

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

Significance Criteria

- Increased erosion of soils to the point where associated vegetation communities were no longer supported at their current community composition.

Assumptions

- Soil resources would be managed to meet Standard 1 of the Colorado Standards for Public Land Health.
- Fragile soils would be managed to minimize erosion and maintain soil productivity.

Methodology

Environmental impacts associated with the management alternatives are caused by land use activities within the RMPPA. Impacts on soils management are generally the result of activities that affect vegetation cover and the level of soil exposure across the RMPPA. Impact analyses and conclusions are based on interdisciplinary team knowledge of resources and the project area, review of existing literature, and information provided by BLM resource specialists. Effects are quantified where possible or are described in qualitative terms in the absence of quantitative data.

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
SOIL RESOURCES			
Fragile Soils			
Allow surface-disturbing activities on isolated sites that meet fragile soil criteria only where performance standards and objectives can be met. Fragile soil criteria areas: 1. Are rated as highly or severely erodible by wind or water, as described by the Natural Resources Conservation Service in the Area Soil Survey	No similar action.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.

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ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>Report or as described by on-site inspection.</p> <p>2. Have slopes greater than or equal to 35%, if they also have one of the following soil characteristics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Surface texture that is sand, loamy sand, very fine sandy loam, silty clay or clay. b) A depth to bedrock less than 20 inches. c) Erosion condition rated as 'poor'. d) K factor greater than 0.32. 			
<p>Controlling surface disturbing activities on fragile soils would reduce disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Not controlling surface disturbing activities on fragile soils would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>
<p>Permit surface occupancy on federal surface only where adherence to performance objectives for surface-disturbing activities within fragile-soil areas is assured. Performance objectives for fragile soils are the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain the soil productivity by 	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>

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ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>reducing soil loss from erosion and through proper handling of the soil material.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Reduce impact to off-site areas by controlling erosion and/or overland flow from these areas. 3. Protect water quality and quantity of adjacent surface and groundwater sources. 4. Reduce accelerated erosion caused by surface-disturbing activities. 5. Select best possible site for development to reduce the impacts to the soil and water resources. 			
<p>Controlling surface occupancy on fragile soils would reduce disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Not controlling surface occupancy on fragile soils would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>
WATER RESOURCES			
<p>Establish no-surface occupancy stipulations from within 500 feet to ¼ mile of perennial water sources, depending on type and use of</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>Establish no-surface occupancy stipulations up to ¼ mile of perennial water sources, if necessary depending on type and use of source, soil type and slope</p>	<p>Same as Alternative C.</p>

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ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
source, soil type and slope steepness.		steepness. Exceptions granted according to Appendix X.	
Prohibiting surface occupancy in these areas would reduce disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Not prohibiting surface occupancy along perennial water sources would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative A, except a greater area may be protected.	Same as Alternative A, except a greater area may be protected.
VEGETATION			
Desired Plant Communities			
No similar action	Upland and riparian vegetation would be managed to achieve desired plant community (DPC) objectives established for a localized area to meet the Standards for Rangeland Health and objectives for the planning area. DPC objectives will be determined through use various reference information, including NRCS Range Site Guides and updated ecological site inventory data, in conjunction with the specific objectives for the area.	Same as Alternative B	Same as Alternative B
	Would improve overall vegetation health and thereby help to maintain soil resources	Same as Alternative B	Same as Alternative B
Vegetation Treatments			
Conducted on case-by-case basis as needed.	When consistent with healthy rangeland ecosystems,	1. Use vegetation treatments on an average of 3,030 acres per year	Use vegetation treatments on an average of 7,570 acres per year

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	<p>emphasize vegetation treatments to increase forage production.</p>	<p>over the life of the plan to restore diversity of seral stages and species, as appropriate.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Work with the Northwest Colorado Sage-Grouse Working Group to identify, maintain, and restore an average of 530 acres of sagebrush per year. Emphasize creation of functional blocks of sagebrush as sage grouse habitat. 3. Use vegetation treatments on an average of 1,600 acres per year to reduce encroachment of juniper and woody species to mimic natural conditions. 4. Restore a total of 80 acres during the planning period of bitterbrush and other important winter forage species in the Sand Hills and Spring Creek LHAs. 5. Restore an average of 100 acres per year of Mountain shrub. 	<p>over the life of the plan to restore diversity of seral stages and species, as appropriate.</p> <p>Work with the Northwest Colorado Sage-Grouse Working Group to identify, maintain, and restore an average of 2,000 acres of sagebrush per year. Emphasize creation of functional blocks of sagebrush.</p> <p>Use vegetation treatments on an average of 3,500 acres per year to reduce encroachment of juniper and woody species to mimic natural conditions.</p> <p>Restore an average of 50 acres per year of bitterbrush and other important winter forage species in all LHAs, starting with the Sand Hills and Spring Creek LHAs.</p> <p>Restore an average of 1,000 acres of per year Mountain shrub.</p>
	<p>Short-term vegetation loss and subsequent soil erosion. Long-term increase in</p>	<p>Short-term vegetation loss and subsequent soil erosion. Long-term increase in vegetation</p>	<p>Same as Alternative C, except effects would occur over a larger area.</p>

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ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
	vegetation production and soil conservation	production and soil conservation Conservation of soil may occur to a greater degree because emphasis would be placed on restoring species diversity.	
No Similar Action.	Same as Alternative A.	Use vegetation treatments where Land Health Standards are not being met for reasons other than livestock (such as areas where reclamation efforts have not been successful or heavy-use OHV areas), improve conditions on 50 percent of sites during the life of the plan.	Same as Alternative C.
		Would improve overall vegetation health and thereby help to maintain soil resources.	Same as Alternative C
Forests and Woodlands			
Conducted on case-by-case basis as needed.	Same as Alternative A.	Restore an average of 200 acres per year of Ponderosa type, primarily in the Douglas Mountain area.	Restore an average of 400 acres per year of Ponderosa Pine, primarily in the Douglas Mountain area.
		Short-term vegetation loss and subsequent soil erosion due to disturbance associated with thinning efforts.	Same as Alternative C, except effects would occur over a larger area.
Conducted on case-by-case basis as needed.	Same as Alternative A.	Treat an average of 50 acres per year of Lodgepole type, primarily in the Cold Springs LHA.	Treat an average of 100 acres per year of Lodgepole type, primarily in the Cold Springs LHA.
		Short-term vegetation loss and subsequent soil erosion due to	Same as Alternative C, except effects would occur over a larger

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		disturbance associated with thinning efforts.	area.
Conducted on case-by-case basis as needed.	Same as Alternative A.	Improve/maintain aspen community health on an average of 50 acres per year of the stands, especially in Cold Springs LHA and in Routt County.	Improve/maintain aspen community health on an average of 200 acres per year of the stands, especially in Cold Springs LHA and in Routt County.
		Short-term vegetation loss and subsequent soil erosion due to disturbance associated with removing/thinning over-mature stands.	Same as Alternative C, except effects would occur over a larger area.
Conducted on case-by-case basis as needed.	Same as Alternative A.	Restore an average of 500 acres per year of Pinyon/Juniper woodland.	Same as Alternative C.
		Short-term vegetation loss and subsequent soil erosion due to disturbance associated with removing pinyon/juniper cover.	Same as Alternative C.
Noxious Weeds			
Identify and eliminate noxious weeds on a case-by-case basis consistent with current policy.	Same as Alternative A.	1. Prevent the spread of noxious weeds. Eliminate invasive species focusing on areas of new infestations, and where possible, extirpate existing populations, especially in Axial, Powder Wash, Douglas Mountain, Sand Hills, and Williams Fork LHAs, and in selected and Routt and Moffat County parcels.	Same as Alternative C.

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		2. Partner with resource users and other stakeholders to reduce the occurrence of noxious weeds. Maximize utilization of cooperative agreements for control of invasive species.	
Short-term vegetation loss and subsequent soil erosion due to disturbance associated with noxious weed eradication. Would increase production of vegetation that is more effective at maintaining soils over the long term.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A, except the degree of the effects would be greater due to more intensive management of noxious weeds.	Same as Alternative C
FISH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT			
Raptors (golden eagle, osprey, all accipiters, falcons, except kestrel, butteos, and owls): NSO within 1/8 mile radius of nest site. NSO area may be altered depending upon the active status of the nest site or the geographical relationship of topographical barriers and vegetation screening to the nest site.	No similar action.	Same as Alternative A.	Raptors (golden eagle, osprey, all accipiters, falcons, except kestrel, butteos, and owls): NSO within 1/4 mile radius of nest site. In addition, exceptions granted according to criteria established in Appendix X.
Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Not prohibiting surface disturbing activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A, except effects would occur over a larger area.

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ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
Peregrine Falcon: NSO within ¼ mile radius of cliff nesting complex. No exceptions.	No similar action.	NSO within ¼ mile radius of cliff nesting complex. In addition, NSO area may be altered depending upon the active status of the nesting complex or the geographical relationship of topographical barriers and vegetation screening.	Same as Alternative C.
Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Not prohibiting surface disturbing activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A
Waterfowl and Shorebird: NSO on significant production areas (Waterfowl Habitat Management Areas and rookeries). No exceptions.	No similar action.	Same as Alternative A. In addition, NSO area may be altered depending upon the active status of the production areas or the geographical relationship of topographical barriers and vegetation screening. Exceptions: granted according to criteria established in Appendix X.	Same as Alternative C.
Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Not prohibiting surface disturbing activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A
SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES			
Colombian sharp-tailed grouse: NSO within ¼ mile radius of a lek site. NSO area may be altered depending upon the active status of the	No similar action.	Same as Alternative A In addition, exceptions granted	Same as Alternative C.

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lek or the geographical relationship of topographical barriers and vegetation screening to the lek site.		according to criteria established in Appendix X.	
Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Not prohibiting surface disturbing activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A
Greater Sage-Grouse			
Greater Sage-Grouse: NSO within ¼ mile radius of a lek site. NSO area may be altered depending upon the active status of the lek or the geographical relationship of topographical barriers and vegetation screening to the lek site.	No similar action.	For the purpose of reducing potential impacts to greater sage-grouse lek integrity, NSO within ¼ mile radius of a lek site. NSO area may be altered depending upon the active status of the lek or the geographical relationship of topographical barriers and vegetation screening to the lek site. In addition, exceptions granted according to criteria established in Appendix X.	For the purpose of further reducing potential impacts to greater sage-grouse lek integrity, NSO within a 0.6 mile radius of a lek site. NSO area may be altered depending upon the active status of the lek or the geographical relationship of topographical barriers and vegetation screening to the lek site. In addition, exceptions granted according to criteria established in Appendix X.
Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Not prohibiting surface disturbing activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A, except effects would occur over a larger area.
Colorado River Fishes			

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ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
No similar action	No Surface Occupancy NSO) within critical or occupied habitat of Colorado pikeminnow (<i>Ptychocheilus lucius</i>), razorback sucker (<i>Xyrauchen texanus</i>), humpback chub (<i>Gila cypha</i>), and bonytail (<i>Gila elegans</i>). Exceptions that may cause adverse affect to listed fish (such as bridge abutments) will require site specific consultation with FWS.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
	Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative B	Same as Alternative B
No similar action	Minimize the impacts from erosion and habitat restoration associated with tamarisk and/or Russian olive control on critical and other occupied habitat of Colorado River fishes.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
	Reducing erosion would help to conserve soil resources in these areas.	Same as Alternative B	Same as Alternative B
No similar action	BLM shall coordinate with Recovery Implementation Program to identify potential problem areas and conservation measures to reduce the risk of bank destabilization or increased sedimentation	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.

