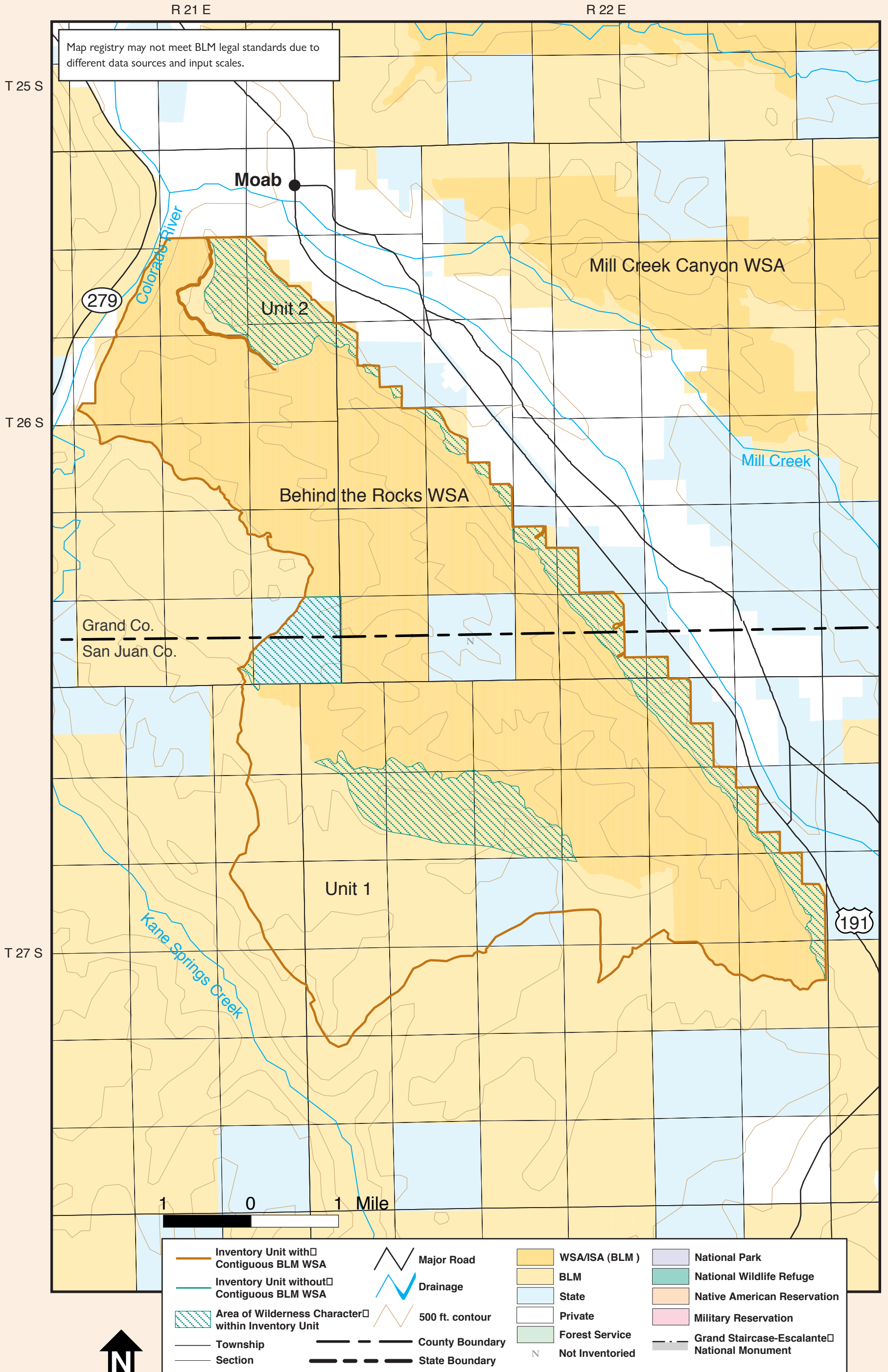
scenic cliffs form the backdrop to the community of Moab. The units also contain large arches, alcoves, spectacular rock-art panels, and paleontologic resources.



BEHIND THE ROCKS—The inventory unit and contiguous Behind The Rocks WSA contain numerous sandstone arches, alcoves, and spectacular rock-art panels to explore and photograph.

Eric Finstick

Behind the Rocks



SOUTHEAST REGION—Behind the Rocks

Hatch Wash

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
12,000	2,100	14,100 (51%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
12,100	1,400	13,500 (49%)
Inventory Unit Total		
24,100	3,500	27,600
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

The central portion (14,100 acres) of the Hatch Wash inventory unit has wilderness characteristics. This portion retains its natural appearance and provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. It consists of over 12 miles of the deeply incised, sheer-walled, twisting Hatch Wash Canyon, as well as numerous side tributary canyons and the surrounding highly dissected mesa top. Interesting geographic features include towering cliffs, numerous spires, sandstone domes, hanging rincons (old stream meanders now located high on canyon walls), and other unique erosional features. Portions of the unit (13,500 acres) are unnatural in character because they contain roads, vehicle ways, bladed seismic lines, and livestock developments.

Unit Description

The Hatch Wash inventory unit is located in northern San Juan County about 10 miles south of Moab. The terrain consists of approximately 6 miles of Kane Springs Canyon, over 12 miles of Hatch Wash Canyon, numerous side tributary canyons, and the surrounding highly dissected mesa top. Portions of both Flat Iron Mesa and Hatch Point Mesa are included. The 1,000-foot-deep Hatch Wash is a major tributary to Kane Springs Canyon. Vegetation consists of piñon and juniper woodland and desert shrub communities, with a variety of large shrubs (sagebrush, greasewood, blackbrush, and rabbitbrush), cacti, yucca, perennial grasses, and annual plants. Lush riparian vegetation is found in Kane Springs Canyon, Hatch Wash, and some of the side drainages, including Trout Water Canyon. Cottonwoods, willows, and a wide variety of shrubs, reeds, and grasses provide shade, shelter, and food for a variety

HATCH WASH—One of the spectacular canyons within the inventory unit offering seclusion and isolation, along with a host of primitive recreation opportunities.

of wildlife. Most evidence of mining exploration is old and has undergone natural vegetative and erosional restoration over time. Livestock management continues, with several range developments being present. Recreational activities include hiking, mountain biking, and off-highway vehicle (OHV) use.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The central portion of the Hatch Wash inventory unit generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature and retains its natural character. Human impacts are substantially unnoticeable in this portion of the unit. The few isolated seismic lines and other evidence of mineral exploration that are widely scattered throughout the unit are quite old and have become substantially unnoticeable because of natural rehabilitation. These intrusions are, in most cases, well screened by the unit's vegetation and broken terrain. A few livestock fences are widely dispersed and inconspicuous. Stock ponds and associated access routes have been excluded from the area with natural character. Several vehicle ways penetrate the central part of the unit and some provide access to the rim for hiking, camping or scenic viewing. Others are used for OHV activity. However, all of these routes are substantially unnoticeable due to the area's diverse topographic and vegetative screening. Most receive little use and are highly eroded.

In the remaining part of the unit, a combination of roads, vehicle ways, remnant bladed seismic lines, and livestock developments have resulted in the loss of natural character. In addition, areas in the northwest and northeast sections of the unit are separated from the central portion of the unit by roads that are less than 0.25 mile apart in places.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. The varied topography, including over 12 miles of twisting Hatch Wash, numerous side canyons, and the broken plateau, provides excellent opportunities to find seclusion and isolation. The size of the area and the vegetative screening provided by the piñon and juniper trees, plus the riparian vegetation in the canyon bottoms, all contribute to the unit's outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The remote, rugged nature of the terrain, along with the excellent geologic scenery and unique landforms, provide truly outstanding opportunities for dispersed, undeveloped recreation. The difficulty in accessing the bottom of Hatch Wash adds to the "challenge and risk" factor of recreating in the unit. Wildlife, lush riparian areas, perennial water, unique landforms (towering cliffs, spires, sandstone domes, and hanging rincons), and other unique erosional features all contribute to the unit's attractiveness. Hiking, backpacking, camping, sightseeing, photography, and nature study all present outstanding opportunities.

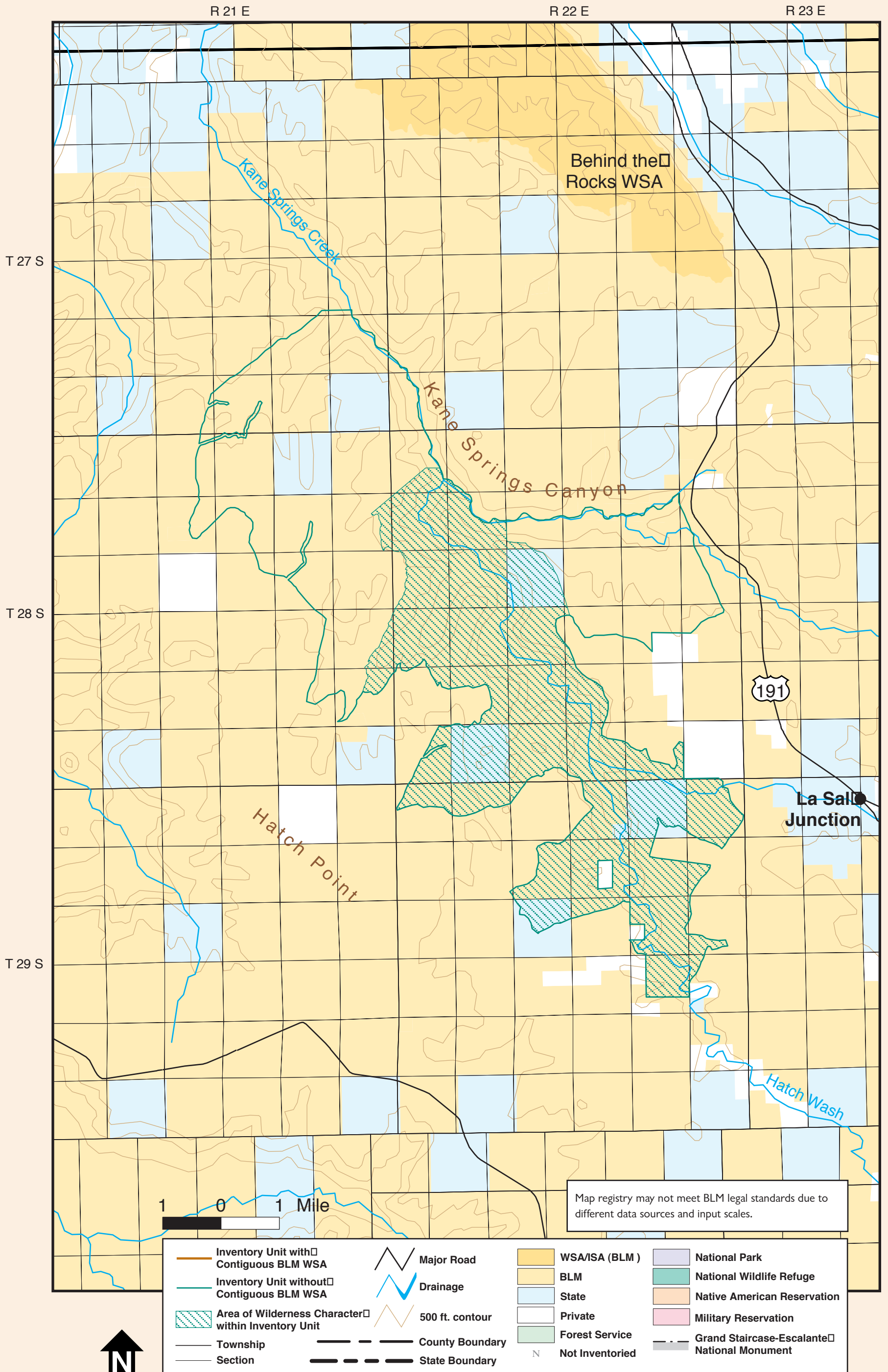
Supplemental Values

Scenic quality is high, especially in Hatch Wash and its major tributaries. Special status wildlife species inhabiting the area include peregrine falcons and bighorn sheep. Landforms are spectacular—towering sheer-walled cliffs, spires, sandstone domes, hanging rincons, and other unique erosional features all contribute to the unit's outstanding scenery. Dense riparian vegetation, a perennial stream, and a side canyon with seasonally spectacular waterfalls and deep pools, are special features of the unit.



BLM photo

Hatch Wash



Hunter Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
4,600	1,200	5,800 (98%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
30	60	90 (2%)
Inventory Unit Total		
4,630	1,260	5,890
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

Most of the Hunter Canyon inventory unit (5,800 acres) has wilderness characteristics. Except for several small areas (90 acres) around the boundary, the unit appears natural and provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. The federal portion of the unit is slightly less than 5,000 acres, but the unit is of sufficient size and configuration to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition. The rugged topography provides many opportunities within deep canyons and among the maze of rock fins and domes to find quiet, isolated locations and to enjoy hiking, exploring, and other forms of primitive recreation.

Unit Description

Hunter Canyon is part of a spectacular 50-square-mile labyrinth of exposed and eroded Navajo Sandstone fins, domes, arches, and deeply cut canyons. The unit lies southwest of the town of Moab, straddling the Grand and San Juan County boundaries. A road separates the unit from the Behind the Rocks Wilderness Study Area (WSA).

The unit contains spectacular natural rock arches similar to those found in nearby

Arches National Park. It has extremely rugged topography; travel through the maze of steep-walled canyons, domes, arches, and fins is arduous. Riparian plant species can be found in Hunter Canyon, while piñon pine, juniper, and blackbrush grow between the bare rock fins.

Dispersed recreation activities, including hiking, exploring, car camping, mountain biking, jeep tours, and sightseeing, are current uses of the area, with most of these activities taking place near the boundaries. Past mining activities occurred near the rim of Hunter Canyon and along the boundary road near the Colorado River.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the unit retains its natural character. Inaccessibility created by the rugged topography has confined impacts to the boundary roads. One rough cherry-stemmed road runs along the rim of Hunter Creek to an abandoned drill hole. Natural character has been lost near the access to the Pritchett Arch trail and near Halls Bridge because of heavily used camping and parking areas and associated vehicle routes. Numerous camping and parking areas along the boundary in Kane Springs Canyon have also affected wilderness characteristics. However, other imprints of man, such as seldom-used vehicle ways and camping sites along the boundary roads, are substantially unnoticeable.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Opportunities for solitude are outstanding for most of the unit. The nature of the

terrain provides many opportunities to find quiet, isolated locations within the rugged canyons and drainages and among the rock fins and domes. Only along the boundary roads, on well-traveled trails, and near the more popularly visited arches is solitude briefly interrupted. Feelings of solitude are further enhanced by the remoteness and outstanding solitude opportunities afforded by the adjacent Behind the Rocks WSA.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Opportunities for unconfined, primitive forms of recreation are outstanding. There are plenty of opportunities for exploring among the rock fins, arches, and archaeological sites. Limited backpacking trips are possible, although water sources are scarce except in parts of Hunter Canyon. Local trail guides suggest a number of hiking routes, and many unpublished routes can be found among the maze of spectacular topographic features between the southern boundary and Pritchett Canyon to the north. Outstanding scenic views are afforded from elevated spots within the unit.

Supplemental Values

The unit has spectacular scenery and unusual geologic formations. The fins of eroded Navajo Sandstone; the high concentration of natural arches (e.g., Pritchett Arch, Halls Bridge, Funnel Arch, and Hunter Arch); the domes, sand dunes, and deep canyons; and the stunning panoramas all add up to an absorbing and dramatic scene. Many archaeological and historical sites also contribute to the richness of the unit.

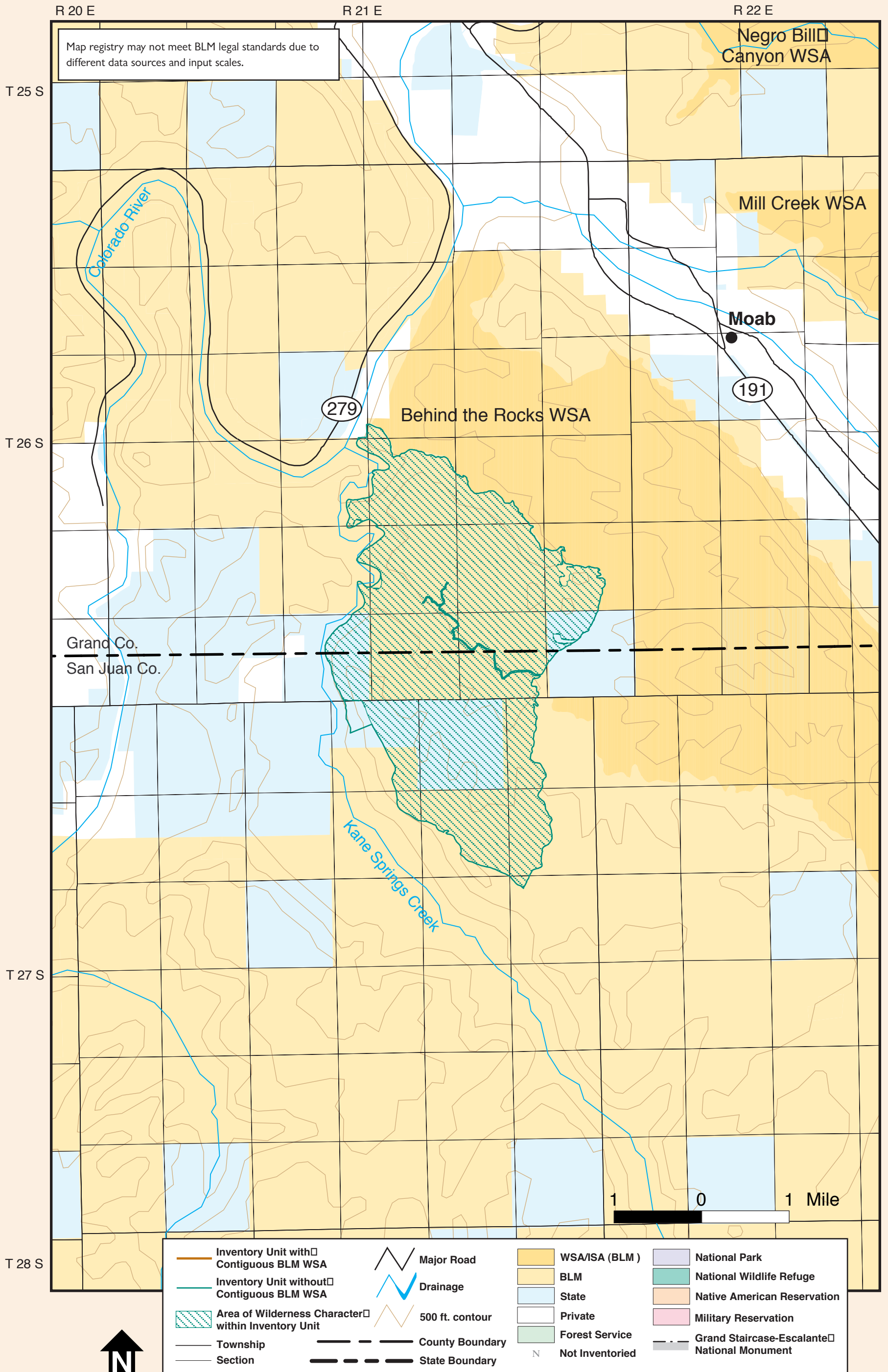
HUNTER CANYON—

The extremely rugged terrain provides opportunities for hiking, exploration, and finding seclusion from others.



Jerry Sintz

Hunter Canyon



SOUTHEAST REGION—Hunter Canyon

Beaver Creek

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
26,000	1,500	27,500 (79%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
6,600	800	7,400 (21%)
Inventory Unit Total		
32,600	2,300	34,900
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

A portion of the Beaver Creek inventory unit (27,500 acres) has wilderness characteristics. This portion is defined by many deep, rugged canyons, including about 10 miles of the Dolores River Canyon, and it also contains over 6 miles of Beaver Creek, a notable native trout stream. The natural portions of the unit contain outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation. The remaining 7,400 acres lack wilderness characteristics because of uranium mining impacts, old and current farming activity, oil and gas exploration impacts, chainings, stock pond developments, and vehicle use.

Unit Description

All of the Beaver Creek inventory unit is within Grand County. It is located on the northeastern flank of the La Sal Mountains about 25 air miles northeast of Moab. The unit has a convoluted shape as a result of its multiple winding canyons. The boundary generally follows roads, uranium mining activity, and extensive chainings. The Dolores River runs through the north-central part of the unit and represents the lowest elevation point. Beaver Creek drops 1,700 feet in its canyon between North and South Beaver mesas to the Dolores River. Sevenmile Mesa towers over 1,600 feet above the Dolores River. Vegetation is mostly piñon and juniper woodland, giving way to open sage and blackbrush in the north. Canyon bottoms have cottonwood, tamarisk, and other riparian species, while aspen, ponderosa pine, and Douglas fir grow in the upper

reaches of Beaver Creek. The Dolores River is used by raft and kayak groups during its short spring season. Kokopelli's Trail, a 147-mile mountain bike and all-terrain vehicle trail between Grand Junction and Moab, forms portions of the unit's western boundary. The unit is leased for livestock grazing and also provides quality deer and elk hunting.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the inventory unit appears natural. The deep canyons and some upland segments have not experienced much surface disturbance. However, substantially noticeable and extensive impacts exist around the boundary. There are over a dozen separate areas along the edge of the unit that appear unnatural because of roads, uranium mining impacts, farm activity, oil and gas exploration, stock pond developments, chainings, and vehicle use.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The natural portion of the inventory unit contains outstanding opportunities for solitude. Most of this area consists of deep, remote, and seldom-visited canyons. The many canyons and intricate side drainages combine with the mostly wooded remnants of the upland area to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. The general area does not have good road access. Reaching the inventory unit boundary requires a four-wheel drive vehicle and two hours of driving time from the nearest town. The canyon systems are isolated from

each other and from the outside world. In the canyon bottoms, thick riparian vegetation contributes to feelings of solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The natural portion of the inventory unit contains outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. A study and environmental review completed by the National Park Service (NPS) in September 1979 as part of a congressional river study found that the Dolores River had outstanding recreational values for whitewater boating. Opportunities for backpacking, hiking, photography, primitive hunting, and backcountry fishing are also outstanding. The unit's deep canyons, perennial streams, and wide range of topography and vegetation all enhance opportunities for backcountry exploring.

Supplemental Values

In 1979 the NPS determined that the Dolores River had outstandingly remarkable scenic, geologic, and wildlife values. The Dolores River Canyon features steep red-rock cliffs that contrast with the dark green riparian vegetation along the shoreline. The natural portion of the inventory unit includes the only section of the river in Utah recommended by the NPS for designation as a Wild River. The character of the area has not changed since 1979.

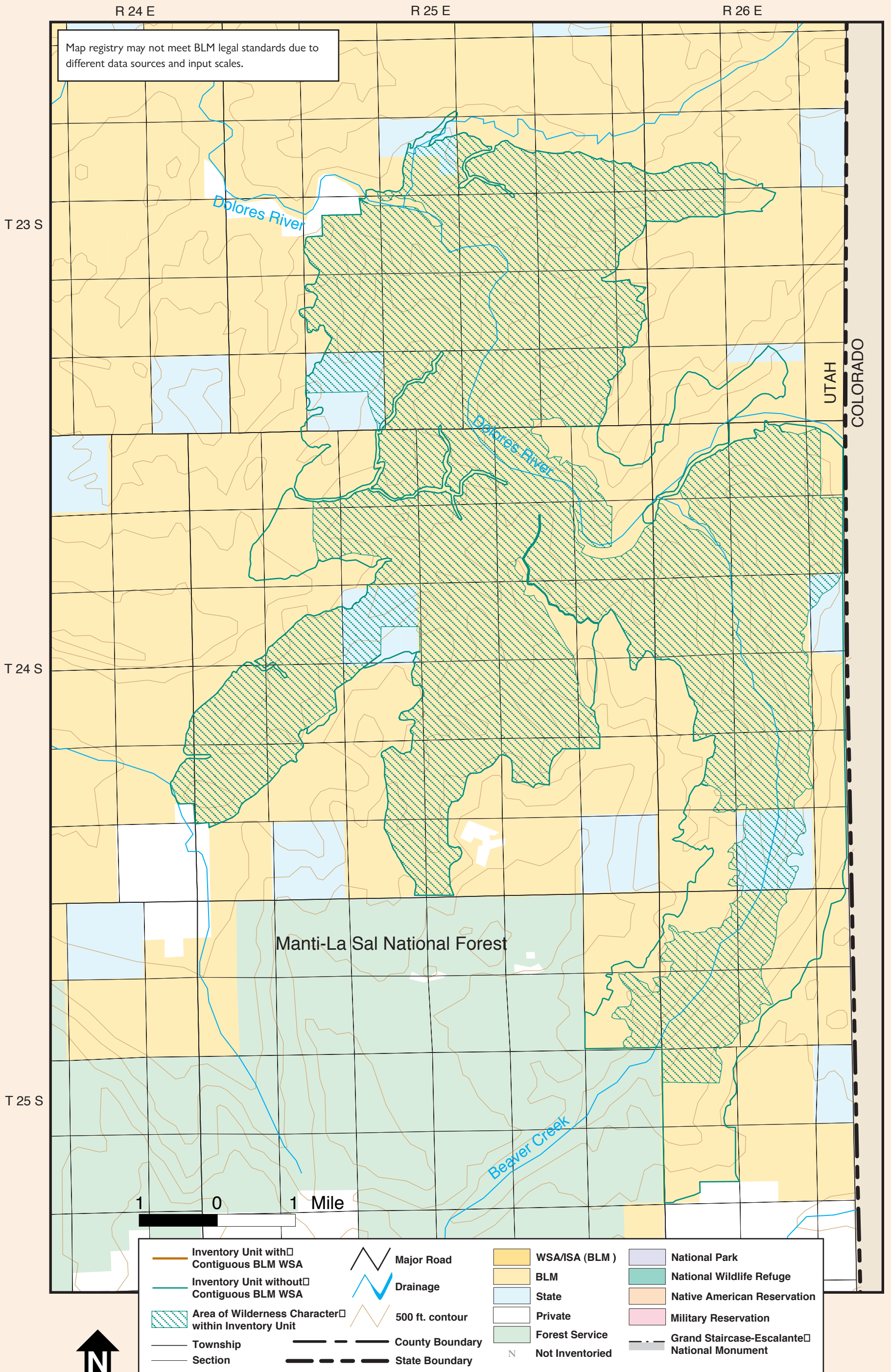
Beaver Creek, a deeply entrenched sandstone canyon with Douglas fir, ponderosa pine, cottonwood, and piñon and juniper woodland, is especially scenic. Beaver Creek supports a population of Colorado cut-throat trout. Other wildlife species include elk, mule deer, mountain lion, and black bear. Several prehistoric cultural sites are located within the unit.



BEAVER CREEK—The upper end of Thompson Canyon is just one of the many deep, rugged canyons in this unit.

BLM Photo

Beaver Creek



Fisher Towers

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
17,000	2,100	19,100 (98%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
400	0	400 (2%)
Inventory Unit Total		
17,400	2,100	19,500
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

Most of the Fisher Towers inventory unit (19,100 acres) retains its natural appearance and has wilderness characteristics. The area consists of a highly eroded mesa top dissected by twisting canyons. The mesa terminates at a 2,000-foot sheer cliff overlooking spectacular eroded badlands and red-rock grottoes. Fisher Towers, the tallest of which reaches over 900 feet above its surroundings, is one of the best known and most photographed geologic formations in Utah.

The popular and extremely rough four-wheel route to "The Top of the World" has been cherry-stemmed from the unit. An area contiguous to this cherry-stemmed route (400 acres) lacks wilderness characteristics because of a concentration of disturbances from mining exploration.

Unit Description

The Fisher Towers inventory unit is located in southeastern Grand County, 20 miles northeast of Moab. The boundary follows roads, private land, or substantially noticeable human impacts. The terrain consists of a gently sloping and highly broken mesa, that is dissected by Waring and Cottonwood Canyons. The top of the mesa ends at a sheer 2,000-foot cliff overlooking Fisher Towers, one of the best known geologic formations in Utah. The narrow Onion Creek Canyon along the southern boundary twists through spectacular red-rock grottoes and heavily eroded badlands formations.