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ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
	resulting from any land use activity or natural disturbance. For sites where habitat loss is a risk, remedial actions should be implemented to ensure that the suitability of the spawning habitat is maintained, or enhanced.		
	Actions would serve to maintain riparian vegetation cover and thereby reduce erosion and conserve soil resources in riparian areas.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
No similar action	Where possible, implement measures to reduce selenium concentrations in the upper Colorado River basin. For example, decrease erosion in areas with selenium-rich soils (e.g., shale-derived soils), maintain adequate vegetation cover on the site, control ephemeral streamflow with water spreading structures, or apply NSO stipulations on steep slopes with selenium-rich soils.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
	Maintaining vegetation cover and decreasing erosion on selenium-rich soils would conserve soils in these areas.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
Mexican Spotted Owl			
Mexican Spotted Owl: NSO within ¼ mile radius of	Non-surface disturbing activities in PACs shall avoid the MSO	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.

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ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
confirmed roost site and nesting site. No exceptions.	breeding season (March 1 through August 31).		
Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Not prohibiting surface disturbing activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative B	Same as Alternative B
No similar action	Livestock grazing in protected and restricted MSO habitats shall meet BLM Colorado's Standards for Public Land Health within key habitat areas (riparian areas, meadows, and oak types) to provide for adequate levels of plant cover and forage for owl prey species. Monitoring in such areas should occur to determine current level of use as well as detecting any change in the relative composition of herbaceous and woody plants.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
	Would help to maintain vegetation cover and thereby reduce erosion and conserve soil resources.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
Yellow-billed Cuckoo			
No similar action	In order to evaluate both long- and short-term impacts and/or benefits continue to implement livestock management practices and operations Public Land	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.

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ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
	Health Standards and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing (1997) [emphasis on Standard #2]. Assess land health accordingly to establish baseline data and identify changes in YBC habitat suitability.		
	Would help to maintain vegetation cover and thereby reduce erosion and conserve soil resources.	Same as Alternative B	Same as Alternative B
No similar action	Prohibit permanent surface disturbing activities within ¼ mile of any suitable YBC habitat. Exceptions should be evaluated on a case by case basis to avoid adverse impact.	Same as Alternative B	Same as Alternative B
	Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative B	Same as Alternative B
Mountain Plover			
No similar action	No similar action	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Surface occupancy and use is prohibited within 1/8 mile of occupied nesting habitat for mountain plovers. 2. <u>Exception:</u> An exception may be granted by the authorized officer if the operator submits a plan which demonstrates that the 	Same as Alternative C

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ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		<p>proposed action will not affect the mountain plover nest site.</p> <p>3. <u>Modification</u>: The boundaries of the stipulated area may be modified if the authorized officer determines that surface occupancy will not harm the integrity of the nest or nest location.</p> <p>4. <u>Waiver</u>: The stipulation may be waived if the authorized officer determines that the portion of the lease under the no surface occupancy restriction no longer provides potential to be used by the species for nesting.</p>	
		<p>Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative C</p>
Colorado River Cutthroat Trout			
<p>No similar action</p>	<p>Improve or maintain watershed conditions and lake and stream habitat. Watershed conditions and stream and lake habitat will be maintained or improved for locations containing CCP's and CP's; and maintained for locations containing HUP's. Priority will be given to</p>	<p>Same as Alternative B.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative B.</p>

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ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
	improving watershed conditions and stream or lake habitat for locations containing CCP's, where possible. Habitat improvement techniques will be used where appropriate to provide missing habitat components or improve existing ones. These techniques can include building instream structures to improve pool to riffle ratios, streambank stabilization, riparian management, instream cover, pool or spawning gravel enhancement, and provision of fish passageways.		
	Would improve riparian vegetation health and thereby reduce erosion and conserve soil resources.	Same as Alternative B	Same as Alternative B
No similar action	Land management decisions which are likely to affect CCP's or CP's should ensure that habitat elements for cutthroat trout are protected. Timber management, road construction, mineral development, and their associated impacts to CCP's or CP's should be analyzed and mitigated prior to project implementation.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
	Would improve riparian vegetation health and thereby	Same as Alternative B	Same as Alternative B

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ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
	reduce erosion and conserve soil resources.		
Federally Listed and Candidate Plants			
No similar action	Travel management plans should include management direction to avoid adverse impacts to special status plant species.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
	Limiting impacts to special status plants would reduce overall vegetation degradation and thereby reduce erosion and conserve soil resources.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
No similar action	Protective stipulations for federally listed and candidate plants will also include appropriate measures to protect specific, pollinating species where known and identified by FWS.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
	These protections would help to maintain overall vegetation health and thereby reduce erosion and conserve soil resources.	Same as Alternative B	Same as Alternative B
Boreal Toad			
No similar action	Minimize activities that may increase or cause sedimentation at boreal toad breeding sites.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
	Controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.

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	soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.		
No similar action	In occupied breeding sites, minimize concentration of livestock in breeding habitat from May 15 to September 15 to minimize the risk of trampling, and to maintain proper functioning condition of wetlands (see Bartelt 1998 for justification). When livestock are retained on breeding habitat, initiate monitoring studies to determine effects on toads. If monitoring studies indicate that toads or their habitat are being negatively impacted, fencing enclosures should be erected 300 feet from the delineated wetland boundary.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
	Minimizing the concentration of livestock in these areas would help to maintain vegetation and thereby reduce erosion and conserve soil resources.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
Bald Eagle			
Bald Eagle: NSO within ¼ mile radius of roost or nest site. NSO area may be altered depending upon the active status of the roost or the geographical relationship of topographical barriers and	Year round No Surface Occupancy within ¼ mile radius of both occupied and unoccupied nests. Definition of 'occupied nest' [from Northern States Bald Eagle Recovery Plan 1983, page D4].: a) young	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.

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ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
vegetation screening. No exceptions for nest sites.	were observed, b) eggs were laid (eggs or eggshell fragments observed), c) one adult observed in incubating ("sitting low") posture on the nest during the incubation period, d) two adults observed at an empty nest or within the breeding area, and e) one adult and one eagle in immature plumage at or near a nest, especially if mating or reproductive behavior (display flights, copulation, nest repair, etc.) was observed.		
Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A
No similar action	No Surface Occupancy within 100 meter radius of abandoned nests (unoccupied for 5 consecutive years, but with all or part of the nest remaining).	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
	Prohibiting surface occupancy would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas. Note: impacts would be minimal because of small (100 m) buffer.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
No similar action	All surface disturbing activities	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.

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	(e.g., project construction) should be prohibited within ¼ mile of known roosts on BLM land, unless the activity will benefit wintering bald eagles or their habitat. Exceptions will require consultation for each individual action.		
	Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
WILD HORSES			
Manage habitat condition in Sand Wash Basin HMA to maintain a herd range of 163 to 362 wild horses on a four year schedule with an appropriate management level of 362.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Maintain current Herd Management Area status. Manage at an appropriate management level (AML), currently identified as a range of 163 to 362 wild horses. The AML is a dynamic number that would be adjusted as range conditions warrant. 2. Guidelines and criteria for adjusting AML include the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Current monitoring data b) Rate of herd increase c) Competing uses d) Frequency of gather cycle e) Other population 	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.

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	management options f) Herd genetics		
Maintaining the AML would help to reduce trampling and overgrazing of vegetation and thereby reduce erosion and conserve soil resources.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A
Continue to manage wild horses in the Sand Wash Basin Herd Management Area.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A.	Designate the Sand Wash Basin Herd Management Area as the Sand Wash Basin Wild Horse Range and manage principally, though not exclusively, for the Sand Wash wild horse herd.
Management of wild horses would result in trampling and grazing of vegetation and thereby increase the potential for soil erosion.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A
FIRE			
Use maximum suppression on areas with high resource values, structures, commercial forest, oil and gas developments, cultural values, improvements, and to prevent fire from spreading to adjacent private property/structures, etc. and provide full protection to buffer areas near or adjacent to critical management areas for threatened, endangered and candidate species, Colorado BLM sensitive plant	Use appropriate fire management response in areas where fire not desired at all or wildfire is not desired such as ecosystems where fire never played a significant positive role in it's function; areas where suppression is required to prevent direct threats to life or property; private lands and urban interfaces, important cultural resources, areas with unnatural fuel buildups, and areas where seed bank does not	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.

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species, and research natural areas (RNA's).	exist for natural reseeding.		
Suppression of fire would help to maintain vegetation cover and thereby reduce erosion and conserve soil resources over the short term. Over the long term, suppression would increase the potential for large fires, which would result in a loss of vegetation cover and subsequent soil erosion.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A
Use conditional fire suppression in areas with resources of low value or that do not warrant full suppression actions and/or high suppression costs, including fires in the Douglas Mountain area (the five WSA's adjacent to Dinosaur National Monument, Diamond Breaks WSA, West Cold Spring WSA, and Cross Mountain WSA).	Use conditional fire suppression in areas where fire is desired but where there may be social, political, or ecological constraints such as air quality considerations (proximity to Class I airsheds or non-attainment areas); threatened or endangered species or habitat considerations.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
Suppression of fire would help to maintain vegetation cover and thereby reduce erosion and conserve soil resources over the short term. Over the long term, suppression would increase the potential for large fires, which would result in a loss of vegetation cover and	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A

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subsequent soil erosion. However, impacts would be less intensive with conditional suppression versus full suppression.			
No similar action	Use minimal to no fire suppression in areas where fire is desired.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
	Would result in removal of vegetation and subsequent soil erosion over the short term. Over the long term, it could improve vegetation health and thereby reduce erosion and conserve soil resources.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
Use both planned and unplanned prescribed fire to improve resource habitat, condition, etc.	Use both prescribed fire and wildfire to improve resource habitat, condition, etc. where appropriate.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
Would result in removal of vegetation and subsequent soil erosion over the short term. Over the long term, it could improve vegetation health and thereby reduce erosion and conserve soil resources.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A
CULTURAL AND HERITAGE RESOURCES			
Cultural Resource Surveys			
Class 3 cultural surveys will be conducted on the specific sites where surface disturbance will occur. If necessary, the surface disturbing activity will	Same as Alternative A. In addition, prioritize non-project driven Class 3 surveys in the Sand Wash area and Vermillion Basin.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.

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ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
be relocated to a site in which surveys reveal no significant cultural/paleontological resources.			
Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas. Note: impacts would be minimal because of the small restricted area.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A
PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES			
Evaluate all proposed surface-disturbing actions to determine inventory needs and sites potentially impacted by such activities. Surface-disturbing activities in Class I and II Paleontological Areas will have an inventory performed by an accredited paleontologist approved by the Authorized Officer. Mitigative measures for specific locations identified on a case-by-case basis.	Same as Alternative A, but change second paragraph to: Surface-disturbing activities in Class I and II Paleontological Areas devoid of thick soils and vegetation and steep unsafe cliffs will have an inventory performed by a paleontologist with CO BLM paleo permit approved by the Authorized Officer.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
Controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>wind and water in these areas. Note: impacts would be minimal because of the small restricted area.</p>			
SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS			
Areas of Critical Environmental Concern			
<p>The following sites, totaling 22,530 acres, are designated to protect enhance the values noted:</p> <p>Limestone Ridge ACEC/RNA (1,350 acres; remnant plant associations, Colorado BLM sensitive plant species, scenic quality).</p> <p>Irish Canyon ACEC, including the Ink Springs area (11,680 acres; remnant plant associations, Colorado BLM sensitive plant species, geologic values, cultural resources, scenic quality).</p> <p>Lookout Mountain ACEC (6,500 acres; Colorado BLM sensitive plant species, scenic quality).</p> <p>Cross Mountain Canyon ACEC (3,000 acres; threatened and</p>	<p>Designate no additional ACECs, and remove ACEC designation from all existing ACECs. (Manage 0 acres as ACEC).</p>	<p>Retain designation of the Irish Canyon ACEC (11,680 acres).</p> <p>The following areas would not be retained as ACECs. Management of these areas would be as described below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limestone Ridge (1,350 acres) • Lookout Mountain (6,500 acres) • Cross Mountain Canyon (3,000 acres) 	<p>Retain Irish Canyon ACEC, Limestone Ridge ACEC, Lookout Mountain ACEC, and Cross Mountain Canyon ACEC.</p> <p>In addition, designate the White-Tailed Prairie Dog ACEC (289,438 acres), Cold Desert Shrublands ACEC (5,755 acres), Gibben’s Beardtongue ACEC (5,477 acres), Bull Canyon ACEC (3,416 acres), G Gap ACEC (5,661 acres), Little Juniper Canyon ACEC (14 acres), Bassett Spring ACEC (117 acres), No Name Spring ACEC (76 acres), Pot Creek ACEC (2,230 acres), Whiskey Springs ACEC (2,758 acres), Willow Spring ACEC (88 acres), and Deception Creek ACEC (XX acres).</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
endangered species, Colorado BLM sensitive plant species, scenic quality).			
Limestone Ridge			
<p>Minerals and Energy: No Surface Occupancy for oil and gas exploration and development</p> <p>Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Open Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Closed</p> <p>VRM: Not applicable</p> <p>Lands and Realty: Exclusion area unless associated with valid existing rights.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Open to all exploration and development; however, not available for coal leasing.</p> <p>OHV: Open</p> <p>VRM: Class III</p> <p>Lands and Realty: No restrictions</p>	<p>Drop ACEC designation.</p> <p>Objective: Protect sensitive plants, remnant plant communities, and scenic values.</p> <p>Management of the area would be the same as Alternative A, except closed to other minerals.</p>	<p>Objective: Protect sensitive plants, remnant plant communities, and scenic values.</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Closed to oil and gas exploration and development Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Closed</p> <p>VRM: Class II</p> <p>Lands and Realty: Exclusion area unless associated with valid existing rights.</p>
Prohibiting and/or controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Not prohibiting and/or controlling surface disturbing activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A
Irish Canyon			

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>Minerals and Energy: Controlled Surface Use for oil and gas operations Locatable - Open Other Minerals - Open Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Limited to Designated</p> <p>VRM: Not applicable</p> <p>Lands and Realty: Exclusion area unless associated with valid existing rights.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Open to all exploration and development; however, not available for coal leasing.</p> <p>OHV: Open</p> <p>VRM: Class III</p> <p>Lands and Realty: No restrictions</p>	<p>Objective: Protect sensitive plant, remnant plant communities, scenic, cultural, and geologic values.</p> <p>Same as Alternative A, except closed to oil and gas exploration and development.</p>	<p>Objective: Protect sensitive plant, remnant plant communities, scenic, cultural, and geologic values.</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Closed to oil and gas exploration and development. Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Limited to Designated</p> <p>VRM: Class II</p> <p>Lands and Realty: Exclusion area unless associated with valid existing rights.</p>
<p>Controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Not controlling surface disturbing activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water. in these areas</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except the effects would be more intensive due to increased restrictions.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except the effects would be more intensive due to increased restrictions.</p>
Lookout Mountain			
<p>Minerals and Energy: Controlled Surface Use for oil and gas operations Locatable - Open</p>	<p>No similar action.</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Open to all exploration and development;</p>	<p>Drop ACEC designation.</p> <p>Objective: Protect sensitive plant, remnant plant communities, and</p>	<p>Objective: Protect sensitive plant, remnant plant communities, and scenic values.</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>Other Minerals - Open Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Limited to Designated</p> <p>VRM: Not applicable</p> <p>Lands and Realty: Exclusion area unless associated with valid existing rights.</p>	<p>however, not available for coal leasing.</p> <p>OHV: Open</p> <p>VRM: Class III</p> <p>Lands and Realty: No limitations</p>	<p>scenic values.</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: No Surface Occupancy for oil and gas operations Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Limited to designated</p> <p>VRM: Class III</p> <p>Lands and Realty: ROW – Renewal of existing and authorization of future ROWs will be allowed upon approval of a site-specific development plan consistent with area resource objectives.</p>	<p>Minerals and Energy: No Surface Occupancy for oil and gas operations Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal –Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Limited to Designated</p> <p>VRM: Class II</p> <p>Lands and Realty: Communication Sites – Existing communication ROWs may be renewed at the end of their term in accordance with area objectives and current regulations. No new communication sites will be authorized.</p> <p>ROW – Exclusion area</p>
<p>Controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Not controlling surface disturbing activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except the effects would be more intensive due to increased restrictions.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except the effects would be more intensive due to increased restrictions.</p>
<p>Cross Mountain Canyon (Area is currently within Cross Mountain WSA)</p>			
<p>Minerals and Energy:</p>	<p>No ACEC designation but</p>	<p>Same as Alternative B.</p>	<p>Objective: Protect sensitive plants,</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>No Surface Occupancy for oil and gas operations</p> <p>Locatable - Open</p> <p>Other Minerals- Open</p> <p>Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Closed</p> <p>VRM: Class I</p> <p>Lands and Realty: Exclusion area unless associated with valid existing rights.</p>	<p>manage consistent with WSA requirements.</p>		<p>threatened and endangered species, and scenic values.</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Closed to oil and gas operations</p> <p>Locatable - Closed</p> <p>Other Minerals- Closed</p> <p>Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Closed</p> <p>VRM: Class I</p> <p>Lands and Realty: Exclusion area unless associated with valid existing rights.</p>
<p>Controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Not controlling surface disturbing activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>
<p>White-Tailed Prairie Dog</p>			

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>No ACEC designated. Active white-tailed prairie dog colonies are avoidance areas for surface disturbing activities only within black-footed ferret reintroduction area.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Objective: Protect white-tailed prairie dog habitat.</p> <p>The following management applies only to areas within the designated polygon (Map X) containing active/inactive white-tailed prairie dog colonies:</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: No Surface Occupancy for oil and gas operations Locatable - Closed Other Minerals- Closed Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Limited to Designated</p> <p>VRM: No classification related to prairie dog colonies.</p> <p>Lands and Realty: ROW – exclusion</p>
<p>Controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Controlling and/or prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas. Note: effects would be greater than under Alternative A</p>
<p>Natural Systems ACECs</p>			

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
No similar action	No similar action	No similar action.	<p>Designate the following ACECs</p> <p>Cold Desert Shrublands ACEC (5,755 acres), Gibben's Beardtongue ACEC (5,477 acres), Bull Canyon ACEC (3,416 acres), G Gap ACEC (5,661 acres), Little Juniper Canyon ACEC (14 acres), Bassett Spring ACEC (117 acres), No Name Spring ACEC (76 acres), Pot Creek ACEC (2,230 acres), Whiskey Springs ACEC (2,758 acres), Willow Spring ACEC (88 acres), Deception Creek ACEC (XX acres).</p> <p>The Objective of these ACECs is to protect sensitive plants and plant communities.</p> <p>The following management applies only to areas within the designated polygons (Map X):</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Controlled Surface Use for oil and gas operations Locatable - Closed Other Minerals- Closed Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Limited to Designated Routes</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
			VRM: No classification related to ACECs. Lands and Realty: ROW – avoidance
			Controlling and/or prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.
Wilderness Study Areas			
The Diamond Breaks WSA will be recommended as preliminarily suitable for wilderness designation (RMP/ROD page 22). If Congress does not designate Diamond Breaks as wilderness, the Colorado portion of the WSA (31,480 acres) would be managed as a recreation management unit; the Utah portion (3,900 acres) would be managed by the Vernal District according to existing management framework plans	Diamond Breaks WSA would be managed to preserve its wilderness values according to the IMP (BLM-H-8550-1) and would continue to be managed in that manner until the Congress either designates it wilderness or releases it for other uses. If Congress releases Diamond Breaks from wilderness study, it would be managed as multiple use consistent with resource goals and objectives.	Diamond Breaks WSA would be managed to preserve its wilderness values according to the IMP (BLM-H-8550-1) and would continue to be managed in that manner until the Congress either designates it wilderness or releases it for other uses. If Congress releases Diamond Breaks from wilderness study, it would be managed as follows: OHV – Limited to designated Minerals – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed to oil and gas exploration and development 	Diamond Breaks WSA would be managed to preserve its wilderness values according to the IMP (BLM-H-8550-1) and would continue to be managed in that manner until the Congress either designates it wilderness or releases it for other uses. If Congress releases Diamond Breaks from wilderness study, it would be managed as follows: OHV – Closed Minerals – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed to oil and gas exploration and development

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locatable – closed • Other minerals – closed • Coal – Not available for leasing <p>VRM – Class II</p> <p>Lands and Realty: ROW exclusion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locatable – closed • Other minerals – closed • Coal – Not available for leasing <p>VRM – Class II</p> <p>Lands and Realty: ROW would be considered on a case-by-case basis.</p>
<p>Controlling and/or prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>
<p>The Cross Mountain WSA (including the proposed Cross Mountain Canyon ACEC) will be recommended as preliminarily suitable for wilderness designation. BLM will recommend that the proposed Cross Mountain wilderness remain open to oil and gas leasing with no-surface-occupancy stipulations. If Congress does not designate Cross Mountain as wilderness, the area would be managed as a special recreation management area</p>	<p>Cross Mountain WSA would be managed to preserve its wilderness values according to the IMP (BLM-H-8550-1) and would continue to be managed in that manner until the Congress either designates it wilderness or releases it for other uses.</p> <p>If Congress releases Cross Mountain from wilderness study, it would be managed as multiple use consistent with resource goals and objectives.</p>	<p>Cross Mountain WSA would be managed to preserve its wilderness values according to the IMP (BLM-H-8550-1) and would continue to be managed in that manner until the Congress either designates it wilderness or releases it for other uses.</p> <p>If Congress releases Diamond Breaks from wilderness study, it would be managed as an ACEC as follows:</p> <p>Objective: Protect sensitive plants, threatened and endangered species,</p>	<p>Same as Alternative C.</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
(13,000 acres), including the Cross Mountain Canyon ACEC (3,000 acres)		and scenic values. Minerals and Energy: Closed to oil and gas operations Locatable - closed Other Minerals- closed Coal – Not available for leasing OHV: Closed VRM: Class II Lands and Realty: Exclusion area unless associated with valid existing rights.	
Controlling and/or prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A
The West Cold Spring WSA will be recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation. If Congress does not designate the area as wilderness, the Colorado portion of West Cold Spring would be managed as the Cold Spring and Little Snake River	West Cold Spring WSA would be managed to preserve its wilderness values according to the IMP (BLM-H-8550-1) and would continue to be managed in that manner until the Congress either designates it wilderness or releases it for other uses.	West Cold Spring WSA would be managed to preserve its wilderness values according to the IMP (BLM-H-8550-1) and would continue to be managed in that manner until the Congress either designates it wilderness or releases it for other uses.	West Cold Spring WSA would be managed to preserve its wilderness values according to the IMP (BLM-H-8550-1) and would continue to be managed in that manner until the Congress either designates it wilderness or releases it for other uses.