Vegetation consists of piñon and juniper woodland, along with a variety of large shrubs (such as sagebrush, greasewood, blackbrush, and rabbitbrush), cacti, perennial grasses, and annual plants. Riparian vegetation consisting of cottonwoods, willows, tamarisk, and a wide variety of shrubs, reeds, and grasses is found along the perennial streams in Waring, Onion, and Cottonwood Canyons.

Primary human uses include recreation, grazing, mining exploration, and commercial filming.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the unit appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature and retains its natural character. Human disturbances are substantially unnoticeable. Minor disturbances consist of a few vehicle ways, fences, and old seismic exploration lines. These are all well screened by the area's broken terrain and vegetation. The vehicle ways receive little use and are highly eroded, rough, and washed out.

A small area contiguous to a cherry-stemmed route that accesses "The Top of the World" does not appear natural because of cumulative disturbances from past mining exploration. A number of lightly bladed mining exploration impacts extending off the cherry-stemmed route, along with an old seismic exploration line, are not being used by vehicles and are thus growing in with vegetation. Individually, any of these imprints would be substantially unnoticeable because of natural revegetation, screening, and the lack of use. However, given the high concentration of imprints in a small area, the cumulative disturbance is substantially noticeable.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Solitude opportunities are outstanding. The varied topography, including over nine miles of twisting Waring and

Cottonwood Canyons; the numerous small side canyons; the highly eroded badlands between the cliff face and Onion Creek Canyon; and the broken plateau all provide abundant opportunities to find seclusion. The unit's size and configuration, along with the vegetative screening provided by the piñon and juniper trees, also contribute to outstanding opportunities for solitude.

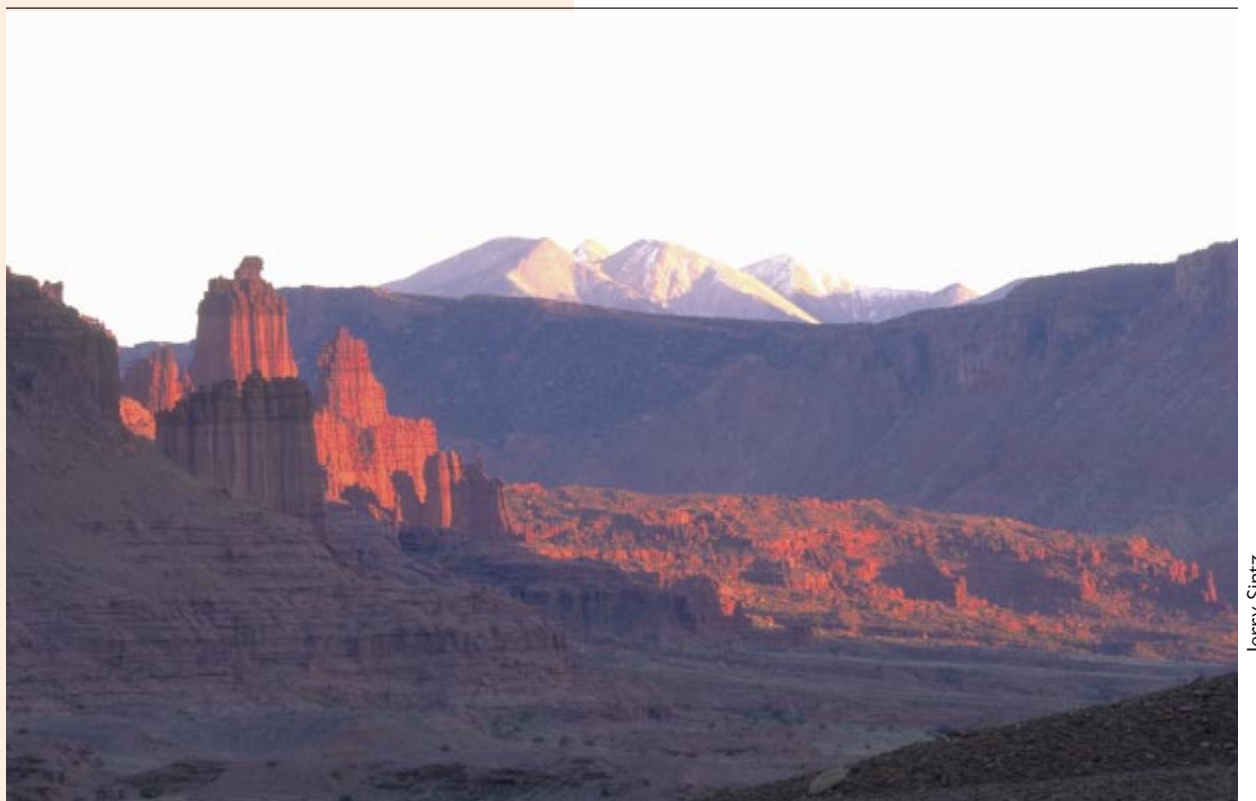
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit provides outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The rugged terrain offers impressive scenery and unique landforms. Opportunities for hiking, backpacking, camping, sightseeing, photography, nature study, and rock climbing are all outstanding. Fisher Towers is a popular destination area for hikers and photographers. The 900-foot Fisher Towers provide a challenging and popular technical rock climb. Scenic views from the top of the mesa are spectacular. The badlands between the cliff and Onion Creek Canyon provide a highly scenic and challenging area for hiking, exploring, and photography. Waring Canyon provides excellent hiking opportunities in a remote and rugged setting.

Supplemental Values

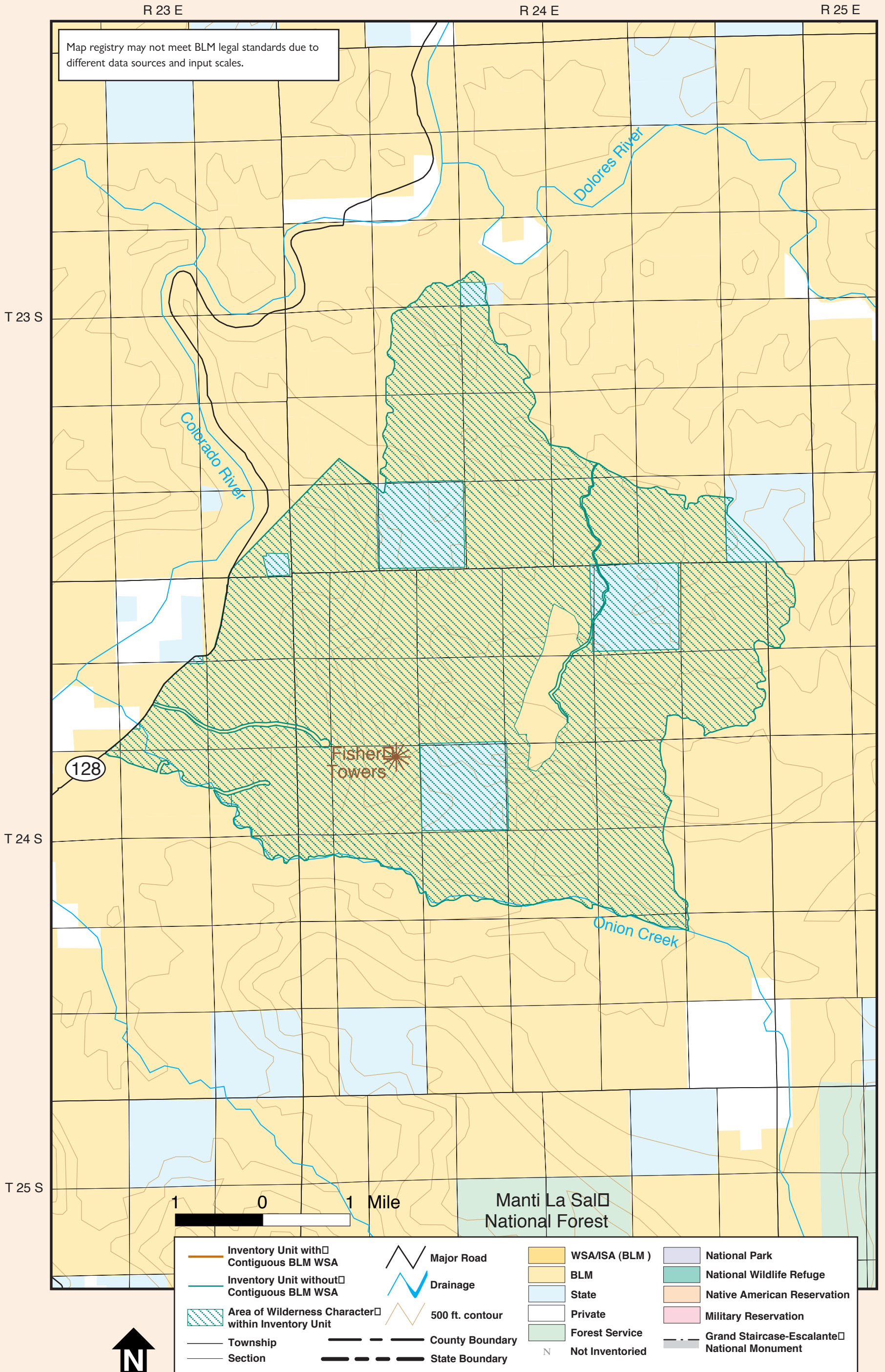
Scenic values are exceptional. The spectacular Fisher Towers are carved from siltstone of the Moenkopi and Cutler Formations. From the top of the mesa, visitors have outstanding views of Fisher Towers, the red sandstone cliffs and spires of Richardson Amphitheater, the badlands of Onion Creek Canyon, the Colorado River, and the La Sal Mountains. Special status plants include the Dolores River skeleton plant and Schultz stickleaf. Bighorn sheep and peregrine falcon inhabit the area, and the southern portion is critical deer winter range.

FISHER TOWERS—The 900-foot Fisher Towers area is a popular destination for technical rock climbers seeking a challenge and photographers looking for that "perfect" scenic shot.



Jerry Sintz

Fisher Towers



Granite Creek

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
5,400	500	5,900 (88%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
800	0	800 (12%)
Inventory Unit Total		
6,200	500	6,700
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

Approximately 5,900 acres of the Granite Creek inventory unit have wilderness characteristics. The portion with wilderness characteristics includes approximately five miles of Granite Creek within its deeply entrenched serpentine canyon. The area's rugged terrain, vegetative cover, and remoteness provide outstanding opportunities for solitude and recreation.

A total of 800 acres lack wilderness characteristics because they are separated from the main unit by a road, are part of an old homestead, or have been chained.

Unit Description

The Granite Creek inventory unit is located approximately 35 air miles northeast of Moab (2½ hours by four-wheel drive) in a remote area known as the Dolores Triangle. Granite Creek, a perennial stream in a deeply entrenched canyon, is the area's most prominent feature. Granite Creek flows from Colorado into Utah, but only the portion in Utah is discussed in this report. Vegetation is piñon and juniper woodland on the benches above the stream. Cottonwood trees are found in riparian areas along Granite Creek.

The unit is accessible from either Colorado or Utah by fording the Dolores River. It is remote and seldom visited, except during hunting season and for livestock management purposes. Anglers may occasionally visit to fish for trout. Remnants of an old homestead are present.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The portion of the area south and west of the Granite Creek Road is natural. This

natural area includes approximately five miles of Granite Creek in its deeply entrenched serpentine canyon.

An old homestead on the north bank of Granite Creek and an old chaining in the extreme southeastern corner of the unit are not natural.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit's rugged topography, vegetative cover, and remote location provide outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit contains outstanding opportunities for hiking and backpacking. A hiking or backpacking trip of approximately 10

miles could be undertaken by following the stream up and back from the southwestern boundary. The unit provides opportunities to hunt elk and mule deer. However, trout fishing opportunities are limited because of low stream flows caused by upstream diversions.

Supplemental Values

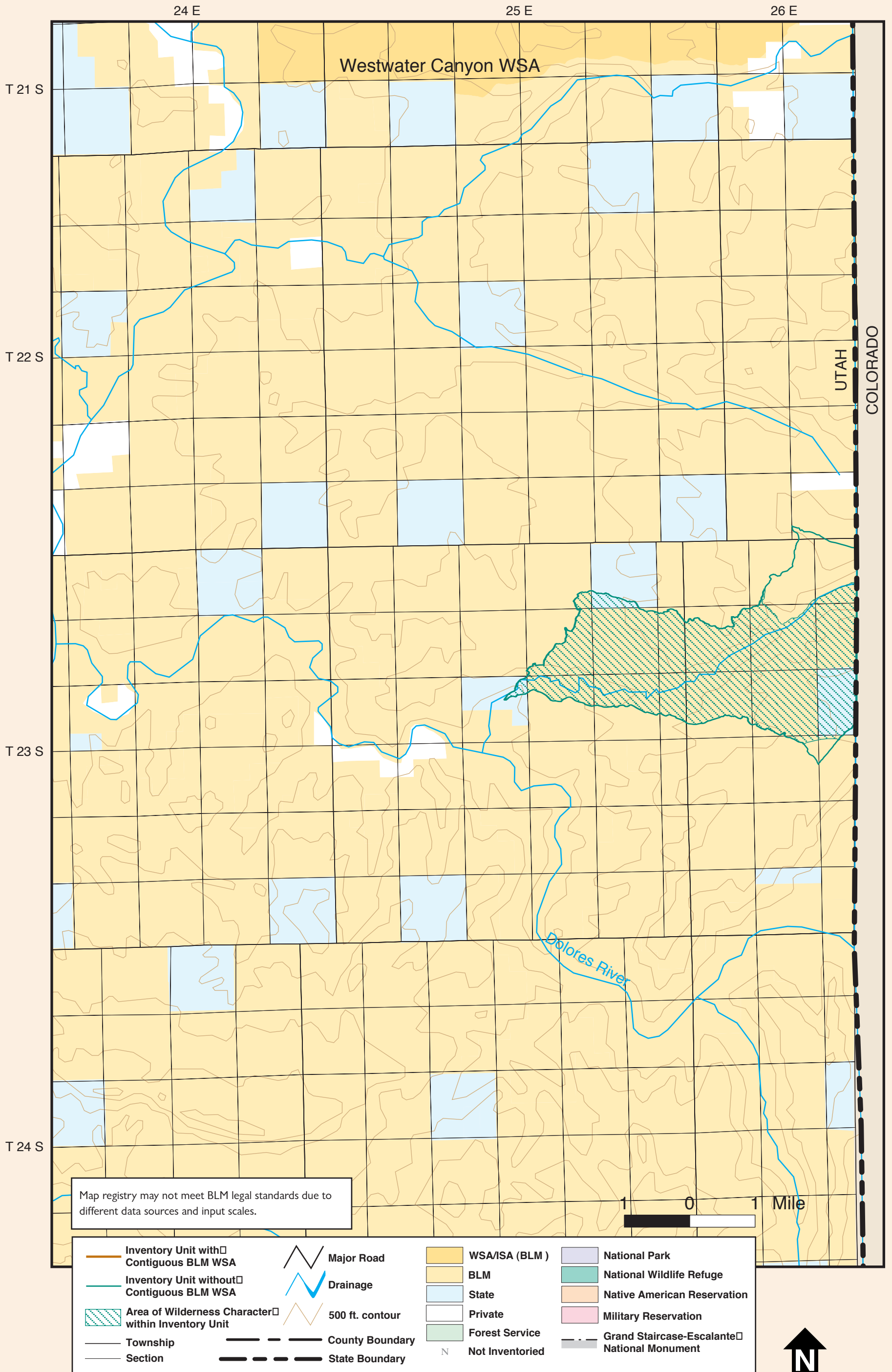
Granite Creek, a perennial stream, is a significant feature in this otherwise dry area. In its lower reaches, the stream has cut a narrow, serpentine canyon dotted with cottonwood trees. The canyon is scenic, with steep-sided rock walls. Wildlife includes mule deer, elk, mountain lion, black bear, and various raptors.

GRANITE CREEK—Granite Creek, a perennial stream, runs through the middle of the inventory unit.



BLM photo

Granite Creek



Mill Creek Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
2,910	1,310	4,220 (36%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
3,800	3,770	7,570 (64%)
Inventory Unit Total		
6,710	5,080	11,790
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Mill Creek Canyon WSA (UT-060-139A)		9,780

Three of the five inventory units contiguous to the Mill Creek Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA) have considerable disturbance. Although these units are undeniably beautiful, countless travel routes impact and reduce naturalness in a large portion of them. As a result, approximately 7,570 acres do not have wilderness characteristics.

However, portions of the Mill Creek Canyon units (4,220 acres) are natural. These natural portions enhance the adjacent WSA's outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive forms of recreation such as hiking, horseback riding, camping, photography, and climbing. In addition, these portions are logical extensions of the WSA.

Unit Description

The Mill Creek Canyon inventory units are located in south-central Grand County. They are just east of Moab and are contiguous to the Mill Creek Canyon WSA.

Unit 1 is north of the WSA and south of the Sand Flats Road. Unit 2 encompasses most of the remainder of the land between Sand Flats Road and the WSA. Unit 3 abuts the western side of the WSA and includes the lower South Fork of Mill Creek. Unit 4, the largest of the Mill Creek Canyon inventory units, is south of the WSA. It includes the areas known as South Mesa, Between-the-Creeks, and Johnsons-Up-On-Top and has a 40-acre private inholding. Unit 5 is on the eastern side of the WSA.

At the highest elevations, the land is predominantly covered by piñon woodland. At lower elevations, juniper becomes more and more prevalent, along with single-leaf ash, cliffrose, serviceberry, blackbrush, Mormon tea, and scrub-oak. Cottonwood, willow, and Russian olive are the primary riparian plants.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The portion of Unit 3 within the South Fork of Mill Creek Canyon appears natural. However, the remainder of the unit is unnatural, with most of the western part dominated by the adjacent county landfill and the southern edge located adjacent to a subdivision. An access way forms the boundary between the area with and without wilderness characteristics.

Unit 4 includes highly scenic portions of the South Fork of Mill Creek. However, the bladed roads north of this canyon and the maze of roads and ways on Johnsons-Up-On-Top have impaired the naturalness of most of this unit. Only South Mesa still appears natural. A route out to South Mesa Point was originally constructed through the piñon woodland, but the route is rarely used and is accessible only through private land.

Unit 5 is natural throughout. The state section is dominated by steep walls dropping precipitously off the mesa into the North Fork of Mill Creek.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The units are contiguous with the Mill Creek Canyon WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for solitude. Unit 1 is small; so opportunities for solitude are outstanding only in conjunction with the WSA. Unit 2 offers little opportunity for solitude in the areas without naturalness, but in the south half of the state section

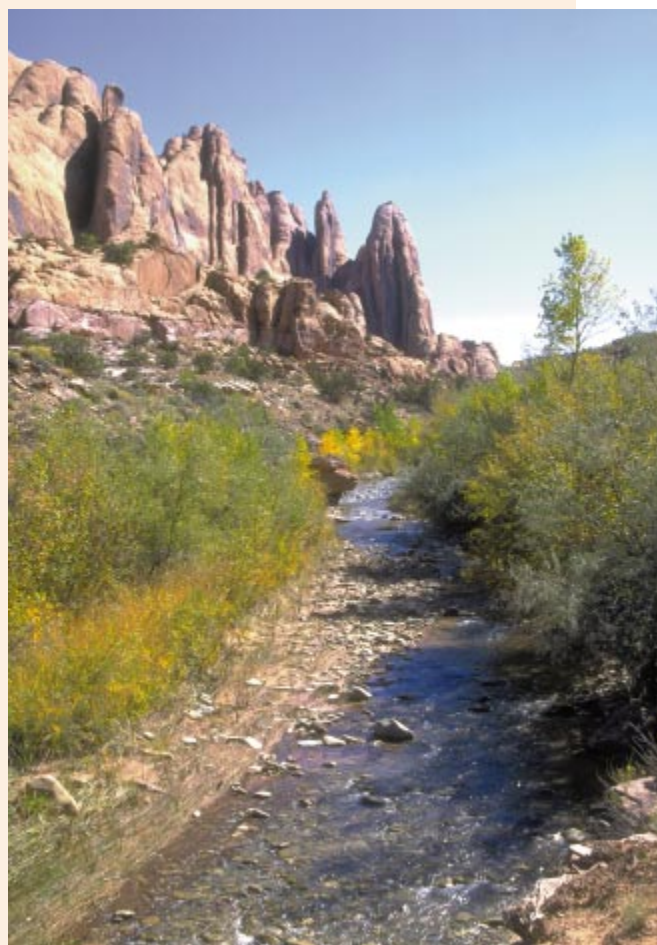
the opportunities are outstanding. In Unit 3, the opportunities for solitude are low because of the ease of access from Moab. Most of Unit 4, which is adjacent to four-wheel-drive routes, offers limited opportunities for solitude. However, the hike or horseback ride to South Mesa offers excellent opportunities for feeling alone. Unit 5 offers outstanding opportunities for solitude. As with the South Mesa portion of Unit 4, the view from the mesa top heightens the sense of isolation from the world below.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

When evaluated in the context of the contiguous Mill Creek Canyon WSA, opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation in all five units are considered to be outstanding. Unit 1 has opportunities for primitive recreation only in conjunction with the adjacent WSA. Unit 2 offers outstanding opportunities for primitive climbing, backpacking, hiking, and photography. The opportunities for hiking, photography, cultural exploration, and horseback riding are excellent in Unit 3. Unit 4, by itself, offers negligible opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation except for South Mesa, where opportunities for hiking, backpacking, photography, and horseback riding are exceptional. One outfitter currently provides horse trips to the area. As with Unit 1, primitive recreational opportunities in Unit 5 exist only when considered in conjunction with the adjacent WSA.

Supplemental Values

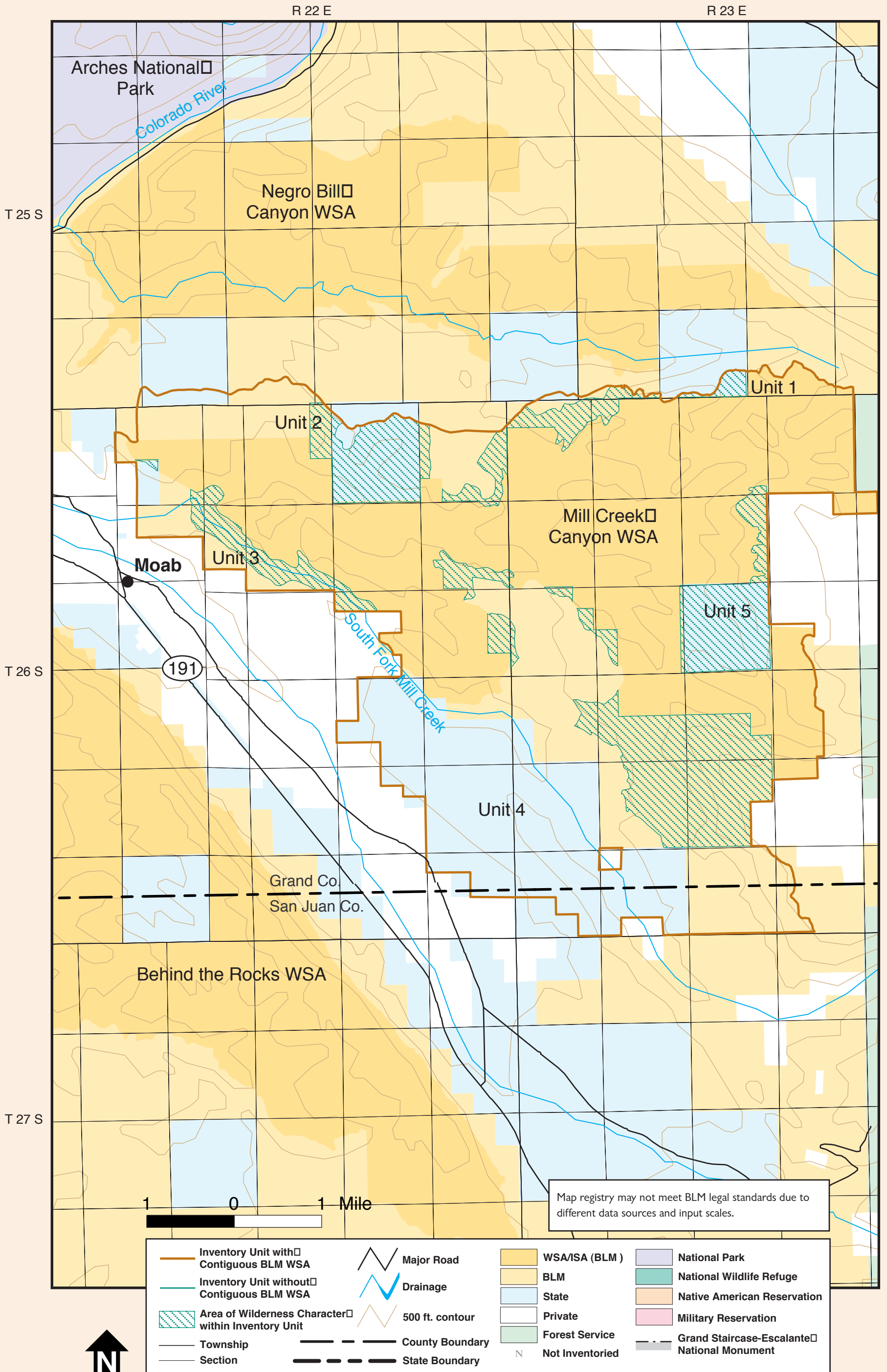
Mill Creek is a perennial stream, which is a rarity in the small canyons of southeast Utah. Several of the units provide critical winter range for deer. In addition to beautiful scenery, there is impressive and easily accessible rock art. Overall, the units are exceptionally diverse and scenic, from the sandstone fins of Unit 2 to the cliffs of Units 4 and 5.



MILL CREEK CANYON—The South Fork of Mill Creek Canyon, as well as the adjacent Mill Creek WSA, offers excellent opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, cultural exploration, and photography.

Jerry Sintz

Mill Creek Canyon



SOUTHEAST REGION—Mill Creek Canyon

Negro Bill Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
2,500	900	3,400 (21%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
11,400	1,140	12,540 (79%)
Inventory Unit Total		
13,900	2,040	15,940
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Negro Bill Canyon WSA (UT-060-138)		7,260

The four Negro Bill Canyon inventory units are contiguous to the Negro Bill Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA). Portions of two of the units (12,540 acres) show numerous imprints of human activity and therefore do not have wilderness characteristics. Although such areas as Mat Martin Point and Porcupine Rim remain undeniably beautiful, many vehicle ways and seismic exploration lines have eliminated their naturalness.

Other units and portions of units (3,400 acres) are still predominantly natural and enhance the adjacent WSA's outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive forms of recreation. These parcels are logical extensions of the WSA.

Unit Description

The Negro Bill Canyon inventory units are located in south-central Grand County, five miles northeast of Moab. All four units are contiguous to Negro Bill Canyon WSA. Unit boundaries follow legal boundary lines or substantially noticeable human impacts. Unit 1 is a region of sandstone fins north of the Sand Flats Road. Unit 2 straddles Negro Bill Canyon north of the rough dirt road that nearly bisects this state section. Unit 3 is bounded on the south and east by the Porcupine Rim Road and encompasses the upper reaches of Negro Bill Canyon. Unit 4 is the largest unit, consisting of Porcupine Rim and much of its steep northeast-facing slope, as well as the Coffee Pot Rock area, Drinks Canyon, Hal Canyon, and Mat Martin Point.

NEGRO BILL CANYON—A view from within one of the inventory units at the upper end of Negro Bill Canyon offers a spectacular panorama of the distant La Sal Mountains.

At an elevation of almost 7,000 feet in Unit 3, the terrain is predominantly covered with a piñon woodland. At lower elevations, juniper and blackbrush become more prevalent in the pockets of soil between outcrops of sandstone. Cottonwoods are common along waterways within the canyon. The units have been heavily used by both mountain bike riders and four-wheeling enthusiasts.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Close to the Sand Flats Road in Unit 1 are numerous vehicle ways and campsites. For most of this unit, the boundary delineating wilderness characteristics follows the northern-most connecting routes, commonly known as the Fins 'n' Things route. Units 2 and 3 retain their wilderness characteristics throughout. They are within the rugged middle and upper portions of Negro Bill Canyon.