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>management units (total of 14,482 acres). The Utah portion of the WSA would be managed under the Brown’s Park Management Framework Plan</p>	<p>If Congress releases West Cold Springs from wilderness study, it would be managed as multiple use consistent with resource goals and objectives.</p>	<p>If Congress releases West Cold Springs from wilderness study, it would be managed the same as the adjacent wilderness character area:</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Closed to oil and gas operations Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Limited (apply adaptive criteria)</p> <p>VRM: Class III</p> <p>Lands and Realty: ROW – avoidance; accept wind energy applications on case-by-case basis.</p>	<p>If Congress releases West Cold Springs from wilderness study, it would be managed the same as the adjacent SRMA:</p> <p>Designate as a backcountry SRMA.</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Closed to oil and gas operations Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Limited to Designated</p> <p>VRM: Class I</p> <p>Lands and Realty: ROW – exclusion; no wind energy</p>
<p>Controlling and/or prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>
<p>Four WSAs evaluated under Section 202 of FLPMA – Ant Hills, Chew Winter Camp,</p>	<p>Ant Hills, Chew Winter Camp, Peterson Draw, and Vale of Tears WSAs would be managed</p>	<p>Ant Hills, Chew Winter Camp, Peterson Draw, and Vale of Tears WSAs would be managed to</p>	<p>Ant Hills, Chew Winter Camp, Peterson Draw, and Vale of Tears WSAs would be managed to</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>Peterson Draw, and Vale of Tears – will be recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation but would be recommended to the Secretary for forwarding to Congress for the final decision. If Congress does not designate these areas as wilderness, they would be managed as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The northwest corner of Ant Hills would be managed as the Douglas Mountain Management Unit and the remainder as the Scattered Sands Management Unit. 2. Chew Winter Camp would be managed as the Scattered Sands Management Unit. 3. The north third of Peterson Draw would be managed as the Scattered Sands Management Unit and the remainder as the Douglas Mountain Management Unit. 4. Most of the Vale of Tears would be managed as the Little Snake River Management Unit and the other portions in the northwest corner would be managed as the Douglas 	<p>to preserve their wilderness values according to the IMP (BLM-H-8550-1) and would continue to be managed in that manner until the Congress either designates them wilderness or releases them for other uses.</p> <p>If Congress releases Ant Hills, Chew Winter Camp, Peterson Draw, and Vale of Tears from wilderness study, it would be managed as multiple use consistent with resource goals and objectives.</p>	<p>preserve its wilderness values according to the IMP (BLM-H-8550-1) and would continue to be managed in that manner until the Congress either designates it wilderness or releases it for other uses.</p> <p>If Congress releases Ant Hills, Chew Winter Camp, Peterson Draw, and Vale of Tears from wilderness study, they would be managed the same as the adjacent wilderness character area:</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Closed to oil and gas exploration and development Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Limited (apply adaptive criteria)</p> <p>VRM: Class II</p> <p>Lands and Realty: ROW – avoidance; no wind energy</p>	<p>preserve its wilderness values according to the IMP (BLM-H-8550-1) and would continue to be managed in that manner until the Congress either designates it wilderness or releases it for other uses.</p> <p>If Congress releases Ant Hills, Chew Winter Camp, Peterson Draw, and Vale of Tears from wilderness study, they would be managed the same as the adjacent SRMA: Designate as a backcountry SRMA.</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Closed to oil and gas exploration and development Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Limited to Designated</p> <p>VRM: Class I</p> <p>Lands and Realty: ROW – exclusion; no wind energy</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>Mountain and Scattered Sands Management Units (Little Snake Resource Management Plan (1989))</p> <p>5. The Cross Mountain, Diamond Breaks, West Cold Spring, Ant Hills, Chew Winter Camp, Peterson Draw, and Vale of Tears Wilderness Study Areas will not be leased. This is 35,280 acres of BLM-administered mineral estate within the Little Snake RMPPA</p>			
<p>Controlling and/or prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>
<p>Wild and Scenic Rivers</p>			
<p>Existing land use plans contain no decisions regarding wild and scenic rivers.</p> <p>As directed by BLM IM-2004-196, manage all of <i>eligible</i> river segments (XX miles) to protect their outstandingly remarkable values, free-flowing nature, and tentative classification, as</p>	<p>No recommendations as suitable for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System.</p>	<p>Determine and Manage Yampa Segments 1, 2 and 3 as suitable for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System.</p>	<p>Determine and manage all eligible segments and tentative classifications (listed below) as suitable for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System: Beaver Creek Segment 1 (wild) Vermillion Creek Segment 1 (Lower Vermillion Creek, scenic) Yampa Segment 1 (River Mile 126 to Milk Creek, recreational)</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>follows:</p> <p>In keeping with BLM Manual 8351, .32C and .33 C, suitability determinations would not be made for any of the eligible river segments. They would remain eligible and would be managed to protect their outstandingly remarkable values, free-flowing nature, and tentative classification to the degree that BLM has authority (i.e., BLM lands within the corridor) and within the parameters of decisions made in the previous planning documents until such time as suitability determinations are made.</p>			<p>Yampa Segment 2 (Milk Creek to Duffy Tunnel, scenic) Yampa Segment 3 (Cross Mountain Canyon, wild)</p>
<p>Controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Not controlling surface disturbing activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>		
<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>The following management actions would only apply to the portions of the river segments where the river corridor is managed by the BLM.</p> <p>Manage Beaver Creek Segment 1</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
			<p>as suitable for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System with the tentative classification of <i>wild</i>.</p> <p>Manage to protect the outstandingly remarkable values, including fish. Specific management prescriptions within one-quarter mile of each side of the river include—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to OHV • Close to oil and gas leasing. • Recommend withdrawing from mineral entry.
			<p>Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>
<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>The following management actions would only apply to the portions of the river segments where the river corridor is managed by the BLM.</p> <p>Manage Vermillion Creek Segment 1 as suitable for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System with the tentative classification of <i>scenic</i>.</p> <p>Manage to protect the outstandingly remarkable values, including cultural</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
			and geology. Specific management prescriptions within one-quarter mile of each side of the river include— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to OHV • Close to oil and gas leasing. • Recommend withdrawing from mineral entry.
			Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.
No similar action.	No similar action.	The following management actions would only apply to the portions of the river segments where the river corridor is managed by the BLM. Manage Segment 1 of the Yampa River (2.8 miles from River Mile #126 to Milk Creek area) as suitable for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System with the tentative classification of <i>recreational</i> . Manage to protect the outstandingly remarkable values, including recreation and fish. Specific management prescriptions within one-quarter mile of each side of the river include— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to OHV 	The following management actions would only apply to the portions of the river segments where the river corridor is managed by the BLM. Manage Segment 1 of the Yampa River (2.8 miles from River Mile #126 to Milk Creek area) as suitable for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System with the tentative classification of <i>recreational</i> . Manage to protect the outstandingly remarkable values, including recreation and fish. Specific management prescriptions within one-quarter mile of each side of the river include— <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to OHV

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to oil and gas leasing. • Recommend withdrawing from mineral entry. <p>For sites within the segment where habitat loss is a risk, remedial actions would be implemented to ensure that the suitability of the spawning habitat is maintained, or enhanced.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to oil and gas leasing. • Recommend withdrawing from mineral entry. • For sites within the segment where habitat loss is a risk, remedial actions would be implemented to ensure that the suitability of the spawning habitat is maintained, or enhanced.
		<p>Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative C</p>
<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>The following management actions would only apply to the portions of the river segments where the river corridor is managed by the BLM.</p> <p>Manage Segment 2 of the Yampa River (13.9 miles from Milk Creek to Duffy Tunnel) as suitable for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System with the tentative classification of <i>scenic</i>.</p> <p>Manage to protect the outstandingly remarkable values, including recreation and fish. Specific management prescriptions within</p>	<p>The following management actions would only apply to the portions of the river segments where the river corridor is managed by the BLM.</p> <p>Manage Segment 2 of the Yampa River (13.9 miles from Milk Creek to Duffy Tunnel) as suitable for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System with the tentative classification of <i>scenic</i>.</p> <p>Manage to protect the outstandingly remarkable values, including recreation and fish. Specific management prescriptions within</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		<p>one-quarter mile of each side of the river include—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to OHV • Close to oil and gas leasing. • Recommend withdrawing from mineral entry. • For sites within the segment where habitat loss is a risk, remedial actions would be implemented to ensure that the suitability of the spawning habitat is maintained, or enhanced. 	<p>one-quarter mile of each side of the river include—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to OHV • Close to oil and gas leasing. • Recommend withdrawing from mineral entry. • For sites within the segment where habitat loss is a risk, remedial actions would be implemented to ensure that the suitability of the spawning habitat is maintained, or enhanced. • Close to livestock grazing during the months of June and July.
		<p>Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative C</p>
<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>The following management actions would only apply to the portions of the river segments where the river corridor is managed by the BLM.</p> <p>Manage Segment 3 of the Yampa River (3.3 miles through Cross Mountain Canyon) as suitable for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System with the tentative classification of <i>wild</i>.</p>	<p>The following management actions would only apply to the portions of the river segments where the river corridor is managed by the BLM.</p> <p>Manage Segment 3 of the Yampa River (3.3 miles through Cross Mountain Canyon) as suitable for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System with the tentative classification of <i>wild</i>.</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		<p>Manage to protect the outstandingly remarkable values, including scenic, recreation, geologic, and fish. Specific management prescriptions within one-quarter mile of each side of the river include—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to OHV • Close to oil and gas leasing. • Recommend withdrawing from mineral entry. 	<p>Manage to protect the outstandingly remarkable values, including scenic, recreation, geologic, and fish. Specific management prescriptions within one-quarter mile of each side of the river include—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close to OHV • Close to oil and gas leasing. • Recommend withdrawing from mineral entry.
		<p>Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative C</p>
<p>Lands With Wilderness Character Outside Existing WSAs</p>			
<p><i>Vermillion Basin</i></p>			
<p>Minerals and Energy: Open to new oil and gas leasing Locatable - Open Other Minerals - Open Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Open, some Limited to Existing</p> <p>VRM: Not applicable</p>	<p>Objectives: Allow for oil and gas leasing, exploration, and development by utilizing state of the art technology, while protecting natural values. Manage for minimal surface disturbance by focusing development near existing trails, ROWs, canyons and washes and clustering wells where feasible. Manage to minimize visual</p>	<p>Zone 1 (Northern Zone of High and Medium potential):</p> <p>Objectives: Allow for oil and gas leasing, exploration, and development by utilizing state of the art technology, while protecting natural values. Manage for minimal surface disturbance by focusing development near existing trails, ROWs, canyons and washes and clustering wells where feasible.</p>	<p>Objective: provide quality primitive recreational experiences in largely natural settings</p> <p>Designate as a backcountry SRMA.</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Closed to new oil and gas leasing Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal – Not available for leasing</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>Lands and Realty: Considered on a case-by-case basis.</p>	<p>intrusions, Lookout Mountain as observation point Control infrastructure by requiring pre-planning, including transportation planning. Lease in larger leases (4 section blocks) in order to facilitate seismic exploration and allow operators to drill fewer wells</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Open to new oil and gas leasing with a Controlled Surface Use stipulation. Stipulation language would reference Objectives above. Locatable – Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Limited to Designated Routes</p> <p>VRM: Class III, Class II for Vermillion Bluffs area</p> <p>Lands and Realty: Case-by-case basis, avoidance for Vermillion Bluffs and fragile soil areas</p>	<p>Manage to minimize visual intrusions, Lookout Mountain as observation point Control infrastructure by requiring pre-planning, including transportation planning. Lease in larger leases (4 section blocks) in order to facilitate seismic exploration and allow operators to drill fewer wells Long term goal for Vermillion Basin is to manage the area so that any disturbance caused by permitted actions will eventually be returned to the state prior to development.</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Open to new oil and gas leasing with a Controlled Surface Use stipulation. Stipulation language would reference Objectives above. Locatable – Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Limited to Designated Routes</p> <p>VRM: Class III, Class II for Vermillion Bluffs area</p> <p>Lands and Realty: Case-by-case basis, avoidance for Vermillion</p>	<p>OHV: Closed</p> <p>VRM: Class II</p> <p>Lands and Realty: Exclusion area</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		<p>Bluffs and fragile soil areas?</p> <p>Zone 2: (Southwest area of Low and No Known potential) Objectives: Manage to protect naturalness, opportunities for semi-primitive recreation, and solitude.</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Closed to new oil and gas leasing Locatable – Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal – Closed</p> <p>OHV: The portion of Vermillion Basin south and east of Ted’s Draw will be Limited to Designated Routes The remaining portion of Zone 2 will be Closed to OHVs.</p> <p>VRM: II</p> <p>Lands and Realty: ROW Avoidance - the portion of Vermillion Basin south and east of Ted’s Draw</p> <p>ROW Exclusion – remaining portion of Zone 2</p>	