Unit 4 includes scenic Porcupine Rim and breathtaking scenic vistas from Mat Martin Point. Mat Martin Point contains a substantial network of vehicle ways. Although these are rarely driven, they are numerous enough to be substantially noticeable. A communication facility on Porcupine Rim contributes to the overall lack of naturalness. In addition, there are numerous seismic exploration lines south of Coffee Pot Rock. The remainder of Porcupine Rim is not contiguous with the portion of the unit possessing wilderness characteristics and is too small to stand on its own. The portions of Unit 4 that do have wilderness characteristics are contiguous to the WSA.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The units are contiguous to the Negro Bill Canyon WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for solitude. Most of Unit 1 is adjacent to highly popular mountain bike and four-wheel-drive routes and offers opportunities for solitude only in combination with the contiguous WSA. Units 2 and 3 are small but so rugged as to guarantee outstanding opportunities for solitude. Unit 4, dominated by the remote area of Mat Martin Point and the rugged Porcupine Rim, also possesses outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The units are contiguous to the Negro Bill Canyon WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Unit 1 contains the Morning Glory Arch; the hike to this span is exceptional. Units 2 and 3, though small, offer outstanding opportunities for primitive climbing, backpacking, hiking, and photography in Negro Bill Canyon. The rugged and remote nature of much of Unit 4 creates outstanding opportunities for hiking, photography, backpacking, and horseback riding.

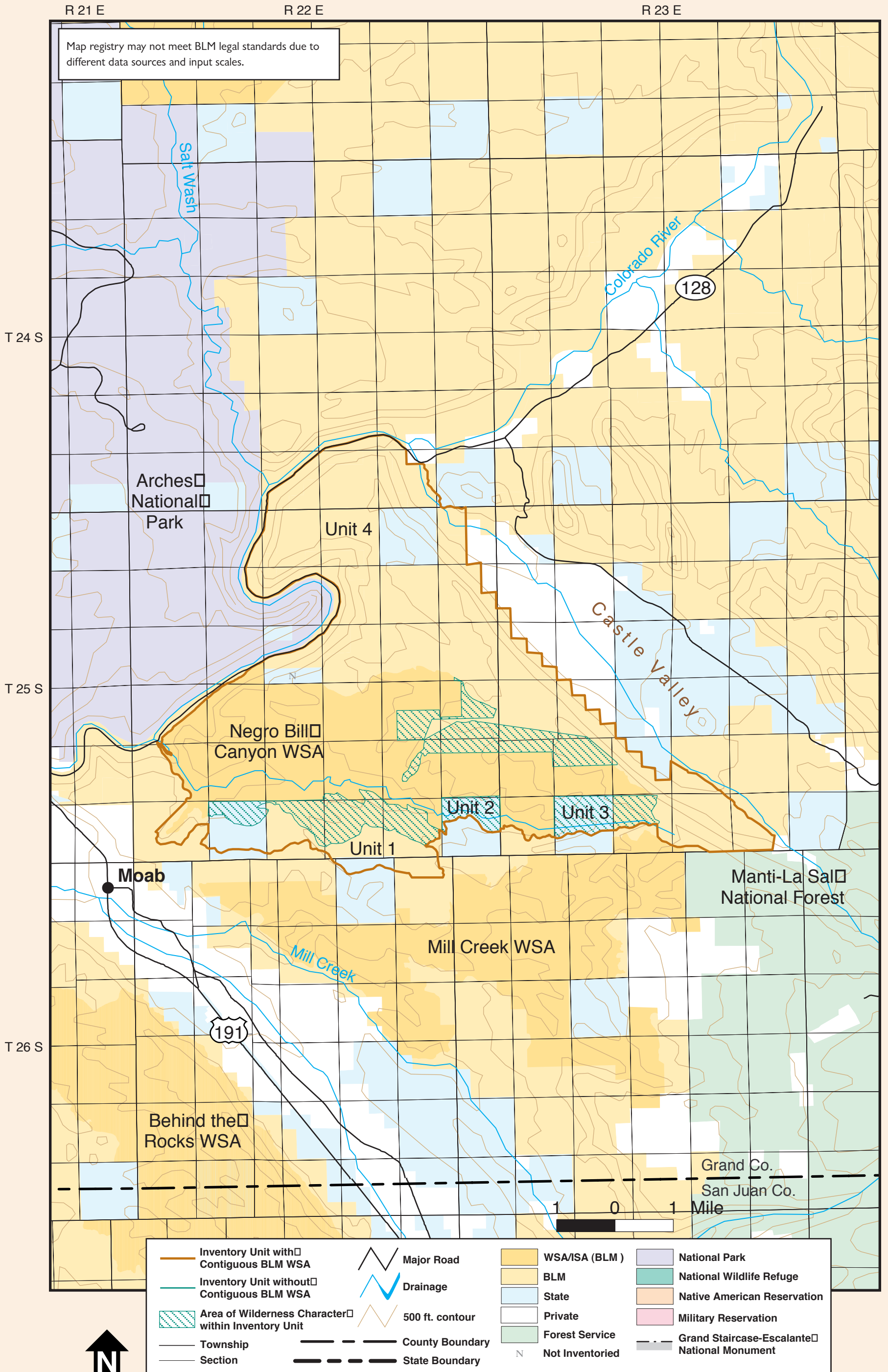
Supplemental Values

Portions of these units are within Negro Bill Canyon itself, which features a perennial stream and superlative scenery. Morning Glory Arch in Unit 1 is one of the largest natural bridges in the world—a truly awe-inspiring sight. Several points in Unit 4 offer compelling 360-degree scenic vistas.



Eric Finstick

Negro Bill Canyon



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	

SOUTHEAST REGION—Negro Bill Canyon

Mary Jane Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
25,000	3,000	28,000 (99%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
400	0	400 (1%)
Inventory Unit Total		
25,400	3,000	28,400
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

Most of the Mary Jane Canyon inventory unit (28,000 acres) is natural and has wilderness characteristics. However, a few small portions (400 acres) are unnatural and lack wilderness characteristics. These areas have been impacted by off-road vehicle activity along the boundaries in Castle Valley, mining scars near Professor Valley Ranch, and chaining on the mesa tops.

Rugged terrain that provides both topographic and vegetative screening enhances outstanding opportunities for solitude, especially within the Professor Creek drainage. Primitive recreation opportunities, such as rock climbing at Castle Rock and hiking in Mary Jane Canyon, are outstanding.

Unit Description

The Mary Jane Canyon inventory unit is on the northwest flank of the La Sal Mountains in southeastern Grand County, 14 air miles east-northeast of Moab. The broad, cliff-rimmed valley of Mary Jane Canyon dominates the center of the area, with the sheer Wingate Sandstone cliffs of Fisher and Adobe Mesas flanking the canyon's sides. Professor Creek, a

perennial stream, flows from the La Sal Mountains through the unit on its way to the Colorado River. Remnants of the northern portion of Adobe Mesa have eroded into the spectacular rock towers known as Castle Rock, the Rectory, the Priest and Nuns, and Parriott Mesa. Vegetation consists of blackbrush and other desert shrubs at lower elevations, and piñon pine and juniper at higher elevations. Drainages contain cottonwood, tamarisk, and other riparian species, with some aspen and Douglas fir in the higher reaches of canyons.

Current uses include rock climbing, hiking, car camping, and mountain biking along the boundary roads, as well as cattle grazing. The unit is also popular for filming commercials and movies.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the unit appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature and retains its natural character. Livestock development projects (such as stock ponds and fences) found mostly on top of Fisher and Adobe Mesas are small, widely dispersed, and substantially unnoticeable. Level areas of Fisher Mesa that were once chained are outside of the unit.

A few minor access ways remain, but these are substantially unnoticeable and in most instances are impassable because of erosion of the drainages in which they are found. Old seismic lines are also substantially unnoticeable, except for a portion of one on top of Adobe Mesa. Areas no longer retaining their natural character include popular camping and vehicle play areas along Castle Valley, historic mining disturbances, developments, and scars near Professor Valley Ranch.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Most of the unit provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. Solitude opportunities are greatest within the Professor Creek drainage (especially in the upper reaches of Mary Jane Canyon), within Hellroaring Canyon, and in the many tributary drainages of Onion Creek. Rugged terrain in these areas provides both topographic and vegetative screening, providing the visitor with many opportunities for isolation and solitude. Given the presence of increased human activity around the boundary of the unit, there are fewer opportunities for solitude along Utah Highway 128, within Onion Creek Canyon, along the unit's boundary in Castle Valley, and in some of the areas close to Professor Valley Ranch.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The ruggedness of the terrain and the excellent scenery afforded by the geology and unique landforms combine to provide truly outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Opportunities for hiking can be found in Mary Jane Canyon along perennial Professor Creek, in many of the drainages of Onion Creek, around the butte formations above Ida Gulch, and on the mesa tops. Opportunities for camping and rock climbing (especially at Castle Rock) are excellent.

Supplemental Values

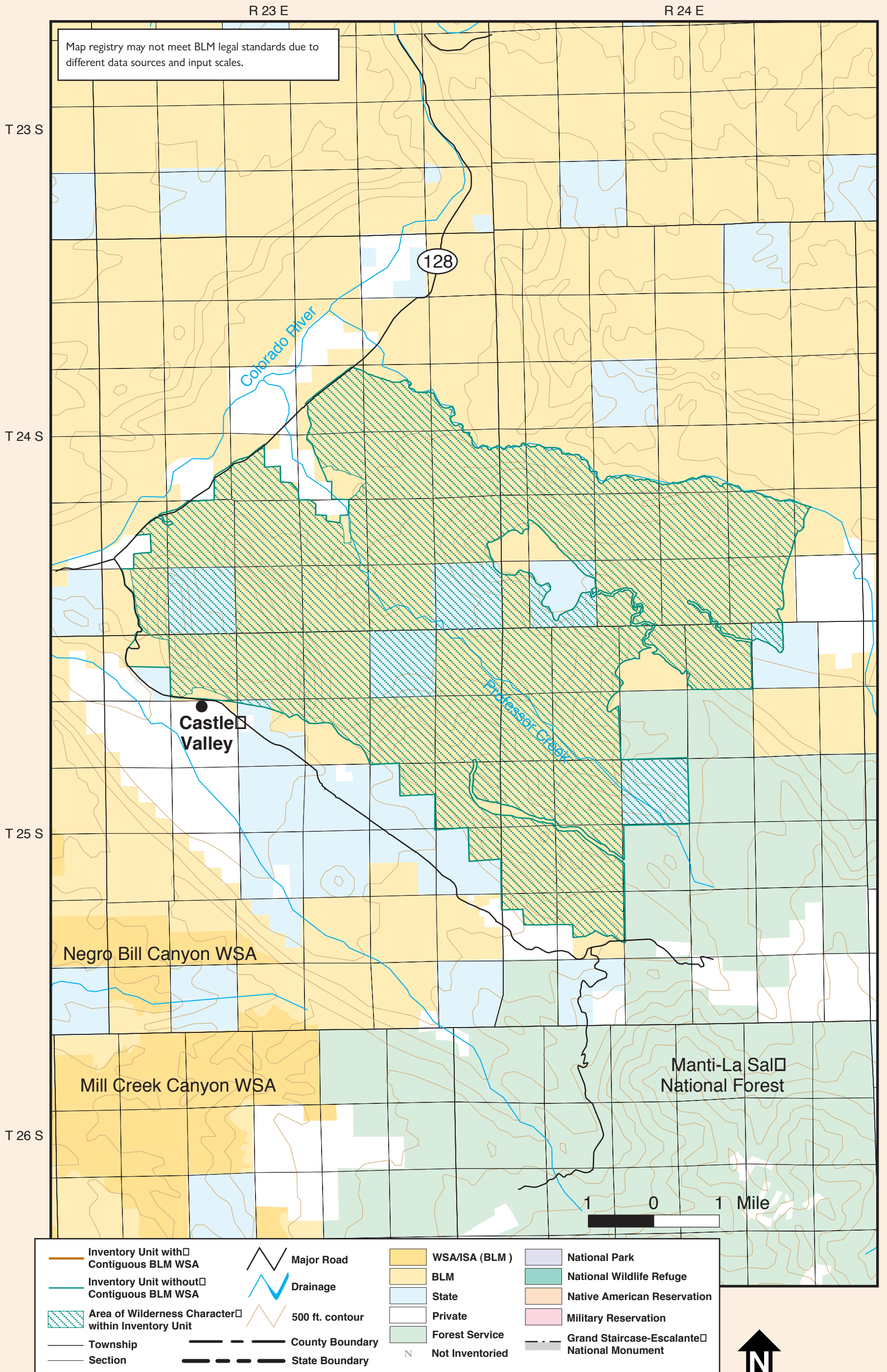
The buttes and cliffs within the unit make up a portion of what is known as the Richardson Amphitheater, well known for its spectacular scenery. Commercial filming and photography have long been popular in the narrows of Onion Creek and in Ida Gulch. The famous rock towers known as Castle Rock and the Priest and Nuns on the east, as well as picturesque Parriott Mesa dominating the western edge of the drainage, are popular filming locations.

MARY JANE CANYON—Professor Creek, flowing through the unit on its way to the Colorado River, provides the visitor with outstanding opportunities for hiking and solitude.



Jerry Sintz

Mary Jane Canyon



Westwater Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
2,220	340	2,560 (77%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
770	0	770 (23%)
Inventory Unit Total		
2,990	340	3,330
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Westwater Canyon WSA (UT-060-118)		31,160

About 2,560 acres in five of the six Westwater Canyon inventory units have wilderness characteristics. These units are generally natural and are a logical extension of the Westwater Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA). They are characterized by open flats, gentle hillsides, small bluffs, and scattered piñon and juniper woodlands.

About 770 acres in Units 4 and 5 lack wilderness characteristics. Much of Unit 4 is unnatural because of past piñon-juniper chaining, while all of Unit 5 is unnatural because of a constructed vehicle route that bisects it.

Unit Description

The Westwater Canyon inventory units surround the Westwater Canyon WSA. They are located in Grand County about 36 air miles northeast of Moab (2 to 4 hours by vehicle). Unit 1, which is roughly 1.5 miles long and wide, is north of the Colorado River, while Units 2-6 are located south of the river.

Unit 1 includes a portion of the canyon of Cottonwood Wash as well as sandstone uplands northwest of the wash. The vegetation consists largely of Indian ricegrass. Unit 2 consists of the sloping, open area south and west of the mouth of Westwater Canyon. The vegetation is mostly Indian ricegrass, with scattered blackbrush and a few junipers along the WSA boundary.

Unit 3 encompasses a narrow strip of open, gently sloping land north of the Dry Gulch Road. The vegetation is mostly Indian ricegrass, with some junipers in the higher areas. Unit 4 is a series of short flat promontories. Most of the naturally occurring piñon-juniper woodland in this unit has been chained. Unit 5 is a small parcel of land along the northern boundary that is split in half by a vehicle route. Unit 6 is a small parcel of land at the upper end of Westwater Canyon.

All of the units have been leased for grazing. Some hunting may take place, especially in Unit 1, which is the most accessible by vehicle.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Units 1, 2, 3, and 6 are generally natural in appearance, as is a portion of Unit 4. Minor exceptions in Unit 1 include a fence and a vehicle way that traverses it from north to south, while Unit 2 has a fence and two vehicle ways. No intrusions were found in Units 3 and 6.

Much of Unit 4 has been chained. The piñon-juniper woodland is being reclaimed naturally, but evidence of the past chaining is still substantially noticeable. All of Unit 5 is unnatural because of a constructed vehicle route.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Those units that are still natural in character contain outstanding opportunities for solitude only in conjunction with the contiguous Westwater Canyon WSA. The units are small and, with the exception of Units 1 and 4, have limited topographic or vegetative screening.

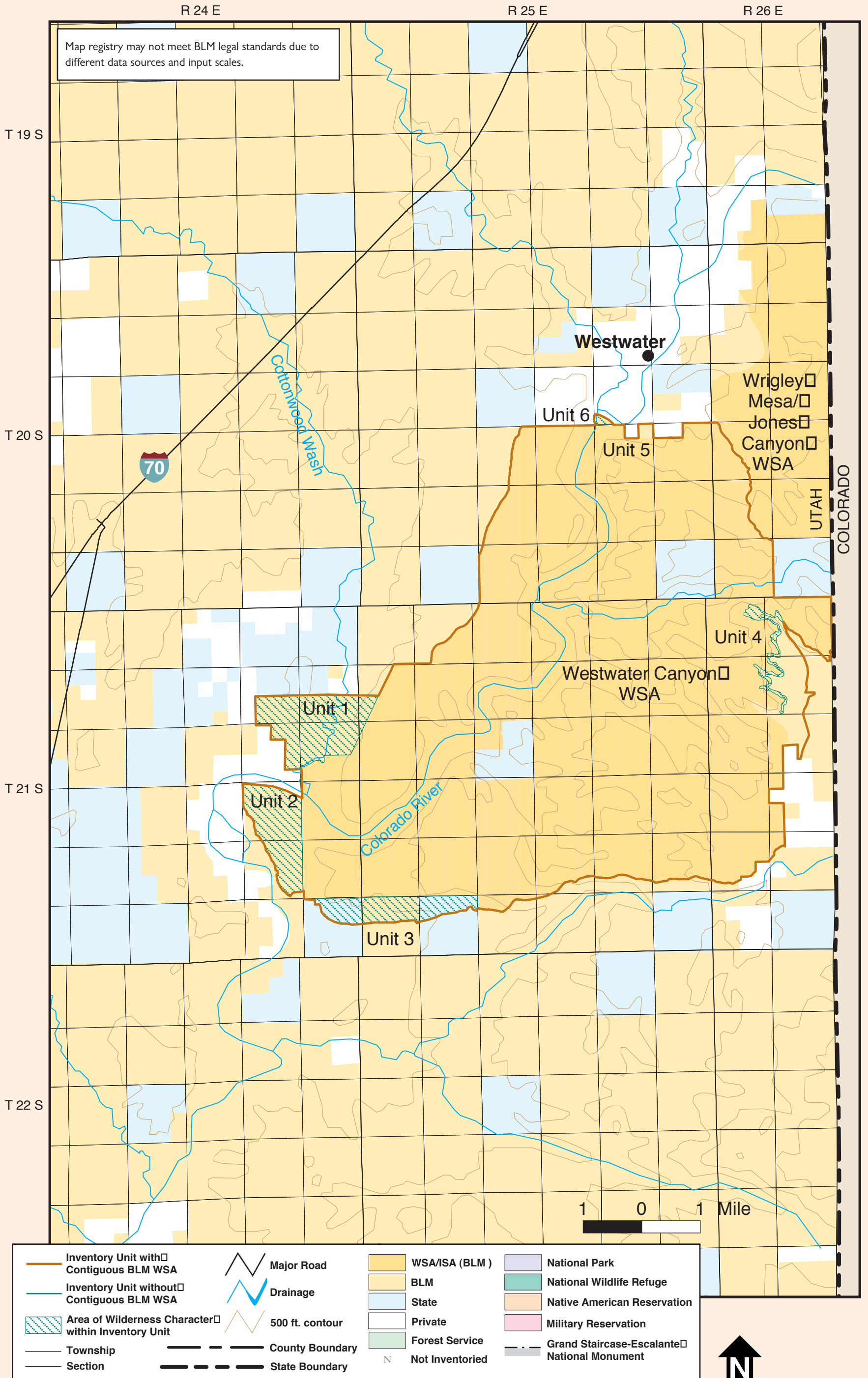
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The units provide limited opportunities for hunting and hiking. Outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation exist only in conjunction with the contiguous Westwater Canyon WSA.

Supplemental Values

Raptors are both transient and resident in the area; bald eagles use portions of the units for hunting. Big game species include mule deer and mountain lion.

Westwater Canyon



SOUTHEAST REGION — Westwater Canyon

Lost Spring Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
11,770	1,900	13,670 (92%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
1,150	100	1,250 (8%)
Inventory Unit Total		
12,920	2,000	14,920
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Lost Spring Canyon WSA (UT-060-131B)		3,380
Arches National Park—Devils Garden Unit		18,069

Portions of the Lost Spring Canyon inventory units (13,670 acres) have wilderness characteristics. The portions with wilderness characteristics are contiguous either to the Lost Spring Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA) or the Devil's Garden unit in Arches National Park, which has been administratively endorsed by the National Park Service (NPS) for wilderness. The portions with wilderness characteristics are logical extensions of either the WSA or the NPS area and are separated by roads into eight units.

A portion of Unit 8 does not meet the naturalness criteria. Units 9-12 are on the fringe of the inventory area and are impacted by a combination of roads, a pipeline right-of-way, and a highly visible, bladed seismic exploration line. These four small units do not have wilderness characteristics. Altogether, a total of 1,250 acres lack wilderness characteristics.

Unit Description

The Lost Spring Canyon inventory units are located in Grand County about 15 air miles north of Moab. The western units are northeast of the Devils Garden section of Arches National Park. The northern group of units is just north of the Lost Spring Canyon WSA, while the eastern units are northeast of the Delicate Arch area of Arches National Park.

In the western portion, Cordova Canyon and Cottonwood Wash join Salt Wash, which flows into the WSA. The major features of the northern portion are Fish Seep Draw and the upper reaches of Lost Spring Canyon. Features in the eastern part include Winter Camp Ridge, Winter

LOST SPRING CANYON—

The portions of the inventory unit with wilderness characteristics are contiguous either to the Lost Spring Canyon WSA or the Devil's Garden Unit of Arches National Park, enhancing the wilderness values already recognized in these two areas.

Camp Wash, and the western portion of the Dome Plateau.

Vegetation in the western portion consists of low-growing desert shrubs and sagebrush, with some cottonwood, tamarisk, and other riparian species in the canyon bottoms. The northern and eastern portions support piñon and juniper woodlands, Indian ricegrass, and Mormon tea, with riparian species in the drainage bottoms.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Eight units are generally natural in appearance. Although separated from the other units by roads, each unit is contiguous to areas recommended for wilderness in Arches National Park or the Lost Spring Canyon WSA. Units 1-8 are generally natural in character, with the following exceptions. The boundary of Unit 1 has been drawn to eliminate an area of mining disturbance north of Cordova Canyon. The northern boundary of Unit 5 has been drawn to exclude two large stock ponds. Unit 8 has been divided into a northern section that is generally natural in character and a southern section that has lost its natural character because of disturbance from oil and gas exploration and road development. The road to Lipiquino Water has been cherry-stemmed from Unit 8.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

All eight units with sufficient size and natural character have outstanding opportunities for solitude in conjunction with contiguous areas in Arches National Park or the Lost Spring Canyon WSA. Units 2 and 8 have outstanding opportunities for solitude on their own. In Unit 2, Cordova Canyon and Salt and Cottonwood washes, with their deep canyons and relatively

thick riparian vegetation, provide ample opportunity for seclusion. Unit 8 includes the southern flank of Winter Camp Ridge, Winter Camp Wash, and the piñon and juniper woodlands of the Dome Plateau. This topographically complex area, with its many sandstone outcrops and drainages, has many secluded locations. Unit 5 has some opportunities for solitude in Fish Seep Draw with its shallow drainages and scattered woodlands. However, Units 1, 3, 4, 6, and 7 are all less than 400 acres and have outstanding opportunities for solitude only in conjunction with contiguous areas.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Units 1-8 have outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation in conjunction with contiguous NPS lands or with the Lost Spring Canyon WSA. Units 2 and 8 have outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation on their own. Unit 2, which includes Cordova Canyon and parts of Salt Wash and Cottonwood Wash with their scenic sandstone walls, has outstanding opportunities for hiking and photography. Unit 8 has several water sources and scenic sandstone outcrops, creating outstanding opportunities for hiking, horseback riding, and photography.

Supplemental Values

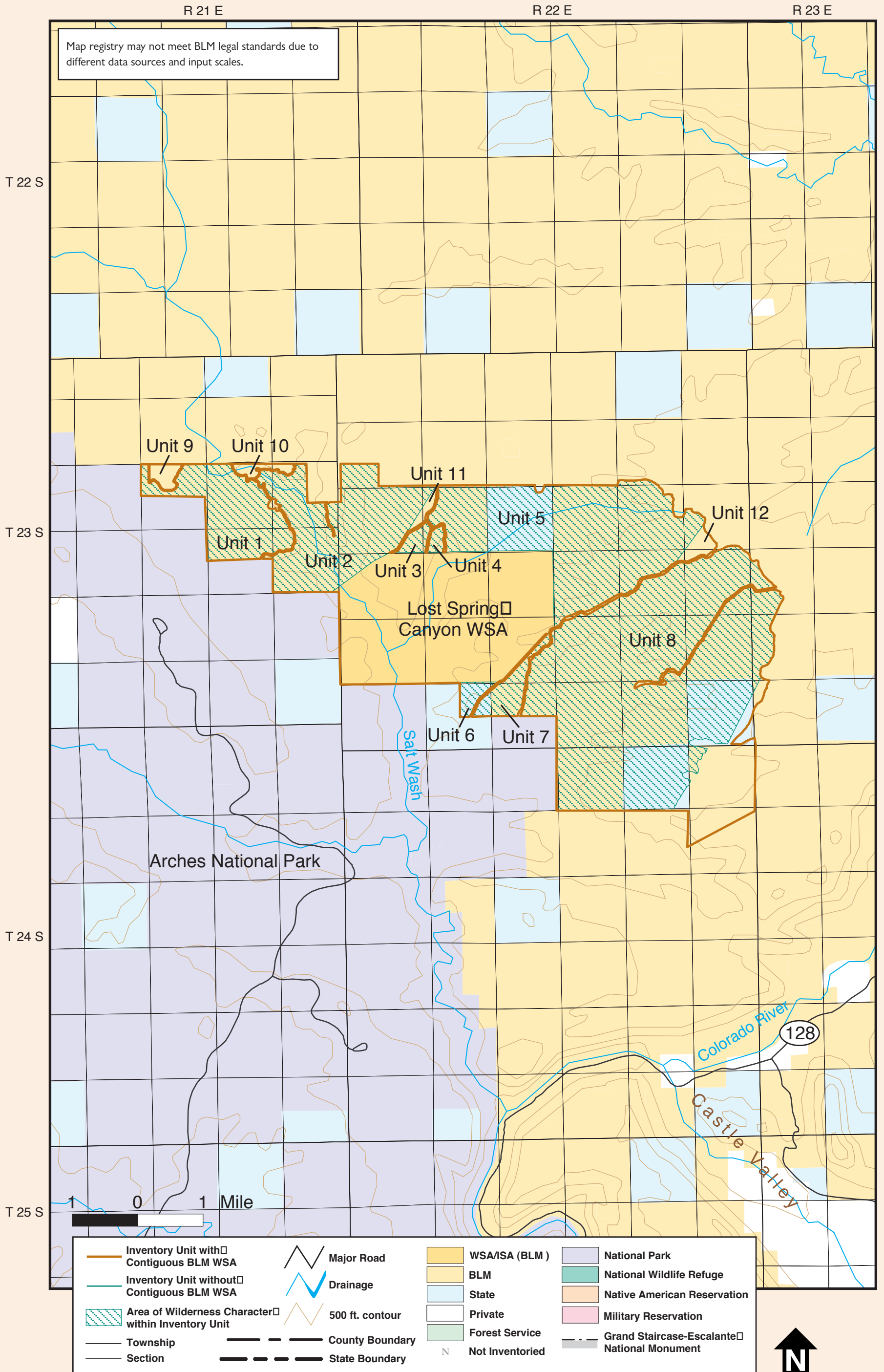
Units 2 and 8 have features of scenic interest. Unit 2 includes parts of three canyon systems with salmon-colored sandstone walls. The cottonwood trees in Cordova Canyon provide color contrast. Unit 8 includes a number of Entrada Sandstone domes and fins. Jug Rock in Unit 7 features several deep pothole formations. Peregrine falcons and mountain lions, along with four animal and five plant species considered sensitive, may inhabit the Lost Spring Canyon WSA. Some of these species may utilize portions of the inventory area.

Note: This report does not reflect the Arches National Park Expansion Act of 1998 (PL 105-329). Signed by the President on October 30, 1998, this Act authorizes the transfer of 3,140 acres of BLM land to the National Park Service. The transfer involves portions of the Lost Spring Canyon WSA and Units 2, 3, 4, and 5.