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>Allowing surface disturbing activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Controlling and/or prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas. Note: impacts would be greater than under Alternative B</p>	<p>Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas. Note: impacts would be greater than under Alternative B</p>
<p><i>Dinosaur North</i></p>			
<p>Multiple use outside existing WSAs</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Open Locatable - Open Other Minerals - Open Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Open</p> <p>VRM: Not applicable</p> <p>Lands and Realty: No restrictions, case-by-case basis</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A.</p>	<p>WHEN CALCULATING AREA, MAKE SURE TO INCLUDE WILD MOUNTAIN.</p> <p>Objective: Manage to protect naturalness, opportunities for semi-primitive recreation, and solitude.</p> <p>No designation with the following prescriptions:</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Closed to oil and gas operations Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Limited to Designated Routes</p> <p>VRM: Class II</p> <p>Lands and Realty: ROW – avoidance; no wind energy</p>	<p>WHEN CALCULATING AREA, MAKE SURE TO INCLUDE WILD MOUNTAIN.</p> <p>Objective: Provide quality primitive recreational experiences in largely natural settings.</p> <p>Designate as a backcountry SRMA.</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Closed to oil and gas operations Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Closed</p> <p>VRM: Class II</p> <p>Lands and Realty: ROW – exclusion; no wind energy</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>Allowing surface disturbing activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Allowing surface disturbing activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Controlling and/or prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>
<p><i>Cold Springs Mountain</i></p>			
<p>Multiple use outside existing WSAs</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Open Locatable - Open Other Minerals - Open Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Majority Limited to Existing, remainder is Open</p> <p>VRM: Not applicable</p> <p>Lands and Realty: No restrictions, case-by-case basis</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A.</p>	<p>Objective: Manage to protect naturalness, opportunities for semi-primitive recreation, and solitude.</p> <p>No designation with the following prescriptions:</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Closed to oil and gas operations Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Limited to designated routes</p> <p>VRM: Class III</p> <p>Lands and Realty: ROW – avoidance; accept wind energy applications on case-by-case basis.</p>	<p>Objective: Provide quality primitive recreational experiences in largely natural settings</p> <p>Designate as a backcountry SRMA.</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Closed to oil and gas operations Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal - Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Closed</p> <p>VRM: Class II</p> <p>Lands and Realty: ROW – exclusion; no wind energy</p>
<p>Allowing surface disturbing activities would result in</p>	<p>Allowing surface disturbing activities would result in</p>	<p>Controlling and/or prohibiting surface disturbing activities would</p>	<p>Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.
<i>Lands with Backcountry Characteristics outside existing WSAs</i>			
No Similar Action	No similar action	No similar action	<p>Cross Mountain Area XX acres adjacent to Cross Mountain WSA. See Map X.</p> <p>Objective: Provide backcountry recreation experience in predominantly natural settings</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Closed to oil and gas operations Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal – Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Closed</p> <p>VRM: Class II</p> <p>Lands and Realty: ROW – exclusion.</p>
			Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
No similar action	No similar action	No similar action	<p>Diamond Breaks Area XX acres adjacent to Diamond Breaks WSA. See Map X.</p> <p>Objective: Provide backcountry recreation experience in predominantly natural settings</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Closed to oil and gas operations Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal - Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Closed</p> <p>VRM: Class II</p> <p>Lands and Realty: ROW – exclusion.</p>
			<p>Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>
No similar action	No similar action	No similar action	<p>Pinyon Ridge Area XX acres. See Map X.</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
			<p>Objective: Provide backcountry recreation experience in predominantly natural settings</p> <p>Minerals and Energy: Closed to oil and gas operations Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal - Not available for leasing</p> <p>OHV: Closed</p> <p>VRM: Class II Lands and Realty: ROW – exclusion.</p>
			Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.
VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (VRM)			
VRM Class I			
WSAs (manage in accordance with IM)	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A	In addition to WSAs, Cross Mountain Canyon ACEC
Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A, except effects would occur over a larger area.

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
wind and water in these areas.			
VRM Class II			
No similar action	Vermillion Bluffs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable WSR corridors • Limestone Ridge area • Irish Canyon ACEC • Zone 2 and Vermillion Bluffs areas of Vermillion Basin • Dinosaur North wilderness character area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suitable WSR corridors • Limestone Ridge ACEC • Irish Canyon ACEC • Lookout Mountain ACEC • Vermillion Basin SRMA • Dinosaur North SRMA • Cold Springs Mountain SRMA • Cross Mountain area outside WSA • Diamond Breaks area outside WSA • Pinyon Ridge area
	Controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative B, except effects would occur over a larger area.	Same as Alternative B, except effects would occur over a larger area.
VRM Class III			
No similar action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limestone Ridge • Irish Canyon • Portion of Vermillion Basin 	All remaining	All remaining
	Controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative B, except effects would occur over a larger area.	Same as Alternative B, except effects would occur over a larger area.

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
VRM Class IV			
No similar action	All remaining	Hiawatha and Powder Wash areas, regions of Sand Wash Basin, areas suitable for coal mining	Open OHV area in South Sand Wash SRMA, Hiawatha and Powder Wash areas, areas suitable for coal mining
	Requiring only limited controls on surface disturbing and disruptive activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative B, except effects would occur over a smaller area.	Same as Alternative B, except effects would occur over a smaller area.
ENERGY AND MINERALS			
Oil and Gas			
Leasing Decisions			
<p>Lease with standard lease terms and conditions plus specified stipulations</p> <p>The RMPPA is available for oil and gas leasing. Areas have been designated for leasing with standard stipulations, seasonal restrictions, avoidance stipulations, performance objectives, or no-surface-occupancy stipulations; areas where no new leasing is allowed have also been identified.</p>	<p>Lease with standard lease terms and conditions and non-discretionary stipulations. Resources would be protected and impacts mitigated through site specific NEPA documents. See Appendix OG for explanation of the BLM's oil and gas leasing and development process.</p>	<p>Lease with standard lease terms and conditions plus specified stipulations.</p> <p>Exceptions, modifications, and waivers could be provided as detailed in Appendix X.</p>	<p>Lease with standard lease terms and conditions plus specified stipulations</p> <p>Exceptions, modifications, and waivers could be provided as detailed in Appendix X.</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>1,878,000 acres of BLM-administered mineral estate within the Little Snake RMPPA are open to oil and gas leasing and development, subject to the lease terms and (as applicable) lease stipulations noted in Appendix A of the Amendment.</p>			
<p>Mineral leasing could result in surface disturbing and disruptive activities, which would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except stipulations would likely be less restrictive and therefore allow for increased disturbance.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except stipulations would likely be more restrictive and therefore result in less disturbance.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except stipulations would likely be more restrictive and therefore result in less disturbance.</p>
<p>Closed to Oil and Gas Leasing</p>			
<p>WSAs</p>	<p>WSAs</p>	<p>WSAs; Limestone Ridge, Dinosaur North, Cold Springs Area (outside WSA), Vermillion Basin (Zone 2), Irish Canyon ACEC; WSR Segments 1, 2, and 3.</p>	<p>WSAs, Vermillion Basin, Limestone Ridge ACEC, Cross Mountain Canyon ACEC, Irish Canyon ACEC, all suitable WSR segments; Cross Mountain backcountry area; Diamond Breaks backcountry area; Pinyon Ridge backcountry area; Little Yampa Canyon SRMA, Juniper Mountain SRMA; Cedar Mountain SRMA; Dinosaur North SRMA, Cold Springs Area SRMA,</p>
<p>Prohibiting oil and gas leasing would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a larger area.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a larger area.</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
No Surface Occupancy Stipulations			
Leases within the area of federally leased coal lands where oil and gas development would likely be incompatible with coal extraction. Stipulation may be waived if lessee agrees to outlined conditions.	Same as Alternative A. [Assuming this is non-discretionary]	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.
Special status plant species: NSO on habitat areas containing special status species (federally listed, proposed, and candidate). NSO may be altered after important factors are considered in the impact analysis such as the type and amount of surface disturbance, plant frequency and density, and the relocation of disturbances.	No similar action	No similar action	No similar action.
NSO areas: Limestone Ridge ACEC; Cross Mountain Canyon ACEC; Little Yampa/Juniper Canyon SRMA; Cedar Mountain SRMA; Steamboat Lake State Park; Pearl Lake State Park. No exceptions.	No similar action	Lookout Mountain, Little Yampa Canyon SRMA, Juniper Mountain SRMA, Cedar Mountain SRMA	Lookout Mountain ACEC, White-tailed prairie dog ACEC
Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and	Same as Alternative A, except effects would occur over a smaller area.	Same as Alternative A, except effects would occur over a smaller area.	Same as Alternative A, except effects would occur over a smaller area.

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.			
Controlled Surface Use Stipulations			
No similar action.	Special status plant species: CSU on habitat areas containing special status species (federally listed, proposed, and candidate). Exception criteria detailed in Appendix X apply.	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
Attached to leases where operations proposed within the area of an approved surface or underground coal mine will be relocated outside the area to be mined or to accommodate room and pillar mining operations. Stipulations may be waived subject to outlined conditions.	Same as Alternative A. [Assuming this is non-discretionary]	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.
Fragile Soil Areas – performance objectives must be met prior to surface disturbance.	No similar action	Fragile Soil Areas (see Soils section for performance objectives and fragile soil criteria)	Same as Alternative C
Prior to surface disturbance on slopes of, or greater than, 40 percent, an engineering/ reclamation plan must be approved by the Authorized Officer. Stipulations may be excepted subject to an on-site impact analysis. Stipulation not applied where the Authorized Officer determines	No similar action	Prior to surface disturbance on slopes of, or greater than, 35 percent, an engineering/ reclamation plan must be approved by the Authorized Officer. Stipulations may be excepted subject to an on-site impact analysis. Stipulation not applied where the Authorized Officer determines that relocation up to 200 meters can be applied to protect the	Same as Alternative C

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
that relocation up to 200 meters can be applied to protect the riparian system during well siting.		riparian system during well siting.	
Irish Canyon ACEC: Inventory for sensitive plant and remnant vegetation associations will be required. Sensitive plants and associations identified will be avoided. Known geologic values and cultural resources will be avoided. No exceptions.	No similar action	No similar action	No similar action
Lookout Mountain ACEC: Inventory for sensitive plant and remnant vegetation associations will be required. Sensitive plants and associations identified will be avoided. No exceptions.	No similar action	No similar action	No similar action
No similar action	Vermillion Basin; Dinosaur North; Cold Springs Area (outside WSA)	Vermillion Basin (Zone 1)	Natural Systems ACECs
Controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative A, except effects would occur over a smaller area.	Same as Alternative A, except effects would occur over a smaller/larger?? area.	Same as Alternative A, except effects would occur over a larger area.
Open			
All remaining areas subject to existing standard terms and conditions consistent with applicable law.	All remaining areas subject to existing standard terms and conditions consistent with applicable law.	All remaining areas subject to existing standard terms and conditions consistent with applicable law.	All remaining areas subject to existing standard terms and conditions consistent with applicable law.

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
Mineral leasing could result in surface disturbing and disruptive activities, which would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative A, except stipulations would likely be less restrictive and therefore allow for increased disturbance.	Same as Alternative A, except stipulations would likely be more restrictive and therefore result in less disturbance.	Same as Alternative A, except stipulations would likely be more restrictive and therefore result in less disturbance.
Locatable Minerals, Mineral Materials, and Non-Energy Leasable Minerals, Others			
All public land is open to mineral entry and development under the General Mining Law of 1872 unless administratively withdrawn or proposed for withdrawal (proposed wilderness designation). Locatable mineral exploration and development on public land would be regulated under 43 CFR 3800. No Action – all areas open except WSAs, Limestone Ridge ACEC	Same as Alternative A, except Limestone Ridge ACEC open to mineral location. Vermillion Basin would be withdrawn from mineral location.	WSAs, Lookout Mountain ACEC, Cross Mountain Canyon ACEC, WSR suitable segments 1, 2, and 3, Vermillion Basin, Dinosaur North, Cold Springs Mountain; Cedar Mountain SRMA; South Sand Wash SRMA; Serviceberry SRMA; Flycreek SRMA; would be withdrawn from mineral location.	WSAs, all ACECs, all suitable WSR segments, Vermillion Basin, Dinosaur North, Cross Mountain backcountry area, Diamond Breaks backcountry area, Pinyon Ridge backcountry area; Little Yampa Canyon SRMA, Juniper Mountain SRMA; Cedar Mountain SRMA; South Sand Wash SRMA; Serviceberry SRMA; Flycreek SRMA; Cold Springs Mountain SRMA would be withdrawn from mineral location.
Surface disturbances caused by locatable mineral development would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A, except effects would occur over a smaller area	Same as Alternative A, except effects would occur over a smaller area
Applications for removing	Same as Alternative A	WSAs, Limestone Ridge ACEC,	WSAs, all ACECs, all suitable WSR

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>common variety mineral materials, including sand and gravel, will continue to be processed as they are received. Interdisciplinary review of each proposal will determine stipulations to protect important surface values. Mineral material sales will not be allowed in WSAs, Cross Mountain Canyon ACEC, Limestone Ridge ACEC/RNA, Little Yampa/Juniper Canyon SRMA, and the Cedar Mountain Recreation management unit.</p>		<p>Lookout Mountain ACEC, Cross Mountain Canyon ACEC, WSR suitable segments 1, 2, and 3, Vermillion Basin, Cedar Mountain SRMA would be closed to mineral material sales.</p>	<p>segments, Vermillion Basin, Dinosaur North, Cross Mountain backcountry area, Diamond Breaks backcountry area, Pinyon Ridge backcountry area; Little Yampa Canyon SRMA, Juniper Mountain SRMA; Cedar Mountain SRMA; Serviceberry SRMA; Cold Springs Mountain SRMA would be closed to mineral material sales.</p>
<p>Surface disturbances caused by locatable mineral development would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except effects would occur over a smaller area</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except effects would occur over a smaller area</p>
<p>Coal and Oil Shale</p>			
<p>Coal</p>			
<p>Approximately 638,800 acres (containing an estimated 5.8 billion tons of coal) are acceptable for further consideration for federal coal leasing. Of this total, approximately 457,089 acres (an estimated 4.2 billion tons of</p>	<p>Lands found acceptable in this resource management plan (RMP) will be available for further consideration for leasing and/or exchange. However, all lands determined to be suitable, unsuitable, or unacceptable for further consideration for leasing</p>	<p>Same as Alternative B.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative B, but only XX acres are suitable for surface mining after no lease decision for Little Yampa Canyon SRMA).</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>coal) are acceptable for further consideration for leasing for surface or underground development.</p>	<p>and/or exchange may be reviewed and suitability determinations modified based on new data during activity planning efforts. Unsuitability criteria apply only to surface coal mining, not underground mining.</p> <p>The lands with coal resource development potential in the Little Snake coal planning area are located in the Yampa and Dansforth Hills Coal Fields. The coal planning includes federal coal within the following townships:</p> <p>Sixth Principal Meridian T. 3 N., R. 85 W. T. 3 N., R. 86 W. T. 3 N., R. 90 W. - R. 95 W. T. 4 N., R. 86 W. - R. 95 W. T. 5 N., R. 85 W. - R. 93 W. T. 6 N., R. 86 W. - R. 93 W. T. 7 N., R. 87 W. - R. 94 W. T. 8 N., R. 86 W. - R. 94 W. T. 9 N., R. 86 W.</p> <p>The coal planning area contains approximately 671,168 acres federal coal lands. This entire</p>		

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
	<p>area is available for underground coal mining.</p> <p>Unsuitability criteria were applied to these lands to determine areas unsuitable for surface mining. Results are shown in Appendix "Coal."</p> <p>After applying unsuitability criteria and exceptions, approximately 621,978 acres are acceptable for further consideration for leasing for surface or underground development.</p>		
<p>Surface disturbances caused by coal mining would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>
<p>No Surface Occupancy stipulations will be used to protect Cross Mountain Canyon and Limestone Ridge Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC); Little Yampa/Juniper Canyon, Cedar Mountain Special Recreation Management Areas; Steamboat Lake and Pearl Lake State Parks; coal mines</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A. In addition, Stagecoach State Park would also be designated NSO.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative B.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative B.</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
where development would be incompatible with the planned coal extraction; grouse, raptor, bald eagle, peregrine falcon, Mexican spotted owl, waterfowl and shorebird nests; and special status plant species.			
Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative, except the effects would occur over a larger area.	Same as Alternative, except the effects would occur over a larger area.	Same as Alternative, except the effects would occur over a larger area.
Oil Shale			
G. BLM will consider leasing other leasable minerals as each application is received. (ROD p. 10)	BLM will consider leasing Oil Shale as each application is received. Lands available for leasing are consistent with lands available for oil and gas leasing or coal leasing, depending on the extraction method (i.e. in-situ or mined),	Same as Alternative B, recognizing different areas will be open to leasing because of consistency with oil and gas and coal decisions in this alternative.	Same as Alternative B, recognizing different areas will be open to leasing because of consistency with oil and gas and coal decisions in this alternative.
Surface disturbances caused by oil shale mining would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A
LIVESTOCK GRAZING			
Appropriate actions for improving allotments not meeting Standards and Guides	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
could include, but would not be limited to, adjustment of permitted animal unit months (AUMs), modified turnout dates, livestock water developments, range improvements, modified grazing periods, growing season rest, modified grazing systems, closing areas, riparian pastures, exclosures, implementation of forage utilization levels, and livestock conversions.			
Managing and controlling grazing activities would help to maintain vegetation cover and thereby reduce erosion and conserve soil resources.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.
Monitor rangelands on M and I category allotments to yield information needed to make decisions on livestock stocking rates, proceeding as funding and staff allow from worst to better forage conditions as established by 1981-1983 surveys and including 13 conflict allotments (numbers 4203,4206,4207,4209, 4210,4219, 4225, 4302,4431, 4332,4520,4521,4522).	Monitor rangelands focusing on allotments where land health standards have not been met and/or riparian assessments are "functioning at risk," or "downward trend."	Same as Alternative B.	Same as Alternative B.
Managing and controlling grazing activities would help to maintain vegetation cover and	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
thereby reduce erosion and conserve soil resources.			
Work closely with CDOW to reduce livestock/big game conflicts that would improve vegetative and forage conditions.	Work closely with CDOW to reduce livestock/big game conflicts, focusing on decreasing big game populations.	Same as Alternative A.	Reduce livestock/big game conflicts that would improve vegetative and forage conditions by focusing on decreasing livestock use.
Managing big game/livestock conflicts would help to maintain vegetation cover and thereby reduce erosion and conserve soil resources.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A.	Same as Alternative A
Implement vegetation land treatments on 68 allotments: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use such treatments as interseeding, burning and reseeding, spraying, and plowing and reseeding 2. Adhere to established procedures and design specifications to protect all resource uses and values 3. Complete a benefit/cost analysis and environmental analysis before any treatments are implemented. 	When consistent with healthy rangeland ecosystems, emphasize vegetation treatments to increase forage production.	When consistent with healthy rangeland ecosystems, emphasize vegetation treatments to maintain a variety of habitats and sustainable livestock grazing. See Vegetation section for treatment targets.	When consistent with healthy rangeland ecosystems, emphasize vegetation treatments to maintain or increase a variety of habitats for wildlife species. See Vegetation section for treatment targets.
Vegetation treatments would result in short-term vegetation loss and subsequent soil erosion.	Same As Alternative A	Same As Alternative A	Same As Alternative A

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
Over long term, they would improve overall vegetation health and thereby help to maintain soil resources.			
No similar action.	Desired plant community objectives would emphasize commodity uses while complying with existing regulations pertaining to sensitive resources.	Desired plant community objectives would emphasize wildlife habitat, livestock grazing, watershed, and biodiversity values while maintaining or enhancing habitat for special status species.	Desired plant community objectives would emphasize wildlife habitat, watershed, and biodiversity values. Particular emphasis would be placed on maintaining or enhancing habitat for special status species.
	Managing for desired plant communities would enhance overall vegetation health, which would help to reduce erosion and conserve soil resources.	Same as Alternative B, except the degree of soil conservation may be more extensive because emphasis would not solely be on commodity uses, resulting in a greater vegetation diversity and improved ability to retain soils.	Same as Alternative B, except the degree of soil conservation may be more extensive because emphasis would not solely be on commodity uses, resulting in a greater vegetation diversity and improved ability to retain soils.
Construct range improvement projects on 69 allotments: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Use improvements that will control livestock use, improve distribution, and improve riparian/wetland habitat 2. Complete a benefit/cost analysis and environmental analysis before any projects are implemented. 	Consider range improvement developments for the purpose of increasing livestock forage where they are economically feasible and consistent with other resources.	Consider range improvement developments for the purpose of improving rangeland diversity, condition, and sustainability, by such actions as control of pinyon-juniper encroachment and decadent sagebrush, etc.	Range improvements would be allowed only to maintain sustainable natural diversity of plant communities, and only when identified through the Rangeland Health assessment process.