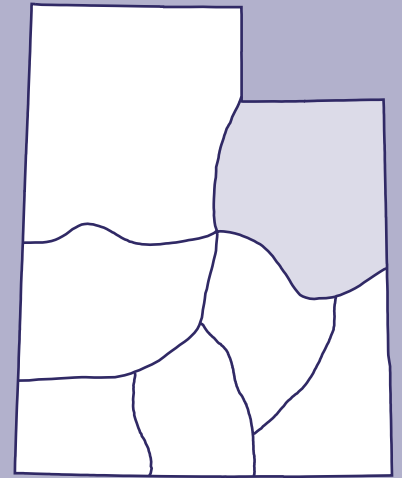
BLM photo

Lost Spring Canyon

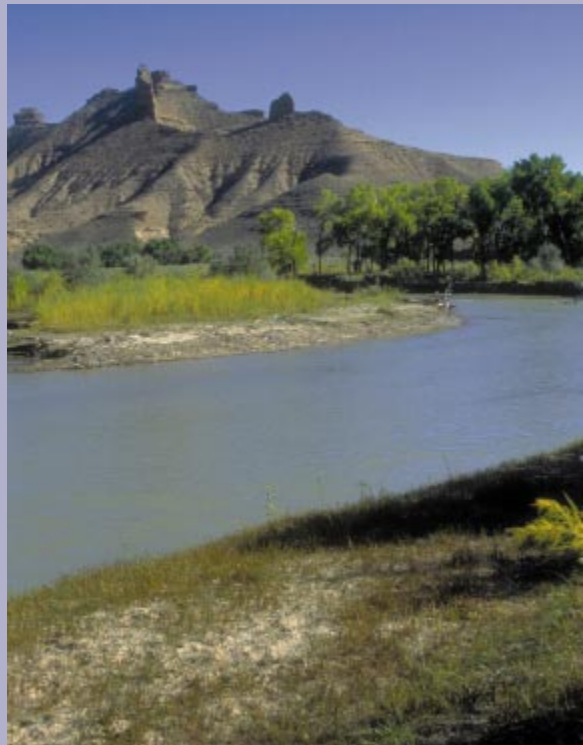
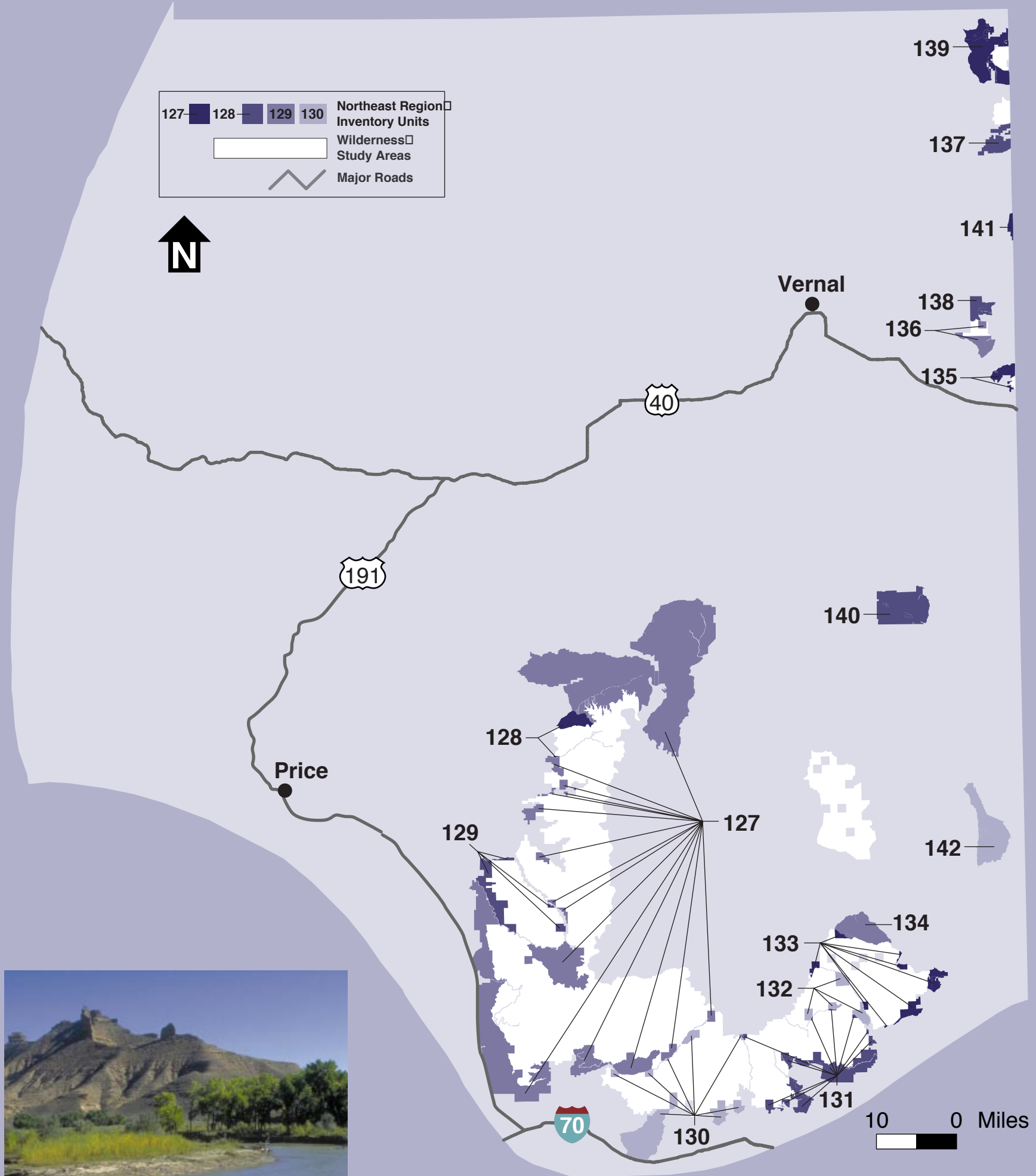


SOUTHEAST REGION—Lost Spring Canyon

Northeast Region



Desolation Canyon127	Bull Canyon135
Jack Canyon128	Daniels Canyon136
Turtle Canyon129	Diamond Breaks137
Floy Canyon130	Moonshine Draw138
Coal Canyon131	Cold Spring Mountain139
Spruce Canyon132	White River140
Flume Canyon133	Wild Mountain141
Westwater Creek134	Cripple Cowboy142



Jerry Sintz

WHITE RIVER—The White River meanders through the heart of this inventory unit and provides the canoeists or rafter wonderful opportunities for wildlife and waterfowl viewing.

Desolation Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
182,320	28,900	211,220 (97%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
5,700	0	5,700 (3%)
Inventory Unit Total		
188,020	28,900	216,920
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Desolation Canyon WSA		290,845
(UT-060-068A)		
Floy Canyon WSA (UT-060-068B)		72,605

About 211,220 acres of the nine Desolation Canyon inventory units have wilderness characteristics. These units are a continuation of the many features and landforms found throughout the contiguous Desolation Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA) and enhance its magnificent wilderness qualities. In combination with the WSA, the nine units represent one of the largest blocks of roadless BLM public lands within the continental United States. This is a place where a visitor can experience true solitude—where the forces of nature continue to shape the colorful, rugged landscape.

Approximately 5,700 acres in three places along the fringe of the inventory units are unnatural and do not have wilderness characteristics.

The Floy Canyon and Desolation Canyon inventory units are physically connected at the end of the Right Hand Tusher Canyon Road within the state section.

Unit Description

Desolation Canyon is located in Grand, Emery, Carbon, Duchesne, and Uintah Counties. The southern boundary of the inventory unit is five miles north of Green River, Utah, while the northern boundary is located some 38 miles southwest of Vernal. The Green River bisects the unit on the north. The Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation forms a part of the boundary

of the north end of the unit. Various roads, pipelines, and private lands form the boundaries of the remainder of the unit.

The terrain varies dramatically, from river bottoms and flood plains at about 4,200 feet elevation to the high ridges of the Tavaputs Plateau at 9,500 feet. Numerous mesas, ridges, plateaus, canyons, and deep remote drainages intersect with the Green River. The south and southwest portion of the inventory unit is defined by a 32-mile portion of the Book Cliffs. The units contain a wide diversity of vegetation, ranging from riparian zones along the river, to piñon and juniper woodlands; areas dominated by saltbush/sagebrush/ shadscale plant communities; and high ridges and plateaus forested with aspen, spruce, and fir.

Recreation is a dominant use with some 7,000 boaters a year floating the Green River through Desolation Canyon. Many more recreationists utilize the accessible lower stretch of Gray Canyon for camping, fishing, hiking, and water sports. Hunting and sightseeing occur in outlying areas along the boundaries. Some cattle grazing takes place, and remnants of past oil and gas exploration are also present.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Nearly all of the inventory units appear natural. While there are many scattered human imprints, their individual and cumulative impact on the natural character of most of the inventory units is minor. The imprints are in various stages of rehabilitation, with most being substantially unnoticeable in the area as a whole. The expansive landscape, diverse topography, and vegetation screens the scattered human intrusions within the units. Minor remnants of past oil and gas exploration, livestock grazing, and recreation pursuits remain, but most disturbance has been erased over time by the forces of wind, water and vegetation regrowth. Most of the significant or noticeable intrusions are located outside the boundaries.

Three areas do lack natural character. A small area in Unit 1 on the northern boundary near Fourmile Wash and Fourmile Bottom on the Green River lacks naturalness because of roads, old seismic lines, and reclaimed drill pads. Two small areas in Unit 8 also lack naturalness because of extensive off-highway vehicle use.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

All nine units are contiguous to Desolation Canyon WSA and enhance the outstanding opportunities found in the WSA. Units 1 and 7 are of sufficient size and configuration to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude on their own. All of the units, together with the Desolation Canyon WSA, comprise a large, remote area where a visitor is truly isolated from the outside world. The vast size, configuration, numerous scenic vistas, diversity of vegetation, and rugged topography provide the visitor with numerous places and opportunities to become isolated from others. Most of the units are remote, accessible only by foot, horseback, or boat.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory units are contiguous to and are an extension of the Desolation Canyon WSA. They enhance the outstanding opportunities provided by the WSA, including multiple-day river float-boating trips in a primitive setting, hiking, hunting, horseback riding, backpacking, back-country camping, climbing, fishing, swimming, photography, viewing of cultural and historic sites as well as a diversity of wildlife, nature study, and viewing of scenic landscapes. The large size and configuration of this vast, wild area enhances the variety and extent of activities available.

Supplemental Values

The inventory unit contains cultural, scenic, geologic, botanical, and wildlife values. Elevations and topography in the units vary from desert canyons to high mountain environments. Vegetation and wildlife habitats and species also vary greatly because of the diversity of terrain. Six endangered animal species occur or may occur in the units, including the peregrine falcon, black-footed ferret, bald eagle, Colorado squawfish, humpback chub, and bonytail chub. Ten special status animal species and six special status plant species also occur or may occur in some of the units.

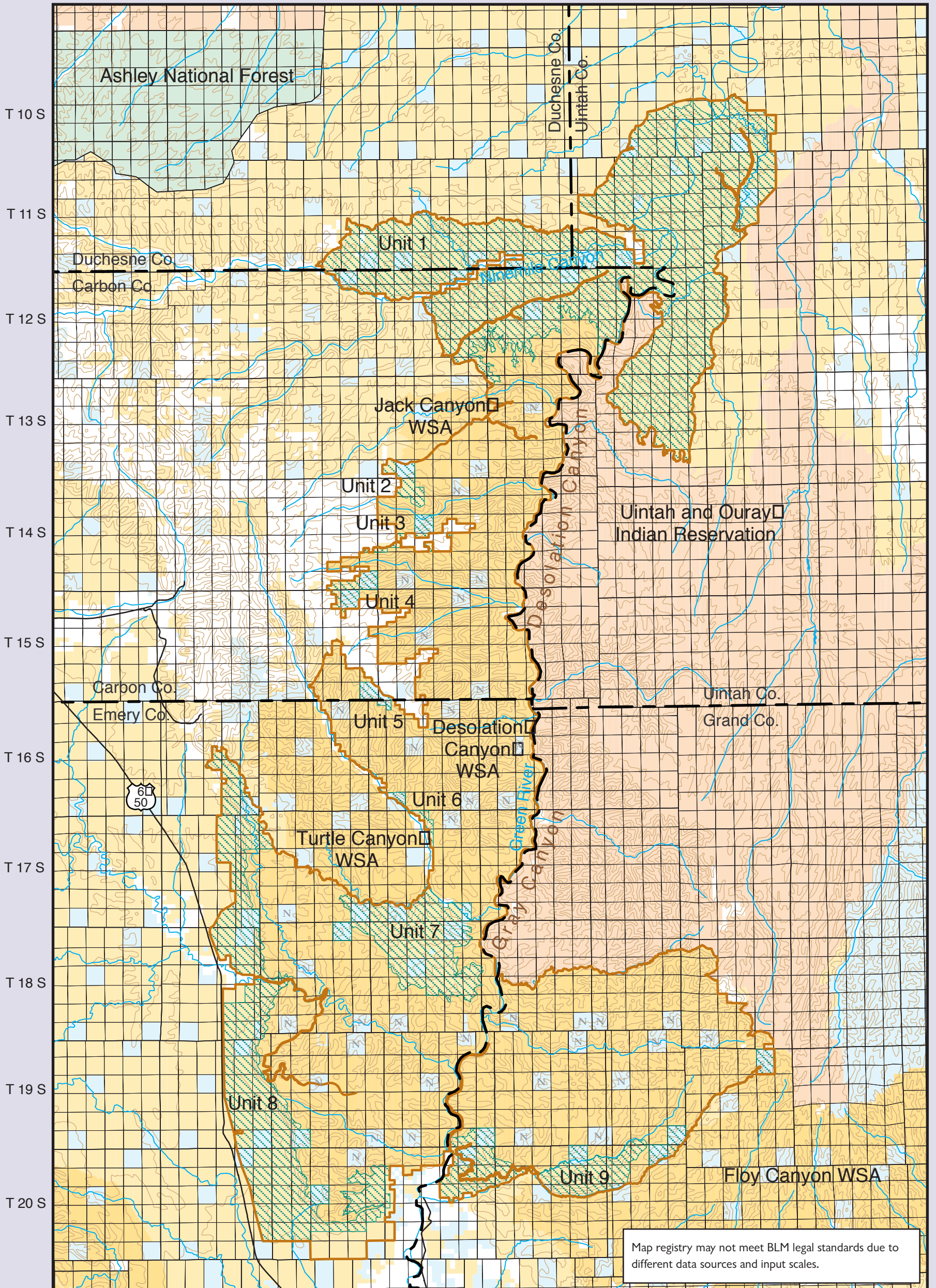
DESOLATION CANYON—
The Green River flows by Nutters Hole through Desolation Canyon; the inventory unit is on the right side of the river.



BLM photo

Desolation Canyon

R 16 E R 17 E R 18 E R 19 E R 20 E



Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	

1 0 1 Mile

NORTHEAST REGION—Desolation Canyon

Jack Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
3,300	360	3,660 (95%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
200	0	200 (5%)
Inventory Unit Total		
3,500	360	3,860
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Jack Canyon WSA (UT-060-068C)		7,500

About 3,660 acres of the two Jack Canyon inventory units have wilderness characteristics when considered in conjunction with the contiguous Jack Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA). Most of the area is natural. Vegetation and topography provide substantial screening of the minor intrusions related to past oil and gas exploration and the cherry-stemmed road to the south. The human developments that are present are substantially unnoticeable in the units as a whole. However, about 200 acres in the northwest portion of Unit 1 are unnatural because of the presence of a producing oil and gas well, road, and pipeline.

The steep, rugged terrain and dense piñon and juniper vegetation provide screening to enhance opportunities for solitude and a highly scenic backdrop for primitive and unconfined recreation. The units also contain supplemental scenic and wildlife values and support a wild horse herd.

Unit Description

The Jack Canyon inventory units are located in Carbon County about 35 miles

northeast of Price. Unit 1 is adjacent to the north side of the Jack Canyon WSA, while Unit 2 is adjacent to the southwest corner of the WSA. Unit 1 includes the steep upper portions of a prominent side canyon to the north of Jack Creek Canyon (Jack Creek being a tributary of the Green River) and small portions of the upper benches of Sage Brush Flats. Elevations range from 5,400 feet in the bottom of Jack Creek Canyon to over 7,200 feet on Sage Brush Flat to the west. Unit 2 is a small parcel of state land on Cedar Ridge.

Vegetation is predominantly dense piñon and juniper woodlands, along with areas of sagebrush and associated species. Some Douglas firs are mixed in with the piñons and junipers, mostly on the steep northern slopes. Current uses include cattle grazing, oil and gas exploration, and recreation pursuits.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Unit 1 has evidence of past oil and gas exploration in the form of old seismic lines, vehicle ways, and two reclaimed drill holes. Vegetation and topography provide ample screening of these minor intrusions, so they are substantially unnoticeable within the area as a whole. The ridge-top cherry-stemmed road in the south is also well screened by topography and vegetation, as are the boundary roads. All intrusions were found to be minor, are widely scattered, and have been reclaimed or are being rehabilitated naturally. However, a small area in the northwest corner of Unit 1 was found to be unnatural because of a producing oil and gas well, a road, and an above-ground pipeline. Unit 2 is natural and has no intrusions.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory units have outstanding opportunities for solitude when considered with the contiguous Jack Canyon WSA. The steep, rugged terrain of the canyons and dense piñon and juniper vegetation provide abundant screening from others, creating numerous areas to find isolation. The scenic views of the vast canyons and surrounding landscapes, both within the units and into the Desolation Canyon WSA, enhance the feeling of remoteness, vastness, and being truly alone. Distances, terrain, and vegetation all combine to provide opportunities to be isolated and remote from others.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory units provide outstanding opportunities for a variety of primitive and unconfined recreation activities in conjunction with the Jack Canyon WSA. Opportunities to engage in activities such as hiking, climbing, hunting, camping, and especially the viewing of wildlife and scenic landscapes are considered outstanding because of the scenic, geologic, and wildlife features available. The expansive views into the rugged Desolation Canyon WSA enhance the experiences related to primitive and unconfined recreation.

Supplemental Values

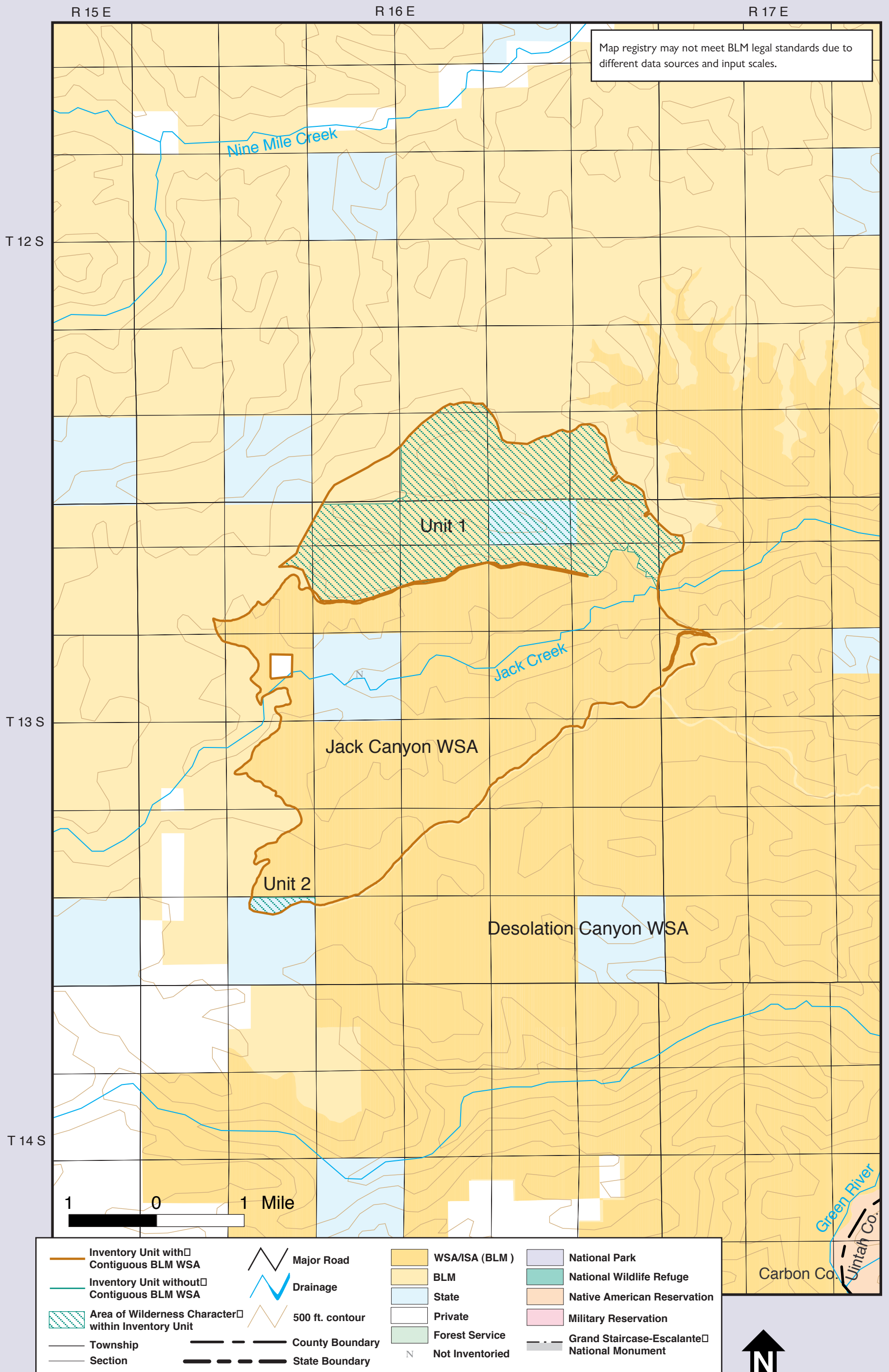
The inventory units are quite scenic, have interesting geological features, and offer high-value wildlife habitat. A portion of the area is used by the Range Creek Wild Horse Herd.

JACK CANYON—Steep, rugged terrain and dense piñon and juniper woodlands provide abundant screening and numerous places to experience solitude, remoteness, and a sense of being truly alone.



BLM photo

Jack Canyon



NORTHEAST REGION—Jack Canyon

Turtle Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
4,860	3,860	8,720 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
4,860	3,860	8,720
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Turtle Canyon WSA (UT-060-067)		33,690

All five Turtle Canyon inventory units (8,720 acres) have wilderness characteristics when considered in conjunction with the contiguous Turtle Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA). The units appear to be in a natural state, affected primarily by the forces of nature. A few short vehicle ways exist near the boundary, but they are in various stages of reclamation through erosional processes and revegetation, and thus do not significantly impact the natural character of the units. The scenic, steep, and jagged topography and dense vegetation provide outstanding opportunities to experience solitude and to engage in a variety of primitive and unconfined recreation activities. The inventory units also contain cultural, wildlife, and scenic values.

Unit Description

The Turtle Canyon inventory units are located about eight miles southeast of Sunnyside. They are on a divide between the Little Park Plateau above the Book

Cliffs to the west and Range Creek Canyon to the northeast. The units are contiguous to and extend the landforms of the Turtle Canyon WSA, an extremely steep and rugged area cut by canyons that are 1,000 to 3,000 feet deep. Elevations range from 4,800 feet in Turtle Canyon to 9,327 feet south of Little Horse Canyon near the head of Bear Canyon in the WSA. Vegetation is predominantly piñon and juniper woodland, with Douglas fir and mountain shrub communities scattered along the higher elevations and northern slopes. Much of the area has colorful rock outcrops of reds, greens, yellows, and grays. Uses of the units include coal exploration, cattle grazing, hunting, and hiking.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The intrusions within the inventory units are widely scattered and related to ranching and coal exploration drilling. All of these intrusions are minor, have been reclaimed or are in various stages of natural rehabilitation, are well screened by vegetation and topography, and are substantially unnoticeable. The units appear to be in a natural state, affected primarily by the forces of nature as perceived by the average visitor on the ground.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory units possess outstanding opportunities for solitude because they

are contiguous to and are extensions of the Turtle Canyon WSA, which provides outstanding opportunities for solitude. The steep and rugged terrain, numerous side canyons, and piñon and juniper woodlands all provide ample screening. Scenic views within the canyons and from the ridgetops enhance the feeling of being isolated and alone.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory units are contiguous to and are extensions of the Turtle Canyon WSA, where opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation are outstanding. The WSA provides opportunities for hiking, climbing, camping, hunting, and sightseeing. These opportunities are outstanding because of the size and configuration of the WSA as well as the quality of the scenic, geologic, wildlife, and cultural features. The contiguous inventory units enhance and extend the primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities found within the Turtle Canyon WSA.

Supplemental Values

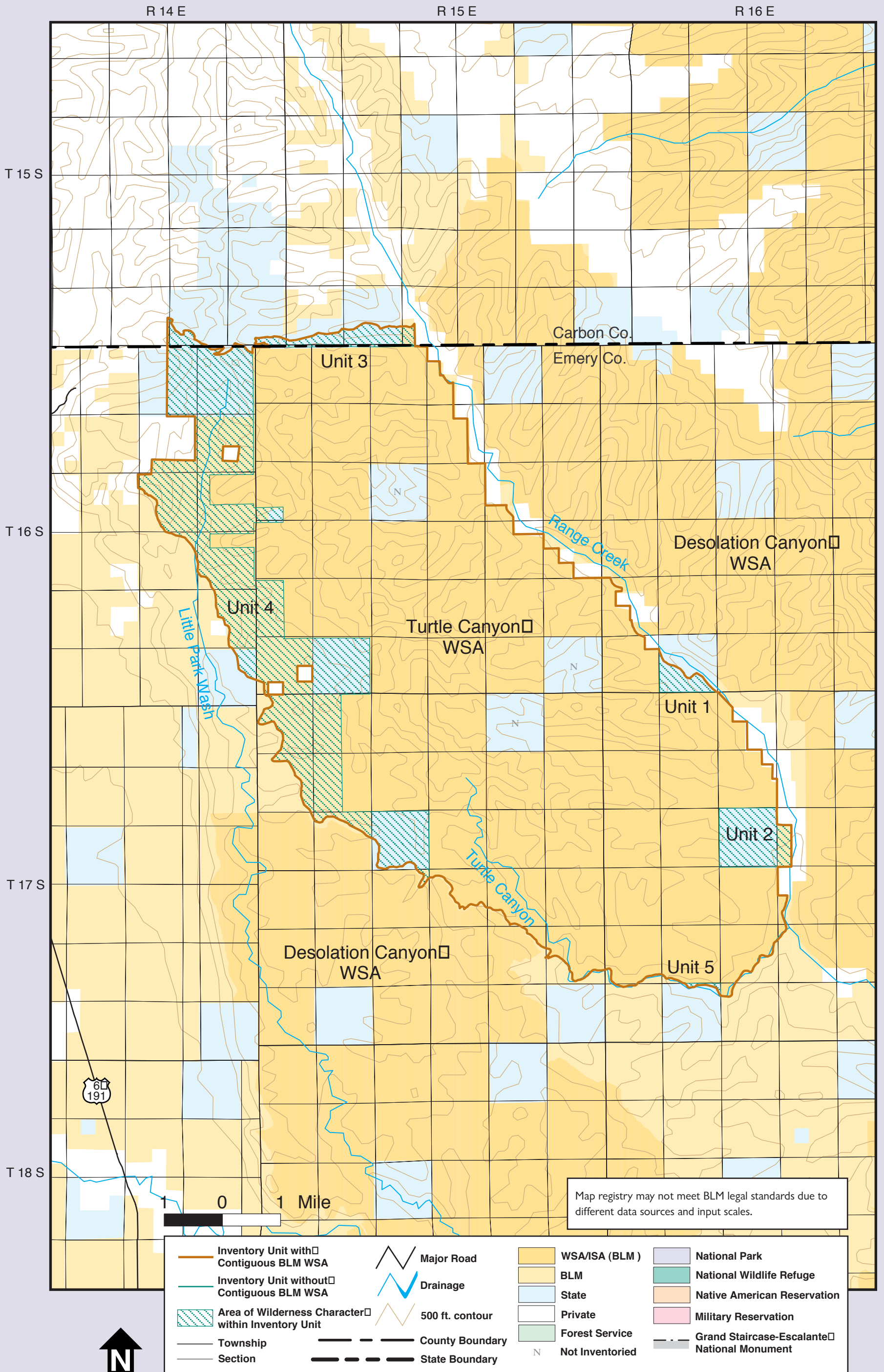
The WSA and inventory units have outstanding scenic quality, and significant Fremont period artifacts could be present. There are populations of mountain lion, elk, Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, and black bear. Endangered peregrine falcons and bald eagles may frequent the area; six other special status animal species and three plant species could be present as well. Overall, the differences in terrain and vegetation and the variety of wildlife and wildlife habitat that exist here are seldom found in an area the size of the Turtle Canyon WSA.

TURTLE CANYON—Varied landforms and vegetation extend the outstanding opportunities for solitude found in the Turtle Canyon WSA into the inventory unit.



Dave Cooper

Turtle Canyon



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

NORTHEAST REGION—Turtle Canyon

Floy Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
12,310	6,270	18,580 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	40	40 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
12,310	6,310	18,620
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Floy Canyon WSA (UT-060-068B)		72,605
Desolation Canyon WSA (UT-060-068A)		290,845

About 18,580 acres of the ten Floy Canyon inventory units have wilderness characteristics, while about 40 acres are unnatural and lacking in wilderness characteristics because of impacts from concentrated hunting and outfitting use. Nearly all of the ten units are in a natural condition with little or no evidence of human presence. Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation are outstanding throughout, with topographic and vegetative screening providing many places to be alone. The inventory units contain long and deep canyons, unusual geologic features, visual diversity, and a variety of wildlife species. Wilderness values are enhanced by the contiguous Desolation Canyon and Floy Canyon Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs). The Floy Canyon and Desolation Canyon inventory units are physically connected at the end of the Right Hand Tusher Canyon Road within the state section, adjacent to the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation.

Unit Description

The Floy Canyon inventory units are in Grand County about nine miles northeast of Green River. A county-maintained road up Right Hand Tusher Canyon to the state section at the upper end of the canyon defines the northwest boundary. The Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation bounds the north side. A high-standard all-season road runs up Segó Canyon and bounds the east side. A railroad right-of-way, roads, and private lands form the southern boundary.

Located in the northeastern portion of the Colorado-Plateau Province/Ecoregion, the Floy Canyon inventory units are extremely rugged with few vehicle ways. Except for Hatch and Horse Mesas, the units lie between the face of the Book Cliffs and

the top of the Roan Cliffs. Narrow, steep ridges and deep V-shaped canyons are characteristic of the area. Five large canyons—Horse Canyon, Middle Horse Canyon, Floy Canyon, Thompson Canyon, and Crescent Canyon—as well as many smaller canyons make up the WSAs and inventory units. Hatch Mesa and Horse Mesa are distinctive landforms.

Vegetation on the lower slopes is predominantly piñon and juniper woodland and high-desert plant communities. Deep within the canyons and high on the upper slopes are Douglas fir, mountain mahogany, oak scrub, sagebrush, and mountain shrubs. Riparian communities exist in the canyon bottoms, while Hatch Mesa and Horse Mesa are covered with low-desert grasses and shrubs. A year-round population of elk lives in the inventory units. Deer, mountain lions, black bears, golden eagles, and other wildlife species also inhabit the area, and mountain beavers thrive in the canyon bottoms. Grazing and hunting are the current land uses.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Nearly all of the Floy Canyon inventory units retain their natural character. Only a small part of Unit 10 in the northeast corner is unnatural because of impacts created by concentrated hunting and outfitting use.

Units 1, 2, 3, 4, and 7 have natural character. The vehicle way into Showerbath Canyon in Unit 5 has been cherry-stemmed; this cherry-stem includes the old cabin and corrals. Beyond this point, vehicles travel in the wash in the canyon bottom.

Hatch Mesa and Horse Mesa are found in Unit 6. Several unnoticeable vehicle ways and a stock pond west of Horse Mesa are found in the unit. In the northeast corner, a road was constructed up a small ridge to gain access to mining claims; however, this road is recovering naturally and is now substantially unnoticeable.

A small-game guzzler adjacent to the boundary road in Unit 8 and a wildlife guzzler adjacent to the southern boundary road in Unit 9 are substantially unnoticeable. Only the area in Unit 10 above the

8,400 foot contour is unnatural, given the impacts from concentrated hunting and outfitting.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Opportunities for solitude are outstanding. The size, configuration, topographic features, and dense vegetative screening throughout the units enhance the opportunities for solitude. There are more than 50 miles of canyons within the contiguous WSAs and the inventory units that range from 100 feet to over 1,000 feet in depth. There are numerous locations where a person can experience a sense of isolation and remoteness.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

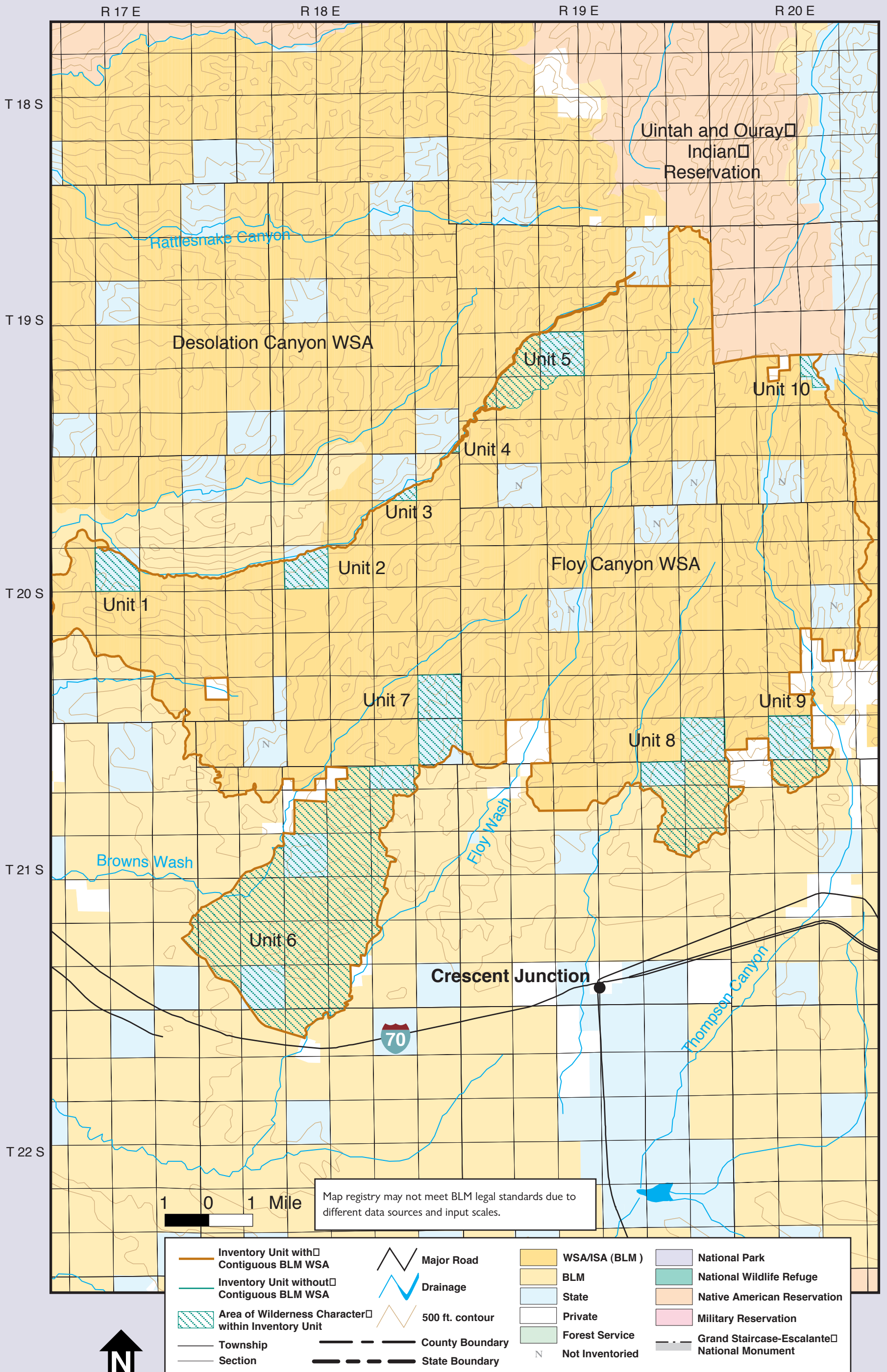
Opportunities for primitive or unconfined recreation are outstanding throughout the contiguous WSAs and the inventory units. The extensive system of canyons, ridges, and pack trails provides numerous opportunities for hiking, backpacking, camping, hunting, and other forms of primitive recreation.

Supplemental Values

Topographic features that enhance the scenic values of the inventory units include colorful rock outcrops, spires, balanced rocks, chimneys, narrow steep-walled canyons, and the dramatic cliffs surrounding Hatch and Horse Mesas. Scenic vistas, where it seems one can see for 100 miles in every direction, are outstanding.

Cultural values include historic cabins and related trails. Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep, cougar, elk, black bear, and deer inhabit the area. Endangered black-footed ferrets, peregrine falcons and bald eagles, along with six other animal species considered sensitive, are also found.

Floy Canyon



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	

Coal Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
12,480	4,770	17,250 (90%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
1,370	520	1,890 (10%)
Inventory Unit Total		
13,850	5,290	19,140
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Coal Canyon WSA (UT-060-100C2)		64,546
Spruce Canyon WSA (UT-060-100C1)		20,990

Most of the eleven Coal Canyon inventory units (17,250 acres) have wilderness characteristics and are in a natural condition with little or no evidence of human presence. Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation are outstanding. The inventory units contain panoramic vistas, many long and deep canyons, perennial streams, and a wide variety of wildlife species. They are contiguous to the Coal Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA), which in turn is contiguous to a large parcel of land managed by the State of Utah as a roadless area.

Portions of four units (1,890 acres) do not have wilderness characteristics. Several small areas adjacent to the Cisco Dome Oil and Gas Field are unnatural because of the outside sights and sounds of the gas field operation. In addition a small area in the northwestern portion is unnatural because of impacts from concentrated hunting/ outfitting parking and camping.

The WSA boundary road separating the Spruce Canyon and Coal Canyon WSAs no longer exists beyond the well and pipeline in Cottonwood Canyon adjacent to Unit 10. Beyond this point, the road has returned to a natural condition.

Unit Description

The Coal Canyon inventory units are in Grand County about 25 miles northeast of Green River. The southern portion of the area is visible from Interstate 70, which is approximately 10 miles to the south. The eleven units lie primarily along the southern and eastern boundaries of the WSA.

Located in the northeastern portion of the Colorado-Plateau Province/Ecoregion, the Coal Canyon area has extreme and varied

topography. The landscape is dissected with steep ridges and narrow v-shaped canyons. Cottonwood Canyon, Horse Canyon, and Corral Canyon, as well as Corral and Tepee Points, are all within the inventory units.

Piñon and juniper woodlands and high desert plant communities are found throughout much of the area. Deep within the canyons and high on the upper slopes are Douglas fir, sagebrush, and mountain shrub communities, while riparian communities exist in the bottom of the canyons along the perennial streams and springs. Land uses in the area include livestock grazing, oil and gas development, and recreation, with an emphasis on hunting.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the Coal Canyon inventory units retain their natural character. Many of the units have little or no development, and evidence of humans does not impact the natural character. Roads and associated developments in Units 4, 5, and 6 have been cherry-stemmed from the units.

A small portion of Unit 1 in the northwestern corner is unnatural because of impacts from concentrated hunting/outfitting parking and camping. In addition, portions of Units 4, 5, and 6 immediately adjacent to the Cisco Oil and Gas Field are unnatural because of oil and gas exploration and development activities; the outside sights, sounds, and odors of producing or exploratory operations affect areas where adequate vegetative screening does not exist.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The Coal Canyon inventory units are contiguous to and are a logical extension of the Coal Canyon WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for solitude. All of the larger units (1 - 7) enhance the opportunities for solitude found in the WSA. The numerous canyons and plateaus provide excellent topographic screening, with the thick woodlands further enhancing opportunities for seclusion. The size of Units 8 - 11 limits their ability to provide opportunities for solitude; they have outstanding opportunities only when considered in conjunction with the contiguous WSA.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

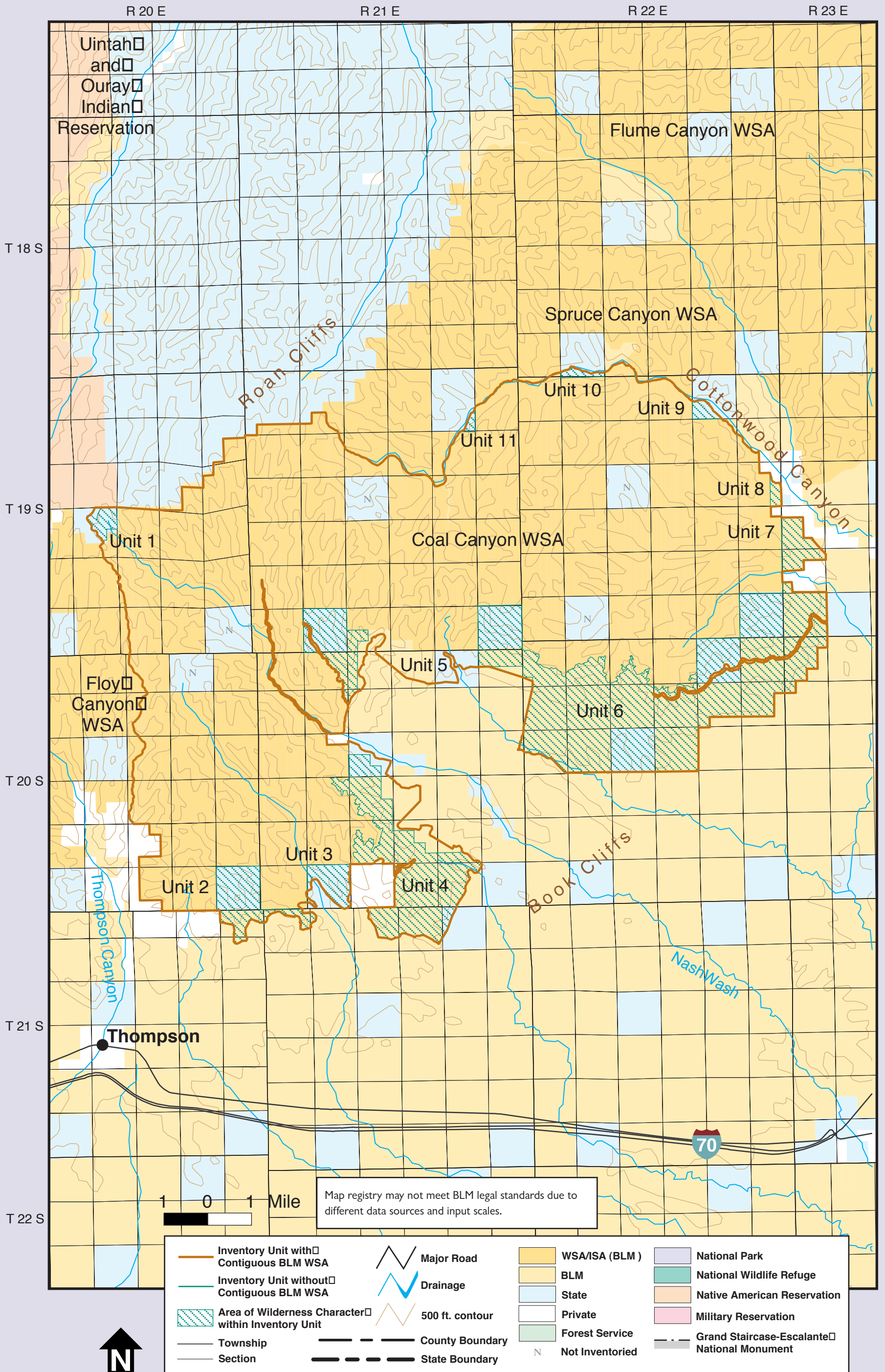
The Coal Canyon inventory units are contiguous to and are a logical extension of the Coal Canyon WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation. All of the larger units (1 - 7) enhance the opportunities for recreation found in the WSA. The size of Units 8 and 9 limits opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation; they offer outstanding opportunities only when considered in conjunction with the contiguous WSA. Because the boundaries between Spruce Canyon and Coal Canyon WSAs are no longer evident on the ground, Units 10 and 11 blend into the contiguous WSAs, further enhancing opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Unit 6 offers outstanding upland game hunting. In addition, opportunities for hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, photography, and other primitive forms of recreation are found within the inventory units.

Supplemental Values

The units provide impressive scenic vistas, interesting geology, and habitat for a wide variety of wildlife. The dissected landscape of steep ridges and long, narrow v-shaped canyons provides outstanding panoramic vistas and scenic quality. Black-footed ferrets, which are an endangered species, and six other animal species considered sensitive may be present. Four candidate endangered species, including the ferruginous hawk, longed-billed curlew, southern spotted owl, and the western yellow-billed cuckoo, may also inhabit the area.

Coal Canyon



NORTHEAST REGION—Coal Canyon

Spruce Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
2,320	2,640	4,960 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
2,320	2,640	4,960
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Spruce Canyon WSA (UT-060-100C1)		20,990
Coal Canyon WSA (UT-060-100C2)		61,430
Flume Canyon WSA (UT-060-100B)		50,800

All 4,960 acres of the four Spruce Canyon inventory units have wilderness characteristics. Each of the four units is in a natural condition with little or no evidence of human presence. Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation are outstanding throughout the inventory units because of thick vegetative cover and the many side canyons that drain into Cottonwood and Diamond Canyons on the perimeter of the contiguous Spruce Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA).

The units contain wilderness-enhancing values such as portions of several long and deep canyons, unusual geologic features, visual diversity, and diverse habitats that support a variety of wildlife species. The upper portions of the WSA boundary roads in Diamond and Cottonwood Canyons have returned to a natural state.

Unit Description

The Spruce Canyon inventory units are located north of Interstate 70 in Grand County about 43 miles northeast of Green River, Utah. In association with the Spruce Canyon WSA, the units include four small areas composed of both public and state lands. The inventory units lie between the face of the Book Cliffs and the top of the Roan Cliffs. They consist of a landscape dissected by steep ridges and v-shaped valleys. Stands of aspen, Douglas fir, and piñon-juniper woodland cover most of the area. The remainder of the inventory units is covered by mountain shrub, sagebrush, and shadscale vegetation types. A perennial stream and numerous beaver ponds extend most of the length of Cottonwood Canyon. Beaver thrive in the narrow canyon bottoms, building dams and ponds. As a result of this dam building, vehicular access has been blocked in Cottonwood Canyon. Land uses include

livestock grazing, oil and gas exploration and production, and recreation.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

All four of the Spruce Canyon inventory units retain their natural character. No roads, vehicle ways, or other unnatural features were identified within inventory Units 1, 3, or 4. A gas well and the access road up Cottonwood Canyon forms a portion of the southern boundary of Unit 2.

The Spruce Canyon inventory units are contiguous to and are a logical extension of the Spruce Canyon WSA. Unit 1 is also contiguous to the Flume Canyon WSA. The road up Diamond Canyon, which is the boundary for the Flume Canyon WSA, has disappeared into the underbrush beyond the confluence of Halfway and Diamond Canyons. Units 2 and 3 are contiguous to the Coal Canyon WSA. The boundary road up Cottonwood Canyon between these two units and the Coal Canyon WSA has faded into the natural character of the canyon, becoming nonexistent.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The three contiguous WSAs possess outstanding opportunities for solitude, and the four inventory units enhance those opportunities. Portions of numerous canyons, including Halfway, Tepee, and Cherry, are within the inventory units. Ridges provide excellent topographic

SPRUCE CANYON—Numerous ridges and canyons, including Halfway Canyon, provide excellent topographic screening, with heavy forest vegetation further enhancing the opportunities for seclusion.



BLM photo

screening, with the dense woodlands further enhancing opportunities for seclusion. The scenic vistas from the ridges within the units enhance the sense of isolation.

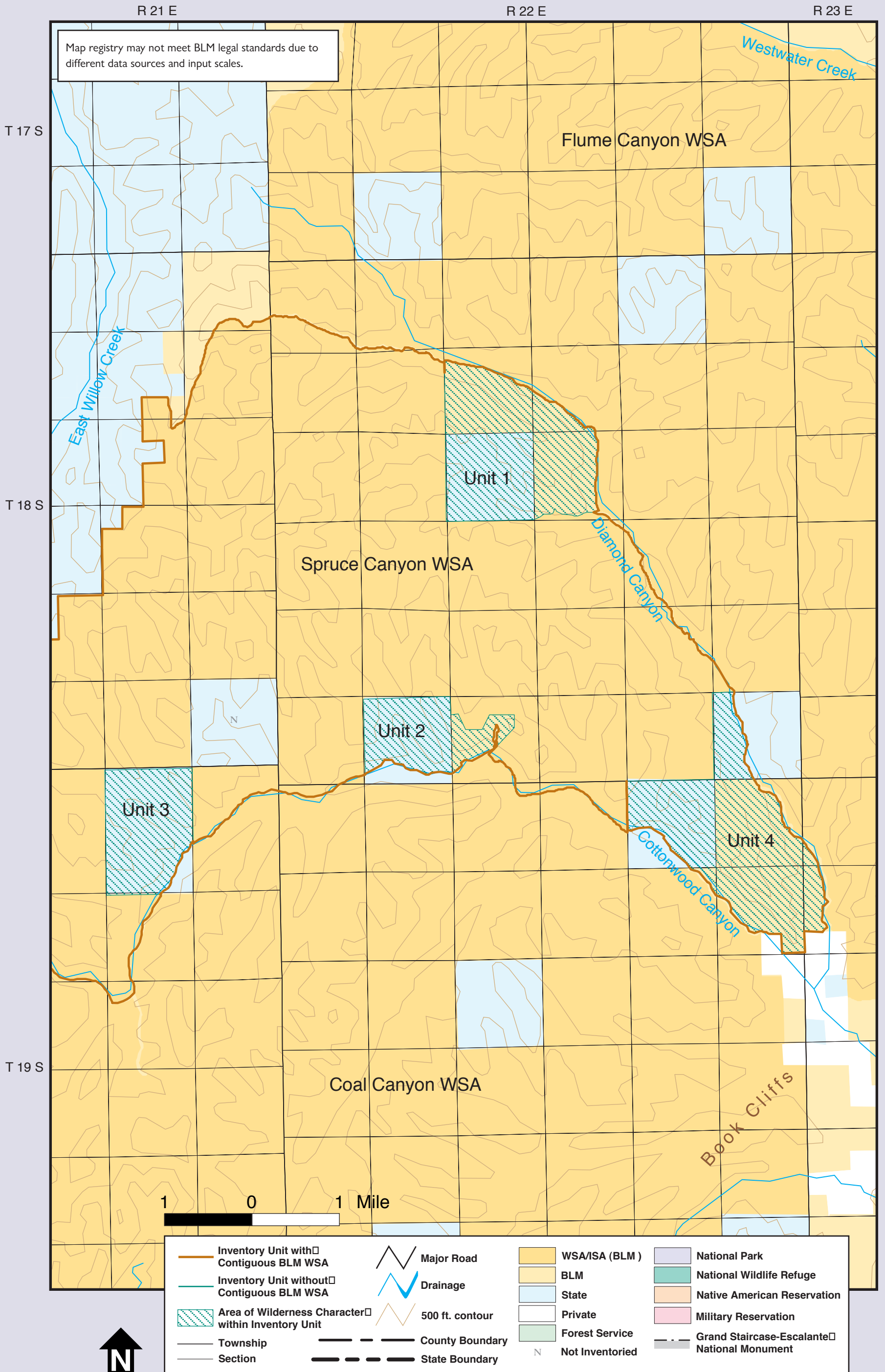
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Opportunities for unconfined and primitive forms of recreation are outstanding throughout the inventory units. The Spruce Canyon inventory units are contiguous to and are logical extensions of the Spruce Canyon WSA. Because the boundaries between the Spruce Canyon WSA and the Coal Canyon and Flume Canyon WSAs are no longer evident on the ground, Units 1, 2, and 3 blend into the contiguous WSAs, further enhancing opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. The system of canyons and ridges provides numerous opportunities for hiking, backpacking, camping, hunting, and other forms of primitive recreation.

Supplemental Values

The Spruce Canyon inventory units are part of the largest continuous escarpment in the world—the Roan Cliffs and Book Cliffs. The contiguous Spruce Canyon WSA is itself contiguous to a state roadless area on its western boundary. From the top of the steep-walled canyons, a visitor can see dramatic scenic vistas in every direction. Beaver have reclaimed much of the canyon bottoms and restored natural processes by building ponds in Cottonwood Canyon. Cougar, elk, black bear, and deer inhabit the area. Endangered black-footed ferrets, peregrine falcons, and bald eagles, as well as six other animal species that are considered sensitive, may occur in or near the inventory units.

Spruce Canyon



NORTHEAST REGION—Spruce Canyon

Flume Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
4,300	2,770	7,070 (88%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
500	500	1,000 (12%)
Inventory Unit Total		
4,800	3,270	8,070
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Flume Canyon WSA (UT-060-100B)		50,800
Spruce Canyon WSA (UT-060-100C1)		20,990

About 7,070 acres of the eight Flume Canyon inventory units have wilderness characteristics. Most of the inventory area is in a natural condition, with little or no evidence of human presence. The units contain several long and deep canyons, unusual geologic features, visual diversity, and a variety of wildlife species, all of which enhance wilderness values. However, about 1,000 acres in the eastern portion of Unit 3 are unnatural and lack wilderness characteristics because of the development and operation of oil and gas wells.

Opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation are outstanding throughout the units because of topographic and vegetative screening. The units enhance the opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation found in the contiguous Spruce Canyon and Flume Canyon Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs). Hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, camping, and viewing natural resources are all opportunities found in the WSAs, as well as in the inventory units.

The upper portion (about half) of the vehicle route in Diamond Canyon, which forms the boundary between Flume Canyon and Spruce Canyon WSAs, has returned to a natural state. This route has been reclaimed by beavers that have constructed dams and created ponds in the canyon, obliterating the boundary road. The route is no longer passable by vehicles without major reconstruction.

Unit Description

The inventory units are in Grand County about 43 miles northeast of Green River, in the northeastern portion of the Colorado Plateau Province/Ecoregion. The units are one of seven contiguous inventory areas across much of the Roan Cliffs and Book Cliffs, the longest continuous escarpment in the world. They lie between the face of the Book Cliffs and the top of the Roan Cliffs. Contiguous to the Flume Canyon and Spruce Canyon WSAs as well as a state roadless area, the units are extremely rugged, with few vehicle ways or roads. Stands of aspen, Douglas fir, and piñon and juniper woodland inhabit most of the area, with mountain shrubs, sagebrush, and shadscale covering the remainder. Human uses include recreation, livestock grazing, and oil and gas production.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the units retain their natural character, although the eastern portion of Unit 3 is unnatural because of visual impacts of oil and gas exploration activities. Unit 7, which is north of the Cisco Springs North Gas Field, is well screened from outside sights and sounds by dense piñon and juniper trees and a 200-foot vertical escarpment; it is also more than a mile north of any oil and gas development activities. A gas production well has been cherry-stemmed from Unit 5, as have exploration roads and the drill pad in the Pear Park Gas Field. Other vehicle ways and minor disturbances are substantially unnoticeable because of vegetative screening or because they have naturally rehabilitated and now appear natural in the landscape. As a result of beaver dam building, vehicular access in the upper end of Diamond Canyon has been blocked by ponds; the road in the canyon bottom has been naturally reclaimed.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

All eight units are contiguous to and are logical extensions of the Flume Canyon WSA. Unit 1 is also contiguous to the Spruce Canyon WSA and a state roadless area. These WSAs have outstanding opportunities for solitude. All of the units enhance the opportunities for solitude found in the WSAs, especially Unit 4, which contains a section of the Book Cliffs. The numerous canyons and ridges provide excellent topographic screening, while the heavily forested vegetation further enhances the opportunities for seclusion. Flume and Sulphur Canyons, the side canyons of Diamond and Westwater Canyons, and the broad flat areas in the Pear Park area all provide numerous opportunities for solitude. Overall, the units offer outstanding opportunities for solitude when viewed as extensions of the WSAs.