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>Construction of range improvements would cause surface disturbances (both from construction and livestock congregation) would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p> <p>Range improvements would also help to distribute livestock and thereby reduce localized vegetation removal and subsequent soil erosion.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p> <p>Same as Alternative A, except increased protections to soil would occur because emphasis would be on diverse vegetation communities, which are more effective at retaining soils.</p>
RECREATION			
Special Recreation Management Areas			
<i>Little Yampa/Juniper Canyon</i>			
<p>The Little Yampa/Juniper Canyon area (19,840 acres) will be administered as a special recreation management area to provide unrestricted flatwater river floatboating in the region.</p>	<p>Little Yampa/Juniper Canyon area will be managed as an ERMA. See the ERMA objectives below.</p>	<p>The existing Little Yampa/Juniper Canyon SRMA will be expanded by 10,092 acres (Map X) and administered as the Little Yampa Canyon SRMA to provide quality camping experiences related to river boating in the region and big game hunting.</p>	<p>The existing Little Yampa/Juniper Canyon SRMA will be expanded by XXX acres (Map X) and administered as the Little Yampa Canyon SRMA to provide quality camping experiences related to river boating in the region and big game hunting.</p>
<p><u>Zone:</u> Zone 1: Yampa River Corridor <u>Market:</u> Community <u>Objective:</u></p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p><u>Zone:</u> Zone 1: Yampa River Corridor <u>Market:</u> Community <u>Objective:</u></p>	<p><u>Zone:</u> Zone 1: Yampa River Corridor <u>Market:</u> Community <u>Objective:</u></p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>Activities: Non-motorized boating, motorized boating, camping</p> <p>Experiences: Savoring canyon and river aesthetics; testing your endurance; enjoying risk-taking adventure</p> <p>Benefits: Improved skills for outdoor enjoyment with others; heightened sense of satisfaction with our community; greater sense of adventure</p> <p><u>Prescribed setting character</u></p> <p>Physical: Middle Country east of Milk Creek, Back Country west of Milk Creek.</p> <p>Social: Middle Country east of Milk Creek, Back Country west of Milk Creek.</p> <p>Administrative: Back country <u>Activity Planning Framework</u></p> <p>Management: Access will be negotiated for parking areas at put-in and take-out points. Other facilities will be constructed as needed for public sanitation and safety.</p> <p>Marketing: A map/brochure will be developed to promote visitor health and safety, provide resource protection, and inform the public of</p>		<p>Activities: Non-motorized boating, motorized boating, camping</p> <p>Experiences: Enjoying canyon and river aesthetics; testing your endurance; enjoying risk-taking adventure</p> <p>Benefits: Improved skills for outdoor enjoyment with others; heightened sense of satisfaction with our community; greater sense of adventure</p> <p><u>Prescribed setting character</u></p> <p>Physical: Middle Country east of Milk Creek, Back Country west of Milk Creek.</p> <p>Social: Middle Country east of Milk Creek, Back Country west of Milk Creek.</p> <p>Administrative: Back country <u>Activity Planning Framework</u></p> <p>Management: Modify roads and trails as needed to mitigate impacts</p> <p>Marketing: Involve Colorado State Parks in developing interpretation, education, and public outreach.</p> <p>Monitoring: In conjunction with State Parks, monitor motorized river boating to gauge if management actions and resulting use is producing targeted recreation opportunities and facilitating their attainment as outcomes. Monitor camp site conditions and use.</p>	<p>Activities: Non-motorized boating, limited motorized boating, camping</p> <p>Experiences: Enjoying canyon and river aesthetics; feeling good about solitude and being isolated from other people and services; testing your endurance; enjoying risk-taking adventure</p> <p>Benefits: Improved skills for outdoor enjoyment with others; heightened sense of satisfaction with our community; greater sense of adventure; closer relationship with the natural world; conservation of entire ecosystems in natural state.</p> <p><u>Prescribed setting character</u></p> <p>Physical: Middle Country east of Milk Creek, Back Country west of Milk Creek.</p> <p>Social: Back country</p> <p>Administrative: Primitive <u>Activity Planning Framework</u></p> <p>Management: Close and restore roads that have no administrative benefit. Restrict motorized access to the river.</p> <p>Marketing: Involve Colorado State Parks in developing interpretation, education, and public outreach.</p> <p>Monitoring: Monitor motorized river boating to gauge if management actions and resulting use is producing targeted recreation</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>available opportunities. Involve Colorado State Parks in developing interpretation, education, and public outreach.</p> <p>Monitoring: Monitor motorized river boating to gauge if management actions and resulting use is producing targeted recreation opportunities and facilitating their attainment as outcomes. Monitor camp site conditions and use.</p> <p>Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: No Surface Occupancy for oil and gas exploration and development Locatable - Open Other Minerals - Open Coal - Open • OHV: Limited to Designated Routes <p>VRM: Not determined</p>		<p>Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: No Surface Occupancy for oil and gas exploration and development Locatable - Open Other Minerals - Open Coal - Open • OHV: Limited to Designated Routes • VRM: Class II from river bottom to ridgeline; Class III in all other areas • Lands and Realty: Determined on a case-by-case basis consistent with SRMA objectives. 	<p>opportunities and facilitating their attainment as outcomes. Monitor camp site conditions and use.</p> <p>Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: Closed to oil and gas exploration and development Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal - Closed • OHV: XX acres Closed; XX acres Limited to Designated Routes. (To be calculated when GIS is completed) • VRM: Class II from river bottom to ridgeline; Class III in all other areas. • Lands and Realty: Determined on a case-by-case basis consistent with SRMA objectives.
<p>Prohibiting and/or controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind</p>	<p>Not prohibiting and/or controlling surface disturbing activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except effects would be more intensive and occur over a larger area.</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
and water in these areas.	wind and water in these areas.		
Zone 2: No similar action. This area was not included in the SRMA.	No similar action.	<p><u>Zone:</u> Zone 2: North of CR 17 <u>Market:</u> Destination <u>Objective:</u> Activities: Predominantly motorized big game hunting and some non-motorized hunting, camping, wildlife watching Experiences: Developing your skills and abilities; gaining a greater sense of achievement; Benefits: Greater self-reliance gained from hunting; improved outdoor knowledge and self-confidence; positive contributions to local and regional economic stability <u>Prescribed setting character</u> Physical: Middle country Social: Middle country Administrative: Middle country <u>Activity Planning Framework</u> Management: Provide camping facilities and improved roads to these facilities in high impact areas related to hunting season uses. Marketing: In partnership with Division of Wildlife and local Chambers of Commerce, increase education and interpretation during hunting season to reduce resource impacts and conflicts.</p>	<p><u>Zone:</u> Zone 2: North of CR 17 <u>Market:</u> Destination <u>Objective:</u> Activities: Predominantly non-motorized big game hunting and some motorized hunting, camping, wildlife watching Experiences: Developing your skills and abilities; gaining a greater sense of achievement; enjoying getting some physical exercise; feeling good about solitude and being isolated from other people and services Benefits: Greater self-reliance gained from hunting; improved outdoor knowledge and self-confidence; positive contributions to local and regional economic stability; closer relationship with the natural world; conservation of entire ecosystems in natural state. <u>Prescribed setting character</u> Physical: Back country Social: Back country Administrative: Back country <u>Activity Planning Framework</u> Management: Provide camping facilities in high impact areas related to hunting season uses.</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		<p>Monitoring: Monitor user experience and satisfaction, camp site conditions and use.</p> <p>Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Surface Occupancy for oil and gas exploration and development Locatable - Open Other Minerals - Open Coal - Open • OHV: Limited to Designated Routes • VRM: Class II from river bottom to ridgeline; Class III in all other areas • Lands and Realty: Determined on a case-by-case basis consistent with SRMA objectives. 	<p>Marketing: In partnership with Division of Wildlife and local Chambers of Commerce, increase education and interpretation during hunting season to reduce resource impacts and conflicts.</p> <p>Monitoring: Monitor user experience and satisfaction, camp site conditions and use. Monitor to ensure compliance of the motor vehicle closures.</p> <p>Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closed to oil and gas exploration and development Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal - Closed • OHV: Limited to Designated Routes. • VRM: Class II from river bottom to ridgeline; Class III in all other areas. • Lands and Realty: Determined on a case-by-case basis consistent with SRMA objectives.
		<p>Prohibiting and/or controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce</p>	<p>Same as Alternative C, except</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	effects would be more intensive and occur over a larger area.
Juniper Mountain			
<p>Juniper Mountain is currently managed within the Little Yampa /Juniper Canyon SRMA. See Little Yampa Canyon SRMA.</p>	<p>Juniper Mountain will be managed as an ERMA. See the ERMA objectives below.</p>	<p>The Juniper Canyon portion of the existing Little Yampa/Juniper Canyon SRMA will be administered as the Juniper Mountain SRMA.</p> <p><u>Zone:</u> Zone 1: Yampa River Corridor <u>Market:</u> Community <u>Objective:</u> Activities: Day use motorized and non-motorized boating Experiences: Enjoying canyon and river aesthetics; testing your endurance; enjoying risk-taking adventure. Benefits: Improved skills for outdoor enjoyment with others; heightened sense of satisfaction with our community; greater sense of adventure. <u>Prescribed setting character</u> Physical: Middle country Social: Middle country Administrative: Middle country <u>Activity Planning Framework</u> Management: Modify roads and trails as needed to mitigate impacts.</p>	<p>The Juniper Canyon portion of the existing Little Yampa/Juniper Canyon SRMA will be administered as the Juniper Mountain SRMA.</p> <p><u>Zone:</u> Zone 1: Yampa River Corridor <u>Market:</u> Community <u>Objective:</u> Activities: Day use non-motorized boating and limited motorized boating Experiences: Enjoying canyon and river aesthetics; feeling good about solitude and being isolated from other people and services; testing your endurance; enjoying risk-taking adventure. Benefits: Improved skills for outdoor enjoyment with others; heightened sense of satisfaction with our community; greater sense of adventure; closer relationship with the natural world. <u>Prescribed setting character</u> Physical: Middle country Social: Back country</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		<p>Marketing: Involve Colorado State Parks in developing interpretation, education, and public outreach.</p> <p>Monitoring: In conjunction with State Parks, monitor motorized river boating to gauge if the use is changing the desired recreation experience.</p> <p>Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Surface Occupancy for oil and gas exploration and development Locatable - Open Other Minerals - Open Coal - Open • OHV: Limited to Designated Routes • VRM: Class II from river bottom to ridgeline; Class III in all other areas • Lands and Realty: Determined on a case-by-case basis consistent with SRMA objectives. 	<p>Administrative: Back country <u>Activity Planning Framework</u></p> <p>Management: Close and restore roads that have no administrative benefit.</p> <p>Marketing: Involve Colorado State Parks in developing interpretation, education, and public outreach.</p> <p>Monitoring: Monitor user experience and satisfaction.</p> <p>Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closed to oil and gas exploration and development Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal - Closed • OHV: Limited to Designated Routes. • VRM: Class II from river bottom to ridgeline; Class III in all other areas. • Lands and Realty: Determined on a case-by-case basis consistent with SRMA objectives.
<p>See impacts under Little Yampa/Juniper Canyon SRMA above.</p>	<p>Not prohibiting and/or controlling surface disturbing activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and</p>	<p>Prohibiting and/or controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and</p>	<p>Same as Alternative C, except effects would be more intensive and occur over a larger area.</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
	soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	water in these areas.	
No similar action	No similar action	<p><u>Zone:</u> Zone 2: Outside river corridor <u>Market:</u> Destination <u>Objective:</u> Activities: Hunting, camping Experiences: Developing your skills and abilities; gaining a greater sense of achievement; Benefits: Greater self-reliance gained from hunting; improved outdoor knowledge and self-confidence; positive contributions to local and regional economic stability <u>Prescribed setting character</u> Physical: Middle Country Social: Middle Country Administrative: Middle Country <u>Activity Planning Framework</u> Management: Provide camping facilities in high impact areas related to hunting season uses. Develop a managed and maintained motorized trail system within the area during hunting season. Marketing: Work with chambers of commerce, adjacent land owners, and permitted outfitters to provide access and hunting experiences. Monitoring: Monitor camp site conditions and use as well as user</p>	<p><u>Zone:</u> Zone 2: Outside river corridor <u>Market:</u> Destination <u>Objective:</u> Activities: Hunting, camping Experiences: Developing your skills and abilities; gaining a greater sense of achievement; Benefits: Greater self-reliance gained from hunting; improved outdoor knowledge and self-confidence; positive contributions to local and regional economic stability <u>Prescribed setting character</u> Physical: Middle country Social: Middle country Administrative: Middle country <u>Activity Planning Framework</u> Management: Provide camping facilities in high impact areas related to hunting season uses. Develop a managed and maintained non-motorized trail system within the area during hunting season. Marketing: Work with chambers of commerce, adjacent land owners, and permitted outfitters to provide access and hunting experiences. Monitoring: Monitor camp site conditions and use, user experience</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		experience and satisfaction. Administration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Surface Occupancy for oil and gas exploration and development Locatable - Open Other Minerals - Open Coal - Open • OHV: Limited to Designated Routes • VRM: Class II from river bottom to ridgeline; Class III in all other areas • Lands and Realty: Determined on a case-by-case basis consistent with SRMA objectives. 	and satisfaction. Monitor to ensure compliance of the motor vehicle closures. Administration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closed to oil and gas exploration and development Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal - Closed • OHV: Limited to Designated Routes. • VRM: Class II from river bottom to ridgeline; Class III in all other areas. • Lands and Realty: Determined on a case-by-case basis consistent with SRMA objectives.
<p>See impacts under Little Yampa/Juniper Canyon SRMA above.</p>	<p>Not prohibiting and/or controlling surface disturbing activities would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Prohibiting and/or controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative C, except effects would be more intensive and occur over a larger area.</p>
<i>Cedar Mountain</i>			
<p>No similar action</p>	<p>Cedar Mountain is managed as an ERMA. See the ERMA objectives below.</p>	<p>The Cedar Mountain area (904 acres) will be administered as a special recreation management area to provide opportunities in</p>	<p>The Cedar Mountain area (904 acres) will be administered as a special recreation management area to provide opportunities in</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		close proximity to the City of Craig for hiking, nature interpretation, and picnicking.	close proximity to the City of Craig for hiking, nature interpretation, and picnicking.
No similar action	No similar action	<p><u>Zone:</u> Zone 1: Picnic area <u>Market:</u> Community <u>Objective:</u> Activities: Day use picnicking, hiking, wildlife viewing Experiences: Enjoying having access to close-to-home outdoor activities; enjoying having easy access to natural landscapes; enjoying the closeness of family. Benefits: Improved physical fitness; improved maintenance of physical facilities; increased awareness of natural landscapes; stronger ties to family and friends, vantage points provide improved appreciation for the Yampa Valley and surrounding areas. <u>Prescribed setting character</u> Physical: Rural Social: Rural Administrative: Rural <u>Activity Planning Framework</u> Management: Vehicle parking for picnicking and trail use will be provided. Prohibit overnight camping, and discharging of firearms not associated with hunting.</p>	<p><u>Zone:</u> Zone 1: Picnic area <u>Market:</u> Community <u>Objective:</u> Activities: Day use picnicking, hiking, wildlife viewing Experiences: Enjoying having access to close-to-home outdoor activities; enjoying having easy access to natural landscapes; enjoying the closeness of family. Benefits: Improved physical fitness; improved maintenance of physical facilities; increased awareness of natural landscapes; stronger ties to family and friends, vantage points provide improved appreciation for the Yampa Valley and surrounding areas. <u>Prescribed setting character</u> Physical: Rural Social: Rural Administrative: Rural <u>Activity Planning Framework</u> Management: Vehicle parking for picnicking and trail use will be provided. Prohibit overnight camping and discharging of firearms. Recreation use of the area would be restricted as a day use</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		<p>Marketing: Coordinate with City of Craig, Chamber of Commerce, communication site providers and local sport shops to provide maps, brochures, and other recreation information.</p> <p>Monitoring: Monitoring will occur to ensure user experiences are being met. Monitor compliance with restrictions and trail maintenance conditions.</p> <p>Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Surface Occupancy for oil and gas leasing Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal - Closed • OHV: Limited to designated routes • VRM: Class III • Lands and Realty: Require collocation of communication facilities. • Avoidance area for additional ROW 	<p>area (6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.).</p> <p>Marketing: Coordinate with City of Craig, Chamber of Commerce, communication site providers and local sport shops to provide maps, brochures, and other recreation information.</p> <p>Monitoring: Monitoring will occur to ensure user experiences are being met. Monitor compliance with restrictions and trail maintenance conditions.</p> <p>Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closed to oil and gas leasing Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal - Closed • OHV: Limited to designated routes • VRM: Class III • Lands and Realty: Require collocation of communication facilities. • Exclusion area for additional ROW
		<p>Prohibiting and/or controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative C, except effects would be more intensive and occur over a larger area.</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
No similar action	No similar action	<p><u>Zone:</u> Zone 2: Trail system <u>Market:</u> Community <u>Objective:</u> Activities: Hiking, jogging, horseback riding, wildlife viewing Experiences: Enjoying having access to close-to-home outdoor activities; Enjoying having easy access to natural landscapes; enjoying the closeness of family. Benefits: Improved physical fitness; improved maintenance of physical facilities; increased awareness of natural landscapes; increased knowledge of wildlife, natural landscapes and ecology. <u>Prescribed setting character</u> Physical: Rural Social: Rural Administrative: Rural <u>Activity Planning Framework</u> Management: Provide and maintain a managed non-motorized trail system. Marketing: Coordinate with City of Craig, Chamber of Commerce, communication site providers and local sport shops to provide maps, brochures, and other recreation information. Monitoring: Monitoring will occur to ensure user experiences are being met. Monitor compliance with</p>	<p><u>Zone:</u> Zone 2: Trail system <u>Market:</u> Community <u>Objective:</u> Activities: Hiking, jogging, horseback riding, wildlife viewing Experiences: Enjoying having access to close-to-home outdoor activities; Enjoying having easy access to natural landscapes; enjoying the closeness of family. Benefits: Improved physical fitness; improved maintenance of physical facilities; increased awareness of natural landscapes; increased knowledge of wildlife, natural landscapes and ecology. <u>Prescribed setting character</u> Physical: Rural Social: Rural Administrative: Rural <u>Activity Planning Framework</u> Management: Provide and maintain a managed non-motorized and non-mechanized trail system. Marketing: Coordinate with City of Craig, Chamber of Commerce, communication site providers, local sport shops, and Colorado Division of Wildlife to provide maps, brochures, and other recreation information. Monitoring: Monitoring will occur to ensure user experiences are being</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		restrictions and trail maintenance conditions. Administration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No Surface Occupancy for oil and gas leasing Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal - Closed • OHV: Limited to designated routes • VRM: Class III • Lands and Realty: Require collocation of communication facilities. • Avoidance area for additional ROW 	met. Monitor compliance with restrictions and trail maintenance conditions. Administration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closed to oil and gas leasing Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal - Closed • OHV: Limited to designated routes • VRM: Class III • Lands and Realty: Require collocation of communication facilities. • Exclusion area for additional ROW
		Prohibiting and/or controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative C, except effects would be more intensive and occur over a larger area.
South Sand Wash			
Currently the South Sand Wash area is managed as an OHV open area for cross-country use within the ERMA.	Same as Alternative A	The South Sand Wash area (35,571 acres) will be administered as a special recreation management area to provide quality OHV experiences.	The South Sand Wash area (35,571 acres) will be administered as a special recreation management area to provide quality OHV experiences.
Allowing cross-country OHV	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
use would remove and degrade vegetation and expose soils and thereby increase the potential for erosion by wind and water in this area.			
Serviceberry			
The Serviceberry area is open to OHV use under the current RMP; however, is temporarily closed to OHV use. This area is currently managed as part of the ERMA.	Same as Alternative A, except temporary OHV closures would be removed and would be managed as open to OHV use.	The Serviceberry area (12,375 acres) will be administered as a Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) to provide backcountry, non-motorized hunting experiences.	The Serviceberry area (12,375 acres) will be administered as a Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) to provide backcountry, non-motorized hunting experiences.
Allowing cross-country OHV use would remove and degrade vegetation and expose soils and thereby increase the potential for erosion by wind and water in the area.	Same as Alternative A	Prohibiting cross-country OHV use would reduce the level of vegetation removal and degradation and decrease the potential for erosion by wind and water within the area.	Same as Alternative C
No similar action	No similar action	<u>Zone:</u> Zone 1: Willow Creek and north Serviceberry access <u>Market:</u> Destination <u>Objective:</u> Activities: Non-motorized hunting and associated camping Experiences: Developing your skills and abilities; gaining a greater	<u>Zone:</u> Zone 1: Willow Creek and north Serviceberry access <u>Market:</u> Destination <u>Objective:</u> Activities: Non-motorized hunting and associated camping Experiences: Developing your skills and abilities; gaining a greater