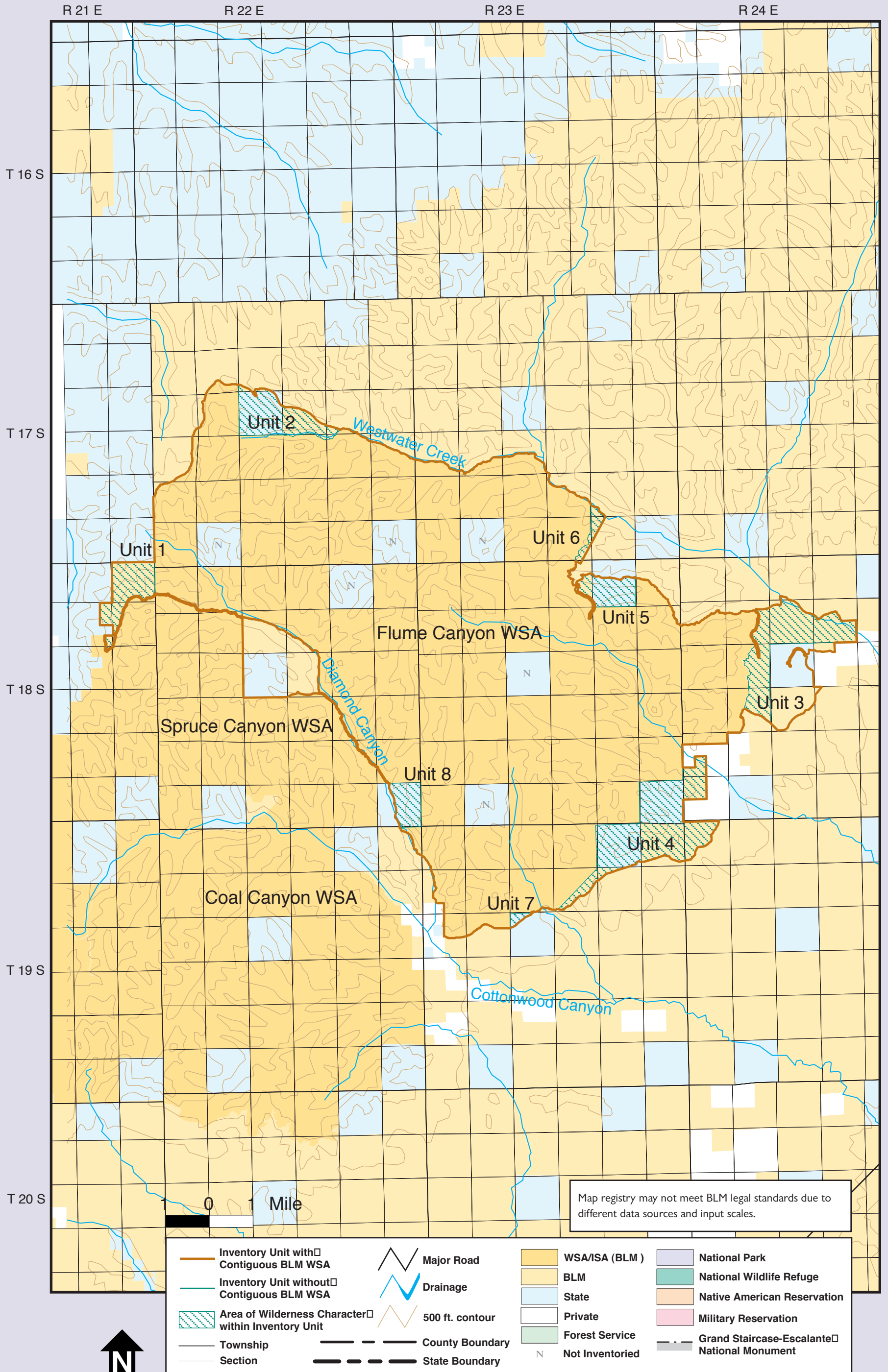
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

All eight units are contiguous to and are logical extensions of the Flume Canyon WSA. Unit 1 is also contiguous to the Spruce Canyon WSA and a state roadless area. All of the units enhance the opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation found in the WSAs. Opportunities for hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, camping, and viewing of natural resources are found in the WSAs, as well as in the units themselves. The Diamond Ridge pack trail traverses Unit 1, making it a logical extension of the state roadless area. The units provide outstanding primitive recreational opportunities when considered in conjunction with the contiguous WSAs.

Supplemental Values

A variety of topographic features enhance the scenic values of the units, including colorful rock outcrops, spires, steep-walled canyons, and dramatic scenic vistas from the top of the Jumping Off Point. Elk are in the area year-round, as are deer, mountain lions, black bears, and golden eagles. Beavers thrive in the canyon bottoms, where they build dams and ponds. Endangered black-footed ferrets, peregrine falcons, bald eagles, and six other animal species considered sensitive occur in or near the units, as do four candidate endangered species, including ferruginous hawks, longed-billed curlews, southern spotted owls, and western yellow-billed cuckoos.

Flume Canyon



NORTHEAST REGION—Flume Canyon

Westwater Creek

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
9,100	1,000	10,100 (100%)
Inventory Unit Total		
9,100	1,000	10,100
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

None of the 10,100-acre Westwater Creek inventory unit has wilderness characteristics. It lacks outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation because of its size, topography, and adjacent land uses. The presence and operation of an active gas well at the end of a cherry-stemmed road adjacent to the south-central portion of the inventory unit, a gas line right-of-way on the southern boundary, and a major dirt road bordering the north side, coupled with the size and configuration of the unit, limit opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. Although the unit is scenic and contains portions of several major canyons, it lacks wilderness qualities.

Unit Description

The Westwater Creek inventory unit is located in eastern Grand County adjacent to the Flume Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA); it is about 55 air miles northeast of Moab and approximately 15 miles west of the Colorado border. The unit is teardrop-shaped, approximately three miles wide and five to six miles long. A natural gas pipeline and right-of-

way abuts the south side of the unit. Hay Canyon Road and a short stretch of a pack trail define the northeast boundary, while the northwest boundary is defined by a well-maintained dirt road and gas line right-of-way.

In the northwest portion of the unit, two public land sections and portions of three others are located within an oil shale reserve area that has been withdrawn for use by the Department of Energy. Current uses within the unit are oil and gas development, grazing, and some hunting.

The major physical feature is a central ridge, extending east to west, that drops into Preacher Canyon on the north and Pipeline Canyon and Westwater Creek on the south. Three short box canyons extend into the unit. Piñon and juniper woodlands are found in the canyons and along the ridge top, with sagebrush dominating the canyon bottoms. Other species include rabbitbrush, greasewood, and various grass species.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The Westwater Creek inventory unit has natural character. It consists of a rugged single ridge with associated short box canyons. Large portions of the unit were burned in a wildfire several years ago. However, the area was reseeded and has begun to recover. Interesting scenic vegetation mosaics were created by the fire.

Human disturbance within the unit is substantially unnoticeable in the area as a whole. A large corral complex north and outside of the unit is used by hunters. A

cherry-stemmed vehicle way runs south for about a mile from the corrals to Survey Point. A gas well, pipeline, and constructed road have been cherry-stemmed from the south-central portion of the unit. There are no apparent human intrusions within the central core of the area.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

Opportunities for solitude exist within the inventory unit but they are significantly limited, given the unit's size and physical configuration. The boundary road in Preacher and Hay Canyons limits opportunities for solitude to the far reaches of the two canyons that branch off from Preacher Canyon. Opportunities for solitude within the southern portion of the unit are much better, given the fact that it is adjacent to the Flume Canyon WSA, separated only by a 4-inch natural gas pipeline and its associated right-of-way. However, the constructed features (roads, pipelines, and the active gas well) that border upon the unit constrain not only the unit's size, but also the opportunities for a visitor to feel alone. As a result, the opportunities for solitude are not outstanding.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Although the inventory unit is fairly rugged, the size of the area and its physical configuration limit opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation. Most hunting activity occurs on the ridge at Survey Point, where a popular hunter's camp exists. The scenic vistas from Survey Point and Jumping Off Point are excellent. However, there are only limited opportunities for hiking, photography, camping, and hunting.

Supplemental Values

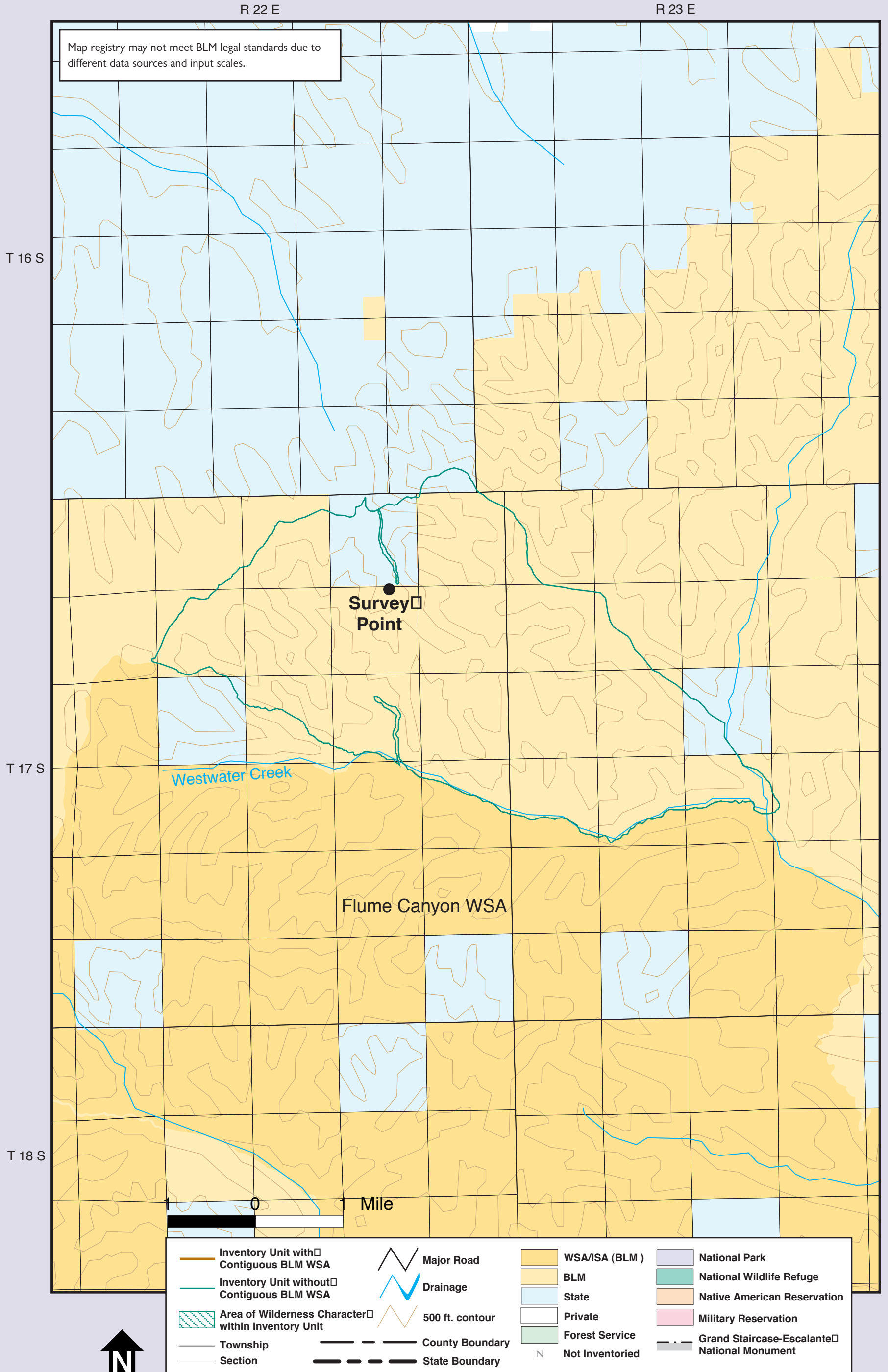
The unit provides winter habitat for deer and elk and is home to black bears and mountain lions. Four candidate endangered species may inhabit the unit: the ferruginous hawk, long-billed curlew, southern spotted owl, and western yellow-billed cuckoo.

WESTWATER CREEK—A view looking down Westwater Creek, which forms the boundary between this inventory unit (on the left side of the canyon) and the Flume Canyon inventory unit (on the right side).



BLM photo

Westwater Creek



NORTHEAST REGION—Westwater Creek

Bull Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
2,470	300	2,770 (99%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
30	0	30 (1%)
Inventory Unit Total		
2,500	300	2,800
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Bull Canyon WSA (UT-080-419)		520
(CO-010-001)		11,777

About 2,770 acres of the three Bull Canyon inventory units have wilderness characteristics. The three units, together with the contiguous Bull Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA), are large enough to manage as wilderness. Outstanding opportunities for solitude and recreation found within the Bull Canyon WSA extend into the inventory units. There are also scenic, archaeological, and wildlife values. About 30 acres in Unit 1, however, lack wilderness characteristics.

Unit Description

The Bull Canyon inventory units are in eastern Uintah County along the Utah and Colorado state line, about 25 air miles southeast of Vernal. Grassy flats in the south give way to rolling hills and drainages in the central portion of the area and steep, highly dissected, forested mountains in the north. Massive white-rock outcrops and colorful red soils contrast with the juniper woodland. Riparian vegetation in the canyons

provides a diverse oasis. Livestock grazing is the primary use. Popular with hunters, the northern portion is easily accessed by the Miners Draw Road. However, private land and deeply cut washes limit access into the southern part of the units.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The Bull Canyon inventory units appear natural overall. While several developments such as fences and vehicle ways are present, their individual and cumulative impact on the unit's natural character is minor. Most of Unit 1 appears natural. The few human imprints are well screened by the same rugged terrain and vegetation that have limited development to the unit's boundary. There are a few vehicle ways and fences, as well as an old drill hole. Substantially noticeable vehicle ways, an associated minerals pit, and a road have been cherry-stemmed from the unit. The cumulative effect of these imprints eliminates naturalness values on a small portion (30 acres) of the surrounding area. Unit 2 and Unit 3 are both natural in appearance. There are four vehicle ways, but their impact on the natural character of the unit is minor.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The same features that create outstanding opportunities for solitude in the Bull Canyon WSA continue into the inventory units: rugged mountains, hidden basins,

thick woodlands, and deep drainages all promote feelings of solitude and isolation. The size, configuration, rugged terrain, and dense vegetation of the WSA create outstanding opportunities for solitude. On the higher elevations in the WSA, visitors experience wide open spaces and vast scenic vistas that enhance the feeling of solitude. Canyons in the WSA offer many places for a person to be alone, isolated from other people.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

Varied scenery, interesting geology, and wildlife provide a variety of primitive and unconfined recreation opportunities within the Bull Canyon WSA. These opportunities include hunting, hiking, backpacking, photography, wildlife viewing, and sightseeing. These same outstanding opportunities extend into the Bull Canyon inventory units.

Supplemental Values

The Bull Canyon inventory units have scenic, archaeological, and wildlife values. The white cliffs, red soil, and green juniper woodland in Unit 1 combine to provide a variety of form, line, color, and texture, creating an attractive landscape. Several archaeological surveys have revealed temporary camps and short-term habitation sites, including subsurface stone hearths and millstones, associated possibly with a middle to late archaic period. Antelope and elk are commonly found in the units, as is habitat for Mexican spotted owls, peregrine falcons, spotted and big free-tail bats, and the Utah milk snake, a listed species.

BULL CANYON—Looking north from Unit 3, across the Bull Canyon WSA and Unit 2, into Unit 1 and beyond; the features and outstanding opportunities found in the WSA extend into the inventory units.



BLM photo

Bull Canyon

R 25 E

Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

T 5 S

T 6 S

UTAH
COLORADO

Unit 1

Unit 2

Bull Canyon WSA

Unit 3

1 0 1 Mile



Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA	Major Road	WSA/ISA (BLM)	National Park
Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA	Drainage	BLM	National Wildlife Refuge
Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit	500 ft. contour	State	Native American Reservation
Township	County Boundary	Private	Military Reservation
Section	State Boundary	Forest Service	Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument
		Not Inventoried	

Daniels Canyon

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
3,100	800	3,900 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
3,100	800	3,900
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Daniels Canyon WSA (UT-080-414)		2,496

All of the Daniels Canyon inventory unit (3,900 acres) has wilderness characteristics. It meets the size requirement (at least 5,000 acres total) as a roadless extension of the 2,496-acre Daniels Canyon Wilderness Study Area (WSA). The unit is natural; the few impacts associated mostly with sheep grazing are not noticeable in the area as a whole. Opportunities for both solitude and primitive recreation are present and enhance those values found in the Daniels Canyon WSA. Given the size of the area, however, these opportunities are considered outstanding only in association with the values present in the WSA. The inventory unit has numerous values that supplement the requisite wilderness characteristics, including cultural, botanical, and wildlife resources.

Unit Description

The Daniels Canyon inventory unit is located in northeast Uintah County about 25 air miles east of Vernal. The area

contains mostly public land, along with portions of state land. The state land parcel in Unit 1 plummets about 1,500 feet down through cream-colored sandstone and thick forest to Cub Creek in Daniels Canyon. It is bounded by a primitive road in Docs Valley on the north and by the Daniels Canyon WSA on the remaining sides. Unit 2 rises several thousand feet up the back side of Blue Mountain, almost to the upper edge of Cliff Ridge. The western portion of the unit is forested with piñon and juniper, while the eastern portion is covered with sagebrush and grass. The high, southern end of the unit offers spectacular panoramic views of Split Mountain. Hunters and sheep ranchers are the predominant users of the area.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The Daniels Canyon inventory unit retains its natural character because of the limited number of intrusions. The steep, rugged topography has kept the area natural and undeveloped. The existing human imprints are not noticeable in the unit as a whole because they are naturally rehabilitating, are screened by vegetation, and are generally located on the boundary of the unit. These developments do not dominate the natural landscape seen by visitors.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory unit is contiguous to and is an extension of the Daniels Canyon WSA,

which has wilderness solitude values. It is heavily forested, with many ridges and canyons that offer excellent opportunities for solitude. The incredible scenic vistas available from within the unit intensify the feelings of solitude. Given that both the inventory unit and the WSA are relatively small, the opportunity for outstanding solitude is enhanced by their combination.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory unit is contiguous to and is an extension of the Daniels Canyon WSA, which has wilderness primitive and unconfined recreation values. The unit has excellent opportunities for hiking, camping, and hunting in both large, deep canyons and high mountain meadows. The unit also provides panoramic views of expansive mountain meadows and Split Mountain. The opportunity for outstanding primitive recreation is enhanced by the combination of the inventory unit and the WSA.

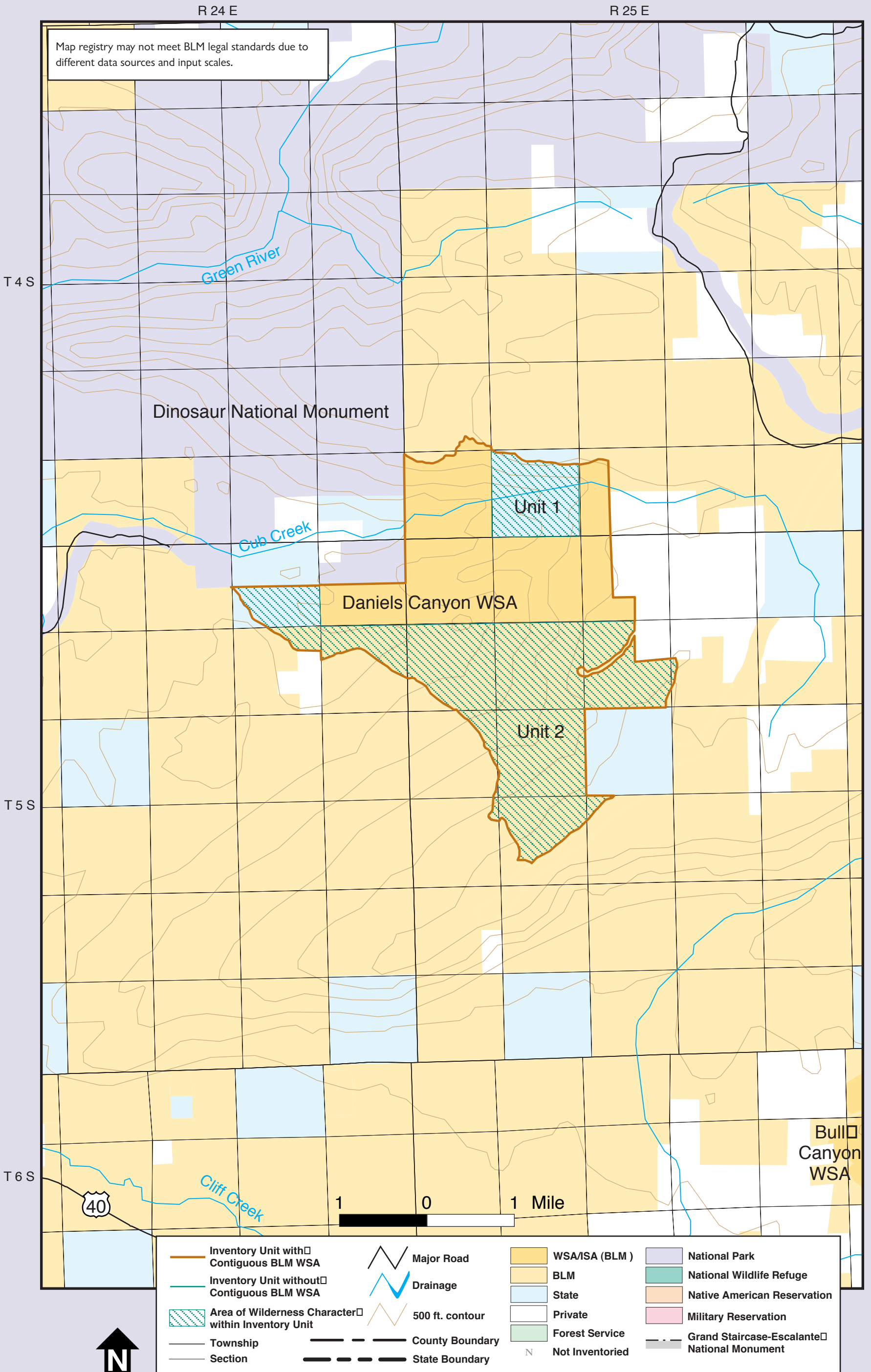
Supplemental Values

The Daniels Canyon inventory unit has numerous supplemental values. Uinta Fremont rock art is found here, as well as a mud granary and associated lithic scatters and camps. Other supplemental values include wildlife habitat for State and BLM sensitive species, including the Mexican spotted owl, peregrine falcon, spotted and big free-tail bats, and Utah milk snake. Habitat is also likely present for several important botanical species.

DANIELS CANYON— Uinta Fremont rock art found in the inventory unit is but one of the many values enhancing those already found in the contiguous Daniels Canyon WSA.



Daniels Canyon



NORTHEAST REGION—Daniels Canyon

Diamond Breaks

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
4,500	700	5,200 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
4,500	700	5,200
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Diamond Breaks WSA (UT-080-113) (CO-010-214)		35,380

The three Diamond Breaks inventory units (5,200 acres) all have wilderness characteristics. They are in a natural condition and offer outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation when considered in conjunction with the contiguous Diamond Breaks Wilderness Study Area (WSA) in Utah and Colorado.

Unit Description

The Diamond Breaks inventory units are in eastern Daggett County about 35 air miles northeast of Vernal. The terrain consists of southwest-trending ridges, with the south slopes covered with a piñon and juniper woodland. The north slopes are an interesting mosaic of vegetation, with Douglas fir and colorful pockets of

aspen and mountain mahogany, as well as sagebrush, piñon, and juniper. Colorful red cliffs and rock formations contrast with the vegetation. The ridge tops, capped by rock outcrops, offer expansive views. Elevations range from about 7,000 feet to 8,700 feet. The unit is used primarily by hunters and ranchers.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

All three inventory units retain their natural character. Given their remote location and rugged terrain, Units 1 and 2 are virtually free of any human imprints. A vehicle way, used primarily for hunter access, separates Utah's Diamond Breaks WSA from Unit 1. Unit 3 is also rugged; some of the highest elevation peaks in the Diamond Breaks complex are found here. Unit 3 does contain several minor vehicle ways and a short stretch of fence, but these features are well screened and do not affect the unit's naturalness. The core of Unit 3 remains in a natural state.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The Diamond Breaks inventory units are contiguous to and are logical extensions of the Diamond Breaks WSA, which has

outstanding opportunities for solitude. Both Units 1 and 3 enhance the opportunities for solitude found in the WSA. The numerous canyons and peaks provide excellent topographic screening, with the heavily forested vegetation further enhancing the opportunities for seclusion. The size of Unit 2 limits its solitude opportunities unless it is viewed as an extension of the entire WSA.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory units are contiguous to and are logical extensions of the Diamond Breaks WSA, which has outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation. Both Units 1 and 3 enhance the opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation found in the WSA. Hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, camping, and viewing natural resources are all opportunities found in the WSA, as well as in these units. Unit 2 has outstanding primitive recreation opportunities only when considered in conjunction with the WSA.

Supplemental Values

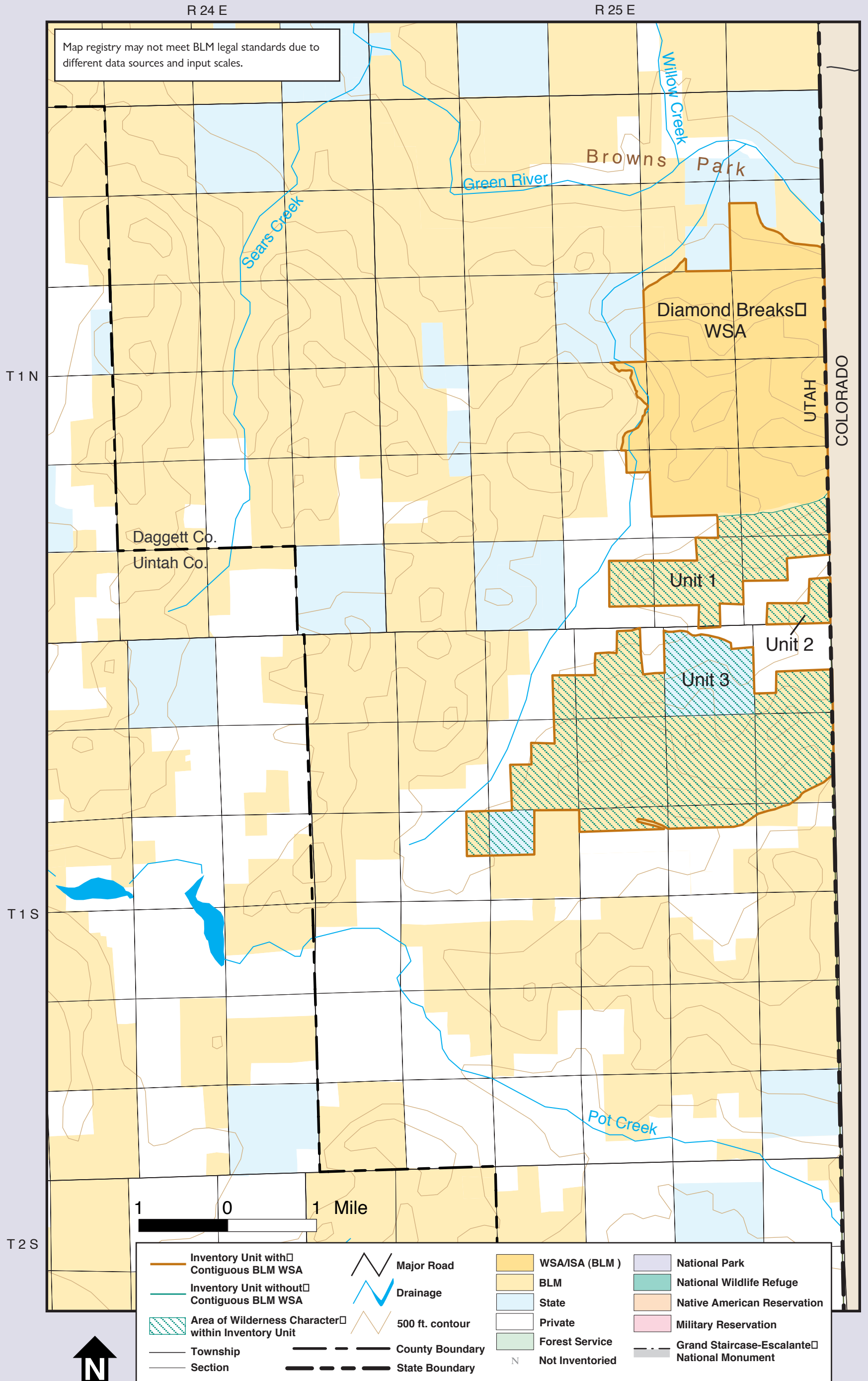
The Diamond Breaks inventory units provide critical elk habitat. Although unsurveyed, there is potential habitat for the Mexican spotted owl. Spotted and big free-tailed bats may be found near riparian areas. The units also have known Uinta Fremont cultural resource sites.

DIAMOND BREAKS—The inventory units are logical extensions of the contiguous Diamond Breaks WSA, enhancing many of its already identified outstanding opportunities. The bare junipers in the foreground resulted from a previous fire.



BLM photo

Diamond Breaks



Moonshine Draw

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
2,700	0	2,700 (69%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
1,100	100	1,200 (31%)
Inventory Unit Total		
3,800	100	3,900
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Dinosaur National Monument		

The western portion of the Moonshine Draw inventory unit (2,700 acres) has wilderness characteristics and is contiguous to a portion of Dinosaur National Monument that has been administratively endorsed for wilderness by the National Park Service (NPS). It is in a natural condition and offers outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation when considered in conjunction with the NPS proposal. However, the eastern portion of the unit (1,200 acres) does not have wilderness characteristics because of numerous vehicle ways, fences, and reservoirs associated with livestock grazing. It also lacks the topographic and vegetative screening found further west.

Unit Description

The unit is in eastern Uintah County about 25 air miles east of Vernal. The deeply etched Moonshine Draw and Bear Hollow, as well as the open Yampa

Plateau, are the main topographic features of this unit, which is used primarily by hunters, hikers, and ranchers.

The unit is an extension of the lands proposed for wilderness within Dinosaur National Monument. It contains the portion of Ruple Ridge that drops down into the deeply cut Moonshine Draw, which continues through the NPS lands and empties into the Green River at Moonshine Rapids. Elevations range from about 7,600 feet on the plateau tops to 6,000 feet in the bottom of Moonshine Draw. The open plateaus give way to areas heavily wooded with piñon and juniper. There are also small pockets of ponderosa pine in the south.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Much of the unit retains its natural character, given the few intrusions, its rugged terrain, and the difficult access. The wooded portions of Moonshine Draw and Bear Hollow are exceptionally natural and scenic. In the natural-appearing area, there is less than one mile of vehicle way, a short section of fence, and a small corral, none of which are substantially noticeable. The eastern portion of the unit is unnatural because of an accumulation of intrusions: numerous livestock reservoirs that are regularly maintained, a number of vehicle access routes, and several miles of fence. A 1.75-mile road has been cherry-stemmed from the unit.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit is contiguous to a portion of Dinosaur National Monument that is proposed for wilderness, and it enhances the opportunities for solitude found on these contiguous NPS lands. The extremely rugged landscape of Moonshine Draw and other smaller draws provides topographic screening. Vegetation found throughout much of the unit also screens visitors from each other. Opportunities for solitude are outstanding only in conjunction with the contiguous NPS lands.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The Moonshine Draw inventory unit is contiguous to and an extension of lands within Dinosaur National Monument. The inventory unit enhances the opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation found on these NPS lands. Hiking, backpacking, hunting, camping, and viewing of expansive scenic vistas are all opportunities provided within the Moonshine Draw inventory unit. These opportunities are outstanding only in conjunction with the contiguous NPS lands.

Supplemental Values

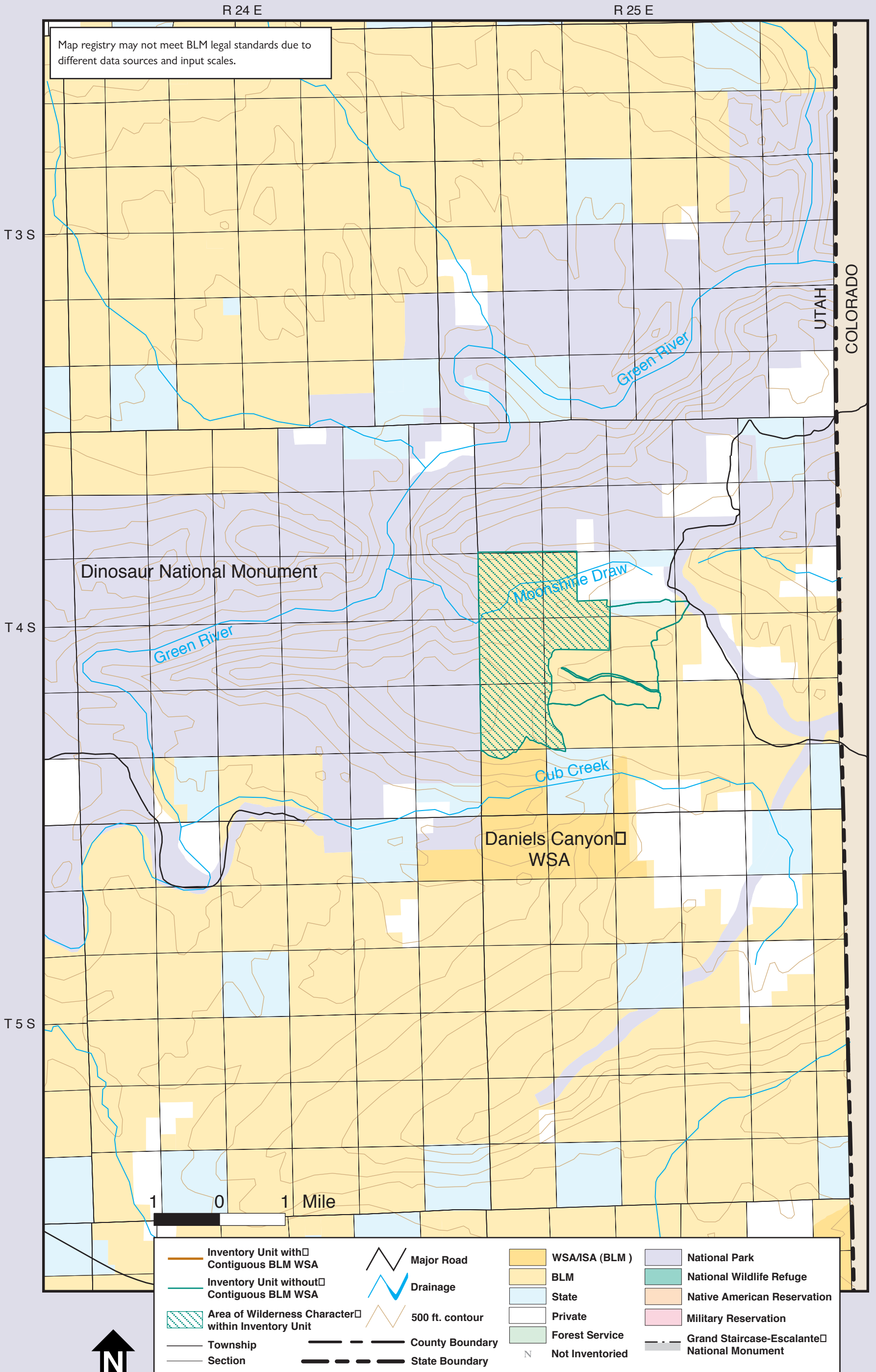
The unit contains habitat for the Mexican spotted owl, peregrine falcon, spotted and big free-tail bats, and the Utah milk snake. These are all State and BLM sensitive species.

MOONSHINE DRAW—Looking down Moonshine Draw towards the contiguous Dinosaur National Monument.



BLM photo

Moonshine Draw



Cold Spring Mountain

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
9,500	3,100	12,600 (78%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
2,700	800	3,500 (22%)
Inventory Unit Total		
12,200	3,900	16,100
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
West Cold Spring WSA (UT-080-103)		3,200
(CO-010-208)		14,482

About 12,600 acres of the Cold Spring Mountain inventory unit have wilderness characteristics. The unit is generally natural, with human imprints being substantially unnoticeable. Many older vehicle routes have largely disappeared because of non-use and vegetation growth.

About 3,500 acres are unnatural. In the northwest corner, a number of access routes to major natural gas pipelines and a fiber optic line right-of-way, a concentration of vehicle ways, and a major range pipeline have combined to impact naturalness along the Jessie Ewing Canyon and Clay Basin boundary roads. In the south-central portion of the unit, roads, vehicle ways, fences, and ranch developments have impacted naturalness on lands between the Willow Creek and George Draw Roads.

The unit offers outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive and unconfined recreation, opportunities that enhance and extend those found in the contiguous West Cold Spring Wilderness Study Area (WSA). The unit also has values that supplement these wilderness characteristics, including cultural, botanical, and wildlife resources.

Unit Description

The inventory unit is in Daggett County in northeastern Utah along the Colorado state line, about 40 air miles northeast of Vernal. It is contiguous to the West Cold Spring WSA on the north, west, and

south. The unit and WSA in Utah are located on the southern slopes of the O-Wi-Yu-Kuts Mountains, draining from the O-Wi-Yu-Kuts Plateau on the north toward Browns Park and the Green River to the south. Willow Creek is the major drainage, encompassing Birch Creek, Bender Draw, and O-Wi-Yu-Kuts Creek and Draw. Vegetation varies from sagebrush and grass meadows to scattered stands of piñon pine and aspen on the O-Wi-Yu-Kuts Plateau, and piñon-juniper woodlands and associated shrubs and grasses on the lower slopes of the hills above Browns Park.

Human uses include hiking, hunting, camping, livestock grazing, woodcutting, natural gas and fiber optic transmission lines, and oil and gas exploration.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the unit is natural. While there are intrusions, they do not significantly impact the unit's natural condition as a whole. The dense piñon-juniper woodlands and the steep rugged terrain conceal the presence of many of the minor intrusions. The existing human imprints are unnoticeable in the area as a whole because they are being naturally rehabilitated, are screened by vegetation, and are generally located on the boundary of the unit. The unit offers scenic views of high mountain meadows and canyons, along with spectacular views of Browns Park, the Green River, and the Gates of Lodore.

Naturalness has been impacted in the northwest and south-central portions of the unit. In the northwest, a combination of vehicle ways and vegetative disturbances associated with natural gas pipelines, a fiber optic line, access to developed springs

(Chokecherry, Fighting, and Cottonwood), hunting activities, property boundary lines, and casual off-road vehicle use have impacted naturalness. In the south-central portion of the unit, vehicle ways and fences associated with ranching activities have combined to impact naturalness between the Willow Creek and George Draw Roads. These two areas are unnatural and lack wilderness characteristics.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The rugged landforms, deep canyons, and dense vegetation in the inventory unit provide a setting where a visitor can find isolation from others and the outside world. Willow Creek and Birch Creek, two deep twisting canyons, are good examples of this. Open vistas from the top of the O-Wi-Yu-Kuts Plateau create a sense of vastness, open space, and isolation from the developed world.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The inventory unit offers outstanding opportunities to participate in a variety of primitive recreational activities, including hiking, backpacking, hunting, fishing, horseback riding, wildlife viewing, and sightseeing. The large size of the unit enhances these opportunities by allowing unrestricted movement throughout the area. The combination and variety of recreational activities are outstanding.

Supplemental Values

The unit possesses a variety of supplemental values, including wildlife, potential threatened and endangered animal species habitat, cultural resources, and threatened and endangered plant species habitat.



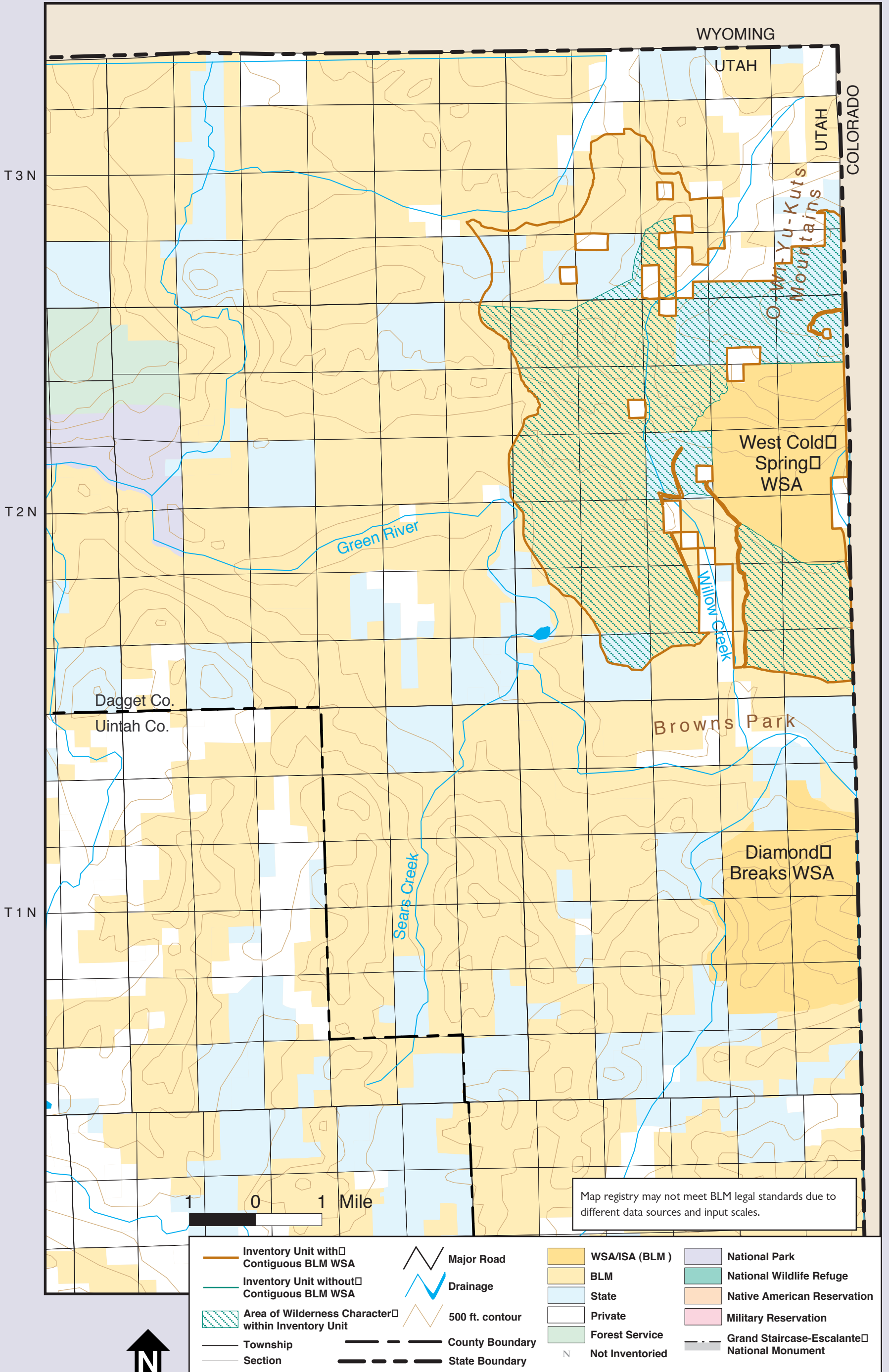
BLM photo

COLD SPRING MOUNTAIN—
Rugged terrain, deep canyons, and dense vegetation provide numerous opportunities to find solitude and isolation in this vast area straddling the Utah and Colorado state line.

Cold Spring Mountain

R 24 E

R 25 E



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

- | | | | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| Inventory Unit with Contiguous BLM WSA | Major Road | WSA/ISA (BLM) | National Park |
| Inventory Unit without Contiguous BLM WSA | Drainage | BLM | National Wildlife Refuge |
| Area of Wilderness Character within Inventory Unit | 500 ft. contour | State | Native American Reservation |
| Township | County Boundary | Private | Military Reservation |
| Section | State Boundary | Forest Service | Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument |
| | | Not Inventoried | |

White River

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
13,500	2,300	15,800 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
13,500	2,300	15,800
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

The entire White River inventory unit (15,800 acres) meets all of the criteria needed for wilderness values. The unit is of sufficient size, is natural, and provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive, unconfined recreation. The area's scenic beauty is exceptional. The White River Canyon and its side canyons provide excellent opportunities for hiking, photography, rafting, and canoeing.

Unit Description

The White River inventory unit is located in eastern Uintah County about 30 air miles south-southeast of Vernal. It includes public land as well as several parcels of state land. There are also several private parcels adjacent to or surrounded by the inventory unit. Deep canyons and ridges dominate. The White River, which runs east to west, forms the major canyon, with one large meander separated only by a narrow ridge. Numerous pinnacles and colorful rock outcroppings are found in the long southern side canyons. The vegetation north of the river is a desert shrub community supporting saltbush, sagebrush, rabbitbrush and various other shrubs, grasses, and forbs. Higher elevations south of

the river support piñon and juniper woodlands on the ridgetops. Side canyon bottoms are mostly sagebrush and rabbit brush, along with greasewood and grasses. Cottonwood trees and other riparian plants thrive within the White River Canyon itself.

The inventory unit is surrounded by producing oil and gas wells and ongoing exploration. Current uses include floating and fishing the White River, cattle grazing, hunting, and sightseeing.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

The entire unit has natural character. The John Wesley Powell expedition highlighted a feature in this unit known as "Goblin City," which is an area of unique geologic beauty. Few developments exist within the inventory unit: human intrusions include routes constructed to support past oil and gas development, several vehicle ways, and an abandoned structure (the Rock House) associated with past mining. As a whole, these developments within the unit are substantially unnoticeable. The Rock House blends with the natural environment. Several of the vehicle ways are located in washes and become less noticeable with each storm event. The remaining vehicle ways are kept open only by occasional vehicle use.

WHITE RIVER—The spectacular scenery of the White River provides a dramatic backdrop for the hiker, rafter, or canoeist, or for fishing enthusiasts who visit this unique area.



Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The unit has rugged topography and is large enough to ensure an outstanding opportunity for solitude. Boundaries take advantage of ridgetops and deep canyons to isolate the unit from adjacent, ongoing oil and gas activity.

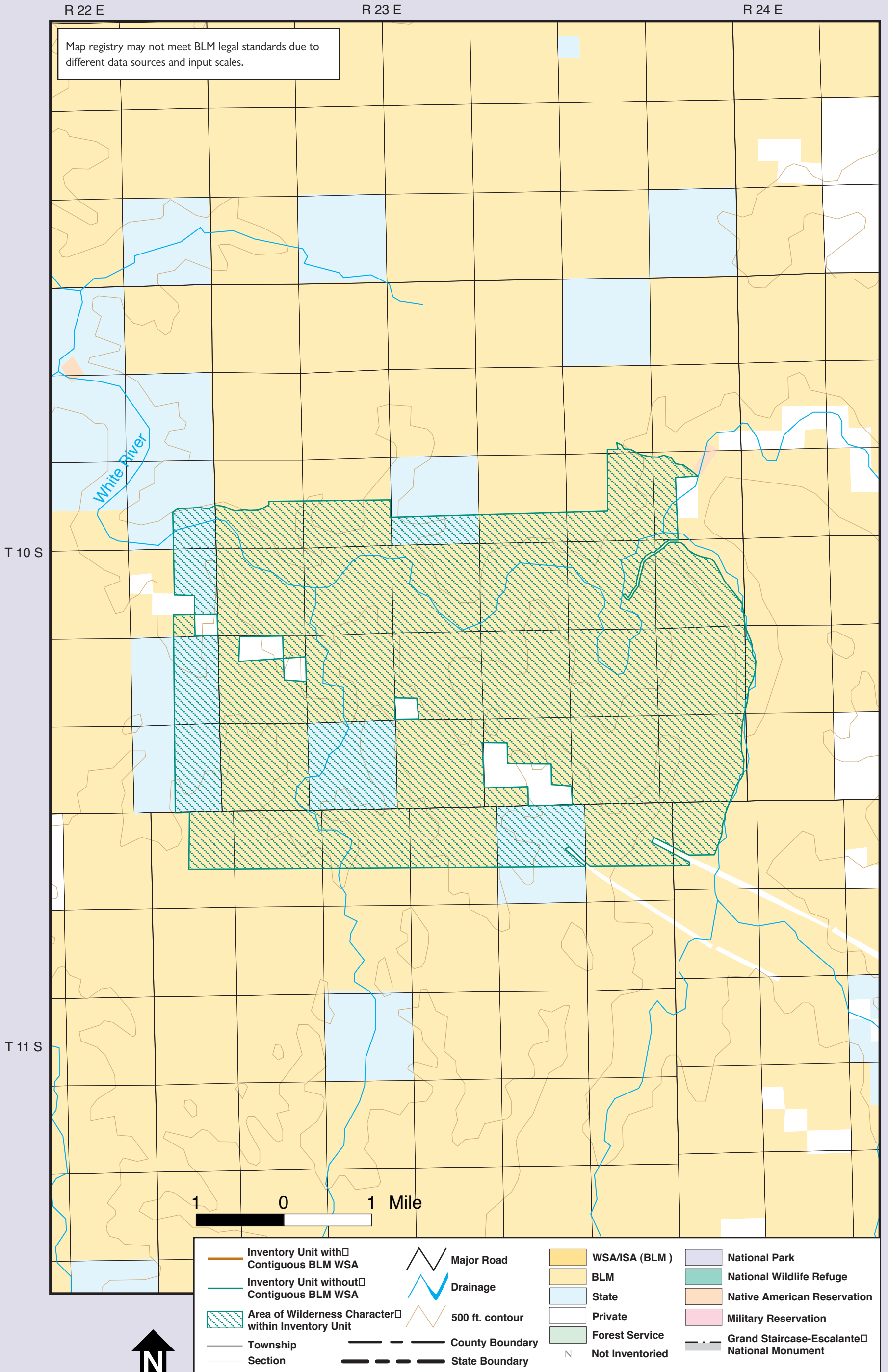
Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit's rugged topography and large size ensure an outstanding opportunity for primitive and unconfined recreation. There are spectacular vistas, abundant wildlife, and unique geologic features to explore. The unit provides outstanding opportunities for hiking, photography, camping, and, most noteworthy, floating on the White River.

Supplemental Values

The White River provides an opportunity to access the unit by canoe or rubber raft. The deep canyons, high ridges, cliffs, and unique geologic features create spectacular vistas. The John Wesley Powell expedition highlighted a feature known as "Goblin City," an area of unique geologic beauty within the unit. The cottonwood trees along the river and the piñon and juniper woodlands to the south combine to provide a variety of form, line, and color, resulting in strong visual contrasts and exceptional natural beauty. Antelope, deer, and elk are all common in the unit. The river and adjacent cliffs also provide habitat for a variety of birds.

White River



NORTHEAST REGION—White River

Wild Mountain

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
500	400	900 (97%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
30	0	30 (3%)
Inventory Unit Total		
530	400	930
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
Dinosaur National Monument		

Most of the Wild Mountain inventory unit (900 acres) has wilderness characteristics. Only a 30-acre area in the north end of the unit is unnatural. The unit offers outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation when considered in conjunction with the contiguous Dinosaur National Monument, which encompasses lands that have been administratively endorsed by the National Park Service (NPS) for wilderness.

Unit Description

The Wild Mountain inventory unit is located in northeastern Uintah County about 30 air miles northeast of Vernal. It is composed of roughly equal amounts of public and state land. This small unit shares a 0.25-mile boundary on the south and a one-mile boundary on the east with Dinosaur National Monument's wilderness proposal. The terrain consists of colorful, highly scenic limestone cliffs on the

western flanks of Wild Mountain. Most of the unit is heavily wooded with piñon and juniper. However, the northern end is a grass and sagebrush knoll offering outstanding views of the Diamond Mountains.

The unit is currently used by hikers and hunters, as well as ranchers. The Jones Hole Fish Hatchery, located adjacent to the unit, is a popular stop for hikers and people who like to fish.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

Most of the Wild Mountain inventory unit retains its natural character and has few human imprints. Rugged terrain and a dense piñon and juniper woodland contribute to its natural condition. This naturalness is enhanced by and is a logical extension of the wild lands within the contiguous Dinosaur National Monument.

A few intrusions exist in the more open, northern portion of the unit. These include a vehicle way, two small reservoirs, and a fence. The parcel between this fence and the northern boundary road lacks natural character.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The Wild Mountain inventory unit is contiguous to and an extension of the

lands in Dinosaur National Monument (both in Utah and Colorado) that have been administratively endorsed for wilderness. These NPS lands have already been determined to have outstanding opportunities for solitude. The Wild Mountain inventory unit provides opportunities for solitude, but such opportunities are outstanding only in association with the contiguous NPS lands.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The Wild Mountain inventory unit is contiguous to and an extension of the lands in Dinosaur National Monument (both in Utah and Colorado) that have been administratively endorsed for wilderness. These NPS lands have already been determined to have outstanding opportunities for primitive recreation. The unit itself provides opportunities for hiking and exploring the limestone cliffs and viewing spectacular vistas. Views of Diamond Gulch, the Labyrinths, and Jones Creek are truly breathtaking. However, these opportunities are outstanding only in association with the contiguous NPS lands.

Supplemental Values

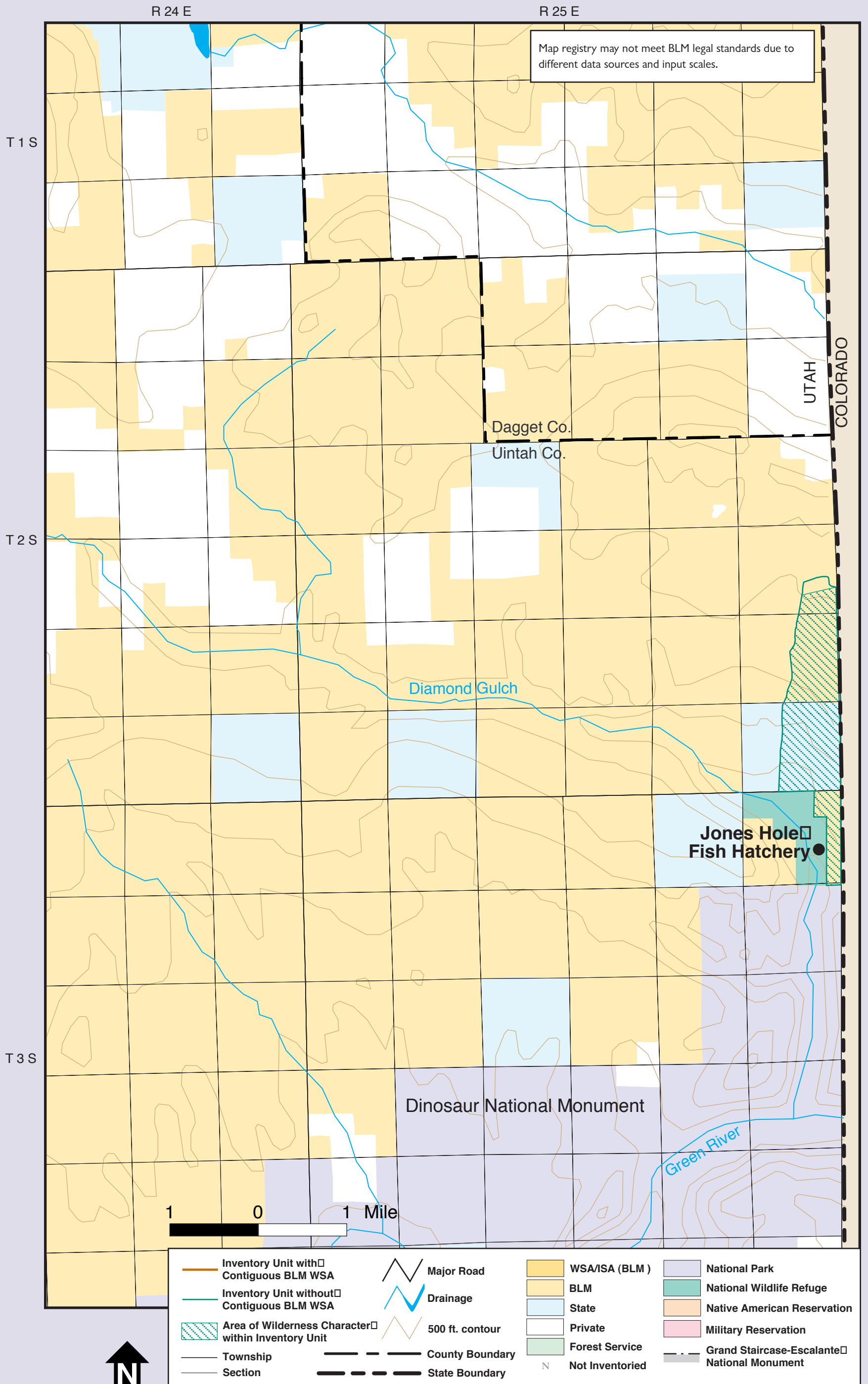
The Wild Mountain inventory unit provides spectacular scenic viewpoints. Sensitive wildlife species include peregrine falcons and big free-tailed and spotted bats that may inhabit nooks and crannies in the cliff faces in the southern portion. Cultural resources also exist in the southern portion of the unit.

WILD MOUNTAIN—From atop a grassy knoll at the north end of the inventory unit, visitors can enjoy spectacular views of the surrounding countryside.



Sharon Netherton

Wild Mountain



Cripple Cowboy

Findings

INVENTORY UNIT ACRES		
Federal	State	Total
With Wilderness Characteristics		
13,700	1,500	15,200 (100%)
Without Wilderness Characteristics		
0	0	0 (0%)
Inventory Unit Total		
13,700	1,500	15,200
Contiguous Area-Wilderness Characteristics		
None		

The entire 15,200-acre Cripple Cowboy inventory unit has wilderness characteristics. The unit is natural and provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation. The individual and cumulative impact of human intrusions on the natural character of the unit is minor.

Developments are scattered throughout the inventory unit but are well hidden by rugged topography and dense vegetation; they do not dominate the landscape. The diverse topography, dense vegetation, and large size of the unit combine to provide outstanding opportunities for solitude. There are also outstanding opportunities for camping, hiking, photography, and wildlife watching and hunting. Many local residents believe this area provides the best elk hunting opportunities in Utah. Opportunities for horseback riding or pack trips are abundant. Additionally, the unit has exceptional scenic quality, wildlife habitat, and historical features.

Unit Description

The Cripple Cowboy inventory unit is located in southeastern Uintah County and northeastern Grand Country about 50 air miles south-southeast of Vernal. The unit's terrain is typical of the Book Cliffs, consisting of deep canyons with ridges that create spectacular scenic vistas. Elevations range from 6,000 to 8,000 feet, with steep canyon slopes rising 600 to 800 feet. The major drainage is Bitter Creek, which runs from the south-southeast to the north-northwest. The inventory unit lies south and west of Bitter Creek, from which numerous side canyons extend. Chipeta Canyon is the dominant canyon, providing the main access into the heart of the unit and to many side canyons. The inventory unit surrounds the Book Cliffs Mountain Browse Instant Study Area.

Canyon bottom vegetation consists of riparian species along waterways. Bench areas contain sagebrush, rabbitbrush, grasses, and greasewood. There are also some wet meadows. Above 7,400 feet in elevation, drainages are dominated by Douglas fir, piñon and juniper woodlands, and quaking aspen, with Douglas fir being more common on north-facing slopes. Ridgetop vegetation is dominated by sagebrush and piñon and juniper woodlands.

Considerable oil and gas activity takes place adjacent to the unit, but cattle grazing is the dominant use. Stock ponds, fences, and cattle are present. Hunting is a significant seasonal use; hunting impacts include camps and vehicle traffic on the unit's many vehicle ways.

Wilderness Characteristics

Naturalness

While several human disturbances exist in the unit, their individual and cumulative impact on natural character is minor. They are scattered throughout the unit, hidden by the diverse topography and dense vegetation, do not dominate the landscape, and are substantially unnoticeable in the area as a whole.

Outstanding Opportunities

Solitude

The inventory unit consists of rugged topography and is large enough to ensure outstanding opportunities for solitude. Topographic relief is varied and dramatic. The ridges, valley bottoms, and numerous

side canyons provide isolation from others. The diverse vegetation, which ranges from dense Douglas fir and quaking aspen stands to sagebrush and grasses, also screens visitors from each other. There are numerous places in this inventory unit where a visitor can be alone.

Primitive and Unconfined Recreation

The unit provides outstanding opportunities for camping, hiking, photography, and wildlife watching. In addition, it provides excellent elk hunting opportunities. Opportunities for horseback riding or pack trips are abundant, given the unit's size and the presence of side canyons that possess outstanding beauty.

Supplemental Values

The Cripple Cowboy inventory unit is rich in natural beauty, offering exceptional scenery and wildlife viewing opportunities. Its deep canyons, high ridges, and sheer cliffs create spectacular scenic vistas. Vegetation is diverse, adding to the unit's scenic qualities. Deer and elk are common in the area, and bears have also been sighted. The streams and adjacent cliffs provide habitat for a variety of birds, including peregrine falcons and golden eagles.

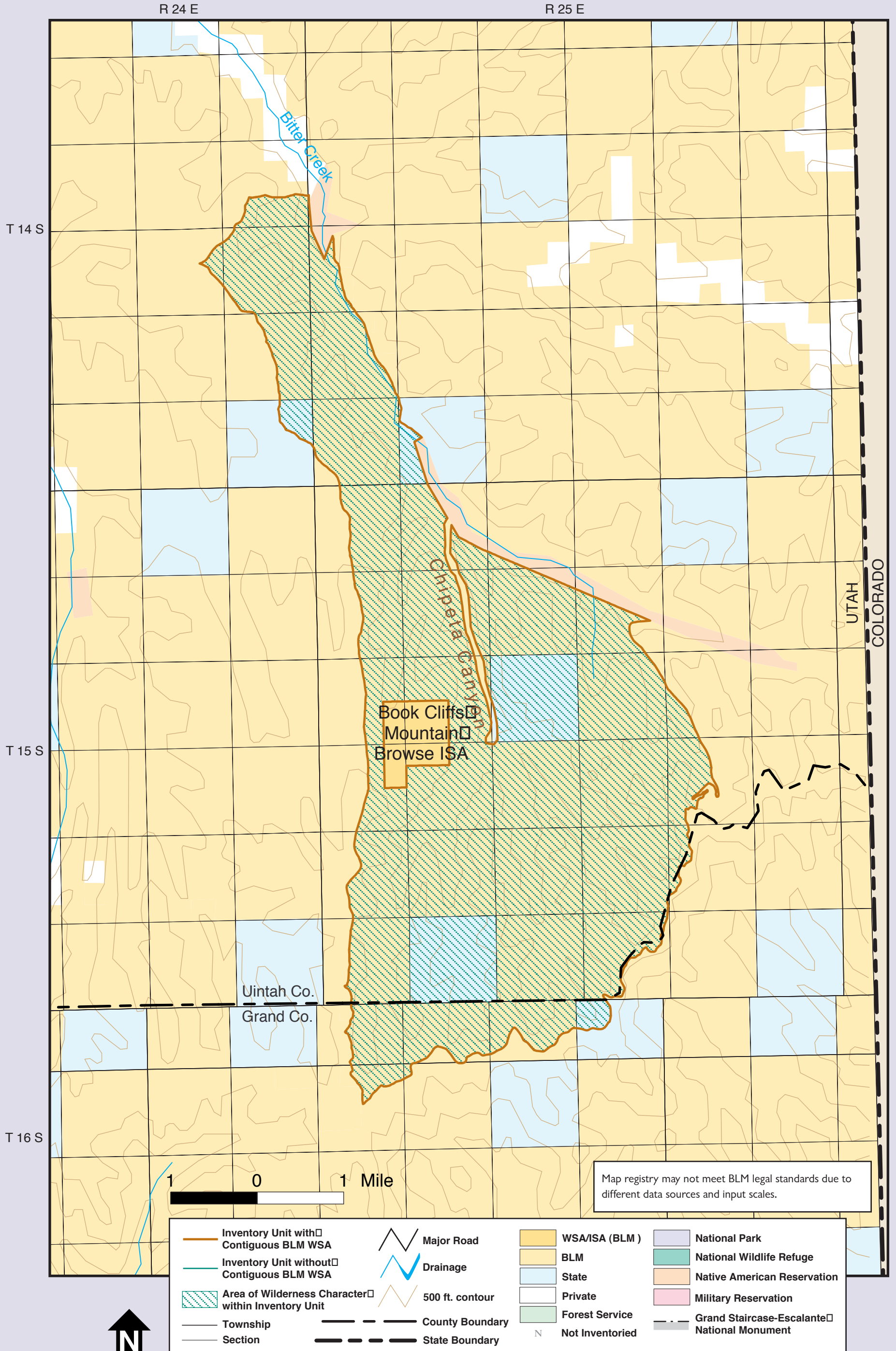
The area is also rich in cattle ranching history and contains some cultural resource sites. Petroglyph sites and historic homesteads are present in the region. The first Ute Indian Reservation was in this area; early Ute Indian grazing allotments are adjacent to the unit. Ute history, especially that of Chipeta, Queen of the Utes, adds greatly to the area's cultural heritage.

CRIPPLE COWBOY—Chipeta Canyon provides the main access into the heart of the inventory unit.



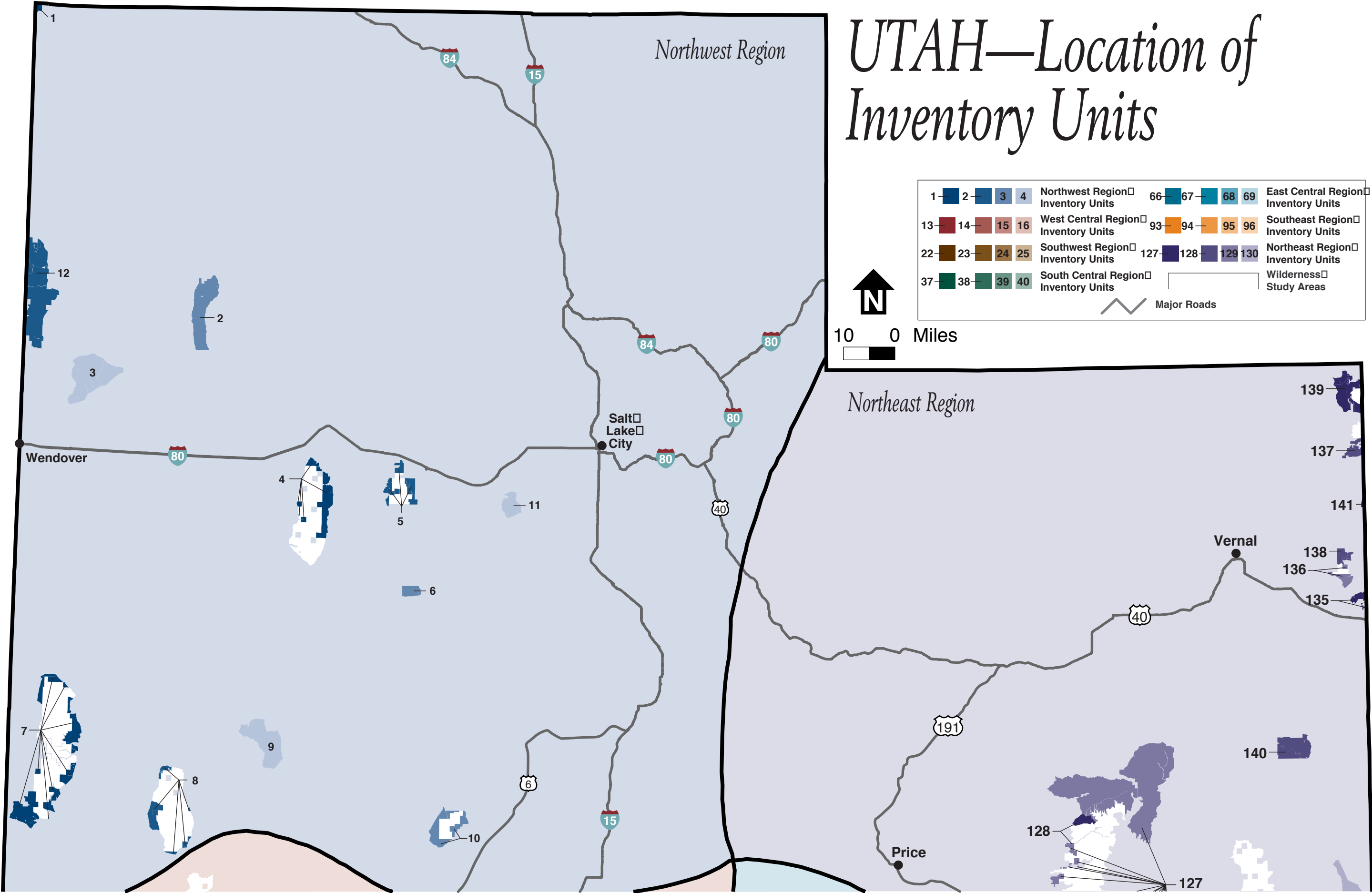
BLM photo

Cripple Cowboy



Map registry may not meet BLM legal standards due to different data sources and input scales.

UTAH—Location of Inventory Units



Acreage Summary Table

INVENTORY UNIT	TOTAL ACRES INVENTORIED		ACRES WITH WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS		ACRES WITHOUT WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS	
	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL	STATE
Arch and Mule Canyons	13,600	1,260	0	0	13,600	1,260
Beaver Creek	32,600	2,300	26,000	1,500	6,600	800
Beaver Dam Wash	23,200	2,500	23,000	2,200	200	300
Behind the Rocks	7,800	1,000	3,400	500	4,400	500
Big Hollow	4,300	0	0	0	4,300	0
Black Ridge	22,200	1,700	20,100	1,700	2,100	0
Box Canyon	3,100	0	3,000	0	100	0
Bridger Jack Mesa	27,300	3,380	23,500	2,900	3,800	480
Bull Canyon	2,500	300	2,470	300	30	0
Bull Mountain	3,900	1,400	3,800	1,400	100	0
Bullfrog Creek	36,000	5,100	29,900	3,100	6,100	2,000
Burning Hills	8,690	3,980	8,690	3,980	0	0
Butler Wash	3,000	1,820	2,000	1,780	1,000	40
Canaan Mountain	5,340	1,300	3,000	1,300	2,340	0
Carcass Canyon	28,050	6,920	27,400	6,440	650	480
Cave Point	5,900	0	5,900	0	0	0
Cedar Mountain	15,300	2,210	15,100	2,200	200	10
Cedar Mountains	16,340	0	15,540	0	800	0
Central Wah Wah Mountains	52,500	6,700	52,100	6,300	400	400
Cheesebox Canyon	16,080	3,050	13,600	2,800	2,480	250
Coal Canyon	13,850	5,290	12,480	4,770	1,370	520
Cold Spring Mountain	12,200	3,900	9,500	3,100	2,700	800
Colt Mesa	25,400	2,900	25,400	2,900	0	0
Comb Ridge	16,400	1,000	14,000	800	2,400	200
Conger Mountain	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	0	0
Cougar Canyon	200	0	200	0	0	0
Coyote Creek	9,600	640	0	0	9,600	640
Cripple Cowboy	13,700	1,500	13,700	1,500	0	0
Cross Canyon	2,100	490	1,400	400	700	90
Daniels Canyon	3,100	800	3,100	800	0	0
Dark Canyon	67,400	5,400	66,400	5,400	1,000	0
Deep Creek	3,780	80	3,700	80	80	0
Deep Creek Mountains	25,400	11,320	22,800	11,320	2,600	0
Desolation Canyon	188,020	28,900	182,320	28,900	5,700	0
Devils Canyon	13,620	1,940	8,800	1,140	4,820	800
Diamond Breaks	4,500	700	4,500	700	0	0
Dirty Devil-French Spring	115,500	23,400	94,400	18,700	21,100	4,700
Dogwater Creek	3,800	0	3,500	0	300	0
Dugway Mountains	23,500	2,690	23,300	2,600	200	90
East of Bryce	800	0	800	0	0	0
Fiddler Butte	22,220	3,580	16,720	3,180	5,500	400
Fiftymile Bench	12,500	300	12,500	300	0	0
Fiftymile Mountain	31,510	4,970	27,410	4,470	4,100	500
Fish and Owl Creeks	28,480	5,800	26,410	5,200	2,070	600
Fish Springs	6,900	2,980	6,900	2,980	0	0
Fisher Towers	17,400	2,100	17,000	2,100	400	0
Floy Canyon	12,310	6,310	12,310	6,270	0	40
Flume Canyon	4,800	3,270	4,300	2,770	500	500
Fort Knocker Canyon	12,800	800	12,800	800	0	0
Fremont Gorge	18,400	1,900	14,600	1,400	3,800	500
Goldbar	13,100	2,000	6,500	1,600	6,600	400
Goose Creek	20	0	0	0	20	0
Gooseneck	8,900	360	4,800	60	4,100	300
Grand Gulch	49,570	9,310	47,800	8,090	1,770	1,220
Granite Creek	6,200	500	5,400	500	800	0
Granite Peak	16,900	2,600	15,900	2,400	1,000	200
Gravel and Long Canyons	37,100	5,100	37,100	5,100	0	0
Harmony Flat	10,200	600	10,100	500	100	100
Harts Point	63,200	9,000	18,000	1,700	45,200	7,300
Hatch Wash	24,100	3,500	12,000	2,100	12,100	1,400
Hondu Country	20,210	2,200	20,200	2,200	10	0
Horse Mountain	25,840	2,200	11,100	1,300	14,740	900
Horse Spring Canyon	31,400	3,500	28,300	3,500	3,100	0
Horseshoe Canyon South	20,700	5,500	19,800	5,300	900	200
Howell Peak	1,330	200	1,300	200	30	0
Hunter Canyon	4,630	1,260	4,600	1,200	30	60
Hurricane Wash	8,000	1,100	8,000	1,100	0	0
Indian Creek	20,850	3,810	19,000	2,640	1,850	1,170
Jack Canyon	3,500	360	3,300	360	200	0
Jones Bench	2,600	510	2,600	500	0	10
Joshua Tree	13,000	1,900	9,500	900	3,500	1,000
King Top	1,400	2,520	1,400	2,120	0	400
Labyrinth Canyon	117,900	12,000	84,300	8,000	33,600	4,000
Lampstand	3,500	0	3,500	0	0	0
Limestone Cliffs	24,000	3,900	23,800	3,800	200	100
Little Egypt	19,970	2,500	19,900	2,500	70	0
Little Goose Creek	1,300	0	0	0	1,300	0
Little Rockies	24,200	7,800	24,200	7,800	0	0

ACREAGE SUMMARY TABLE

(continued)

INVENTORY UNIT	TOTAL ACRES INVENTORIED		ACRES WITH WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS		ACRES WITHOUT WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS	
	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL	STATE	FEDERAL	STATE
Long Canyon	16,500	1,250	16,500	1,250	0	0
Lost Spring Canyon	12,920	2,000	11,770	1,900	1,150	100
Mancos Mesa	73,900	9,300	62,600	9,000	11,300	300
Mary Jane Canyon	25,400	3,000	25,000	3,000	400	0
Mexican Mountain	48,400	26,400	36,700	10,200	11,700	16,200
Mill Creek Canyon	6,710	5,080	2,910	1,310	3,800	3,770
Moonshine Draw	3,800	100	2,700	0	1,100	100
Moquith Mountain	12,150	2,360	10,950	2,090	1,200	270
Mount Ellen-Blue Hills	65,400	11,940	32,600	7,840	32,800	4,100
Mount Hillers	1,290	2,600	1,290	2,590	0	10
Mount Pennell	72,360	12,280	61,880	10,600	10,480	1,680
Mud Spring Canyon	18,600	3,680	18,600	3,680	0	0
Muddy Creek-Crack Canyon	207,200	32,560	184,500	30,500	22,700	2,060
Mussentuchit Badlands	25,100	2,600	23,900	2,600	1,200	0
Negro Bill Canyon	13,900	2,040	2,500	900	11,400	1,140
Newfoundland Mountains	23,000	3,000	23,000	3,000	0	0
Nipple Bench	26,000	3,610	25,800	3,600	200	10
Nokai Dome	93,500	7,900	93,500	7,900	0	0
North Escalante Canyons	20,920	6,310	19,700	6,300	1,220	10
North Stansbury Mountains	9,100	1,240	6,800	1,240	2,300	0
North Wah Wah Mountains	19,310	4,600	13,010	4,200	6,300	400
Notch Peak	11,870	2,160	11,660	2,060	210	100
Notom Bench	9,000	1,500	5,500	1,500	3,500	0
Oquirrh Mountains	8,300	0	8,300	0	0	0
Orderville Canyon	4,230	1,100	2,030	900	2,200	200
Paria-Hackberry	41,180	9,250	25,780	7,630	15,400	1,620
Parunuweap Canyon	9,000	3,090	5,500	2,290	3,500	800
Phipps-Death Hollow	1,730	3,040	1,650	3,040	80	0
Pilot Range	45,500	5,700	34,400	3,100	11,100	2,600
Ragged Mountain	27,400	3,600	25,900	3,400	1,500	200
Red Desert	39,200	3,700	31,800	3,300	7,400	400
Red Mountain	970	1,100	970	1,100	0	0
Road Canyon	13,960	5,450	11,850	5,150	2,110	300
Rockwell	10,320	2,640	7,120	1,340	3,200	1,300
San Juan River	14,700	600	14,200	500	500	100
San Rafael Reef	61,400	12,380	37,600	7,980	23,800	4,400
Scorpion	9,770	4,840	9,570	4,840	200	0
Shafer Canyon	3,100	300	1,900	0	1,200	300
Sheep Canyon	4,700	640	4,700	640	0	0
Sids Mountain	39,350	7,930	23,300	5,530	16,050	2,400
Silver Island Mountains	30,600	4,700	30,600	4,700	0	0
Spring Creek Canyon	10	1,440	0	1,440	10	0
Spruce Canyon	2,320	2,640	2,320	2,640	0	0
Squaw & Papoose Canyons	3,750	1,240	3,680	1,240	70	0
Squaw Canyon	12,800	1,900	12,800	1,900	0	0
Steep Creek	11,500	0	8,100	0	3,400	0
Studhorse Peaks	22,400	2,500	20,200	2,100	2,200	400
Sunset Arch	6,700	900	4,800	600	1,900	300
Swasey Mountain	14,150	5,820	13,800	5,520	350	300
The Blues	750	900	750	900	0	0
The Cockscomb	1,600	900	500	900	1,100	0
The Narrows	20,600	1,100	20,400	1,100	200	0
The Watchman	40	0	40	0	0	0
Turtle Canyon	4,860	3,860	4,860	3,860	0	0
Upper Kanab Creek	42,400	5,910	42,100	5,900	300	10
Upper Muddy Creek	19,200	2,700	18,100	2,200	1,100	500
Wahweap-Death Ridge	34,920	10,530	34,230	10,320	690	210
Warm Creek	21,000	2,700	21,000	2,700	0	0
Westwater Canyon	2,990	340	2,220	340	770	0
Westwater Creek	9,100	1,000	0	0	9,100	1,000
White River	13,500	2,300	13,500	2,300	0	0
White Rock Range	2,000	800	0	200	2,000	600
Wild Horse Mesa	64,900	7,900	48,600	5,400	16,300	2,500
Wild Mountain	530	400	500	400	30	0
TOTALS	3,107,070	529,260	2,606,990	442,910	500,080	86,350

INVENTORY UNIT	FEDERAL ACRES INVENTORIED	FEDERAL ACRES WITH WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS	FEDERAL ACRES WITHOUT WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS
TOTALS	3,107,070	2,606,990	500,080



Jerry Sintz

MARY JANE CANYON—Remnants of the northern portion of Adobe Mesa have eroded into spectacular rock towers such as the Priest and Nuns.



J. Levy

SIDS MOUNTAIN—A view of Unit 7 of the Sids Mountain inventory unit.

Appendix



Jerry Sintz

BRIDGER JACK MESA—Climbing and photographing North Six Shooter Peak are popular recreational activities in this inventory unit.



Jerry Sintz

GOLDBAR—Corona Arch is just one of the many arch formations awaiting the visitor to the Goldbar area.

Wilderness Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation of Wilderness Characteristics

Analysis of Roads

Inventory units must be roadless. Roads were clearly identified and their impact on the naturalness of the area evaluated. If an access route met the road definition, its use and possible long-term need was documented. In order to ensure a consistent identification of “roads” as opposed to an unmaintained vehicle way, the following definition was used:

“The word ‘roadless’ refers to the absence of roads which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to ensure relatively regular and continuous use. A ‘way’ maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.”

This language is from the House Committee Report 94-1163, page 17, dated May 15, 1976, which forms part of the legislative history of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA). The 1978 BLM Wilderness Inventory Handbook further defined certain words and phrases in the road definition and these were also used in this inventory:

“Improved and maintained”—Actions taken physically by people to keep the road open to vehicle traffic. “Improved” does not necessarily mean formal construction. “Maintained” does not necessarily mean annual maintenance.

“Mechanical means”—Use of hand or power machinery or tools.

“Relatively regular and continuous use”—Vehicular use that has occurred and will continue to occur on a relatively regular basis. Examples include access roads for equipment to maintain a stock water tank or other established water sources, access roads to maintained recreation sites or facilities, or access roads to mining claims.

Analysis of Wilderness Characteristics

The inventory evaluated wilderness characteristics as discussed in Section 2 (c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964, which Congress incorporated in FLPMA, Sec. 603 (43 USC 1782). The Wilderness Act states:

“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 its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this Act an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man’s work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least five thousand acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.”

Each inventory unit was evaluated for:

Size—Determine if the inventory unit, including acres of contiguous lands having wilderness character, “. . . has at least 5,000 acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition.”

Naturalness—Determine if the area “. . . generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man’s work substantially unnoticeable.” Findings regarding naturalness should be based on the appearance of the area as seen from the ground.

Solitude or a Primitive and Unconfined Type of Recreation—Determine if the area “. . . has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation . . .” The word “or” in this sentence means that an area has to possess only one or the other. It does not have to possess outstanding opportunities for both elements, and does not need to have outstanding opportunities on every acre. However, there must be outstanding opportunities somewhere in the unit. When review units are contiguous to WSAs or other agency lands with identified wilderness values, they were considered an extension of the WSA; no additional evaluation of outstanding opportunities was required.

Supplemental Values—Determine if the inventory unit contains “. . . ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.” The Wilderness Act states a wilderness “may also contain” these values. Supplemental values are not required for wilderness, but their presence is documented where they exist. A finding that a inventory unit lacks any or all of the supplemental values did not affect the determination of the existence of wilderness character.

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Glossary of Terms

Terms used in this document are defined as follows

Canyoneering: hiking requiring wet suits, life vests, and ropes.

Cherry-stem: a dead-end road or feature that forms a portion of an inventory unit boundary and that remains outside the inventory unit.

Contiguous: lands or legal subdivisions having a common boundary; lands having only a common corner are not contiguous.

Inventory unit: see definition for “wilderness inventory unit”.

Naturalness: refers to an area that “generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man’s work substantially unnoticeable.” (From Section 2(c), Wilderness Act of 1964.)

Outstanding: 1. standing out among others of its kind; conspicuous; prominent. 2. superior to others of its kind; distinguished; excellent.

Primitive and unconfined recreation: non-motorized and non-developed types of outdoor recreational activities.

Pristine: refers to an area with little or no disturbance of its natural character; generally unaffected by civilization.

Public land(s): any land and interest in land owned by the United States within the several States and administered through the Secretary of the Interior by the Bureau of Land Management, without regard to how the United States acquired ownership, except:

- lands located on the Outer Continental Shelf;
- lands held in trust for the benefit of Indians, Aleuts, and Eskimos; and
- lands where the United States retains the mineral rights, but the surface is privately owned.

region: an area of land or grouping that is easily or frequently referred to by the public as separate and distinguishable from adjoining areas.

Roadless: refers to the absence of roads which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.

Roadless area: that area bounded by a road, using the edge of the physical change that creates the road or the edge of the right-of-way, other ownership, or water, as a boundary. The boundary of a roadless area may be formed by one or more dead-end roads.

Solitude: 1. the state of being alone or remote from others; isolation. 2. a lonely or secluded place.

Substantially unnoticeable: refers either to something that is so insignificant as to be only a very minor feature of the overall area, or to a feature created or caused by human beings that is not distinctly recognizable by the average visitor because of age, weathering, or biological change.

Way: a trace maintained solely by the passage of vehicles that has not been improved and/or maintained by mechanical means to ensure relatively regular and continuous use.

Wilderness: the definition contained in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 891).

Wilderness area: an area formally designated by Congress as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Wilderness inventory unit: a portion of public land evaluated to determine its roadless character and the presence of wilderness characteristics as defined in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Wilderness program: a term used to describe all wilderness activities of the BLM, including identification, planning, management, and administrative functions.

Wilderness review: the term normally used to cover the entire wilderness inventory, planning, and reporting phases of BLM’s wilderness program; may also refer to other types of programs involving various aspects of wilderness information gathering.

Wilderness study: the process of analyzing and planning for wilderness preservation opportunities, along with other resource opportunities, within BLM’s planning system.

Wilderness Study Area (WSA): a roadless area or island that has been inventoried and found to have wilderness characteristics as described in Section 603 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 891), and that has been designated as a Wilderness Study Area.

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