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		<p>sense of achievement; Benefits: Reduced wildlife disturbance from recreation users; greater self-reliance gained from hunting; improved outdoor knowledge and self-confidence; positive contributions to local and regional economic stability. <u>Prescribed setting character</u> Physical: Middle country Social: Middle country Administrative: Middle country <u>Activity Planning Framework</u> Management: Provide camping facilities and improved roads to these facilities in high impact areas related to hunting season uses. Develop a managed and maintained trail system within the area. Marketing: In partnership with Division of Wildlife and local Chambers of Commerce, increase education and interpretation during hunting season to reduce resource impacts and conflicts. Monitoring: Monitor user experience and satisfaction, camp site conditions and use. Administration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: Open to oil and gas exploration and </p>	<p>sense of achievement; Benefits: Reduced wildlife disturbance from recreation users; greater self-reliance gained from hunting; improved outdoor knowledge and self-confidence; positive contributions to local and regional economic stability. <u>Prescribed setting character</u> Physical: Middle country Social: Middle country Administrative: Middle country <u>Activity Planning Framework</u> Management: Provide camping facilities in high impact areas related to hunting season uses. Develop a managed and maintained trail system within the area. Marketing: In partnership with Division of Wildlife and local Chambers of Commerce, increase education and interpretation during hunting season to reduce resource impacts and conflicts. Monitoring: Monitor user experience and satisfaction, camp site conditions and use. Administration: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: Open to oil and gas exploration and development </p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		development Locatable – closed Other minerals – open Coal – Not available for leasing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OHV: Limited to Designated Routes • VRM – Class III • Lands and Realty: Determined on a case-by-case basis consistent with SRMA objectives. 	Locatable – closed Other minerals – open Coal – Not available for leasing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OHV: Designated Routes • VRM – Class III • Lands and Realty: Determined on a case-by-case basis consistent with SRMA objectives.
		Limited controls on surface disturbing activities within the area would moderately reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative C
No similar action	No similar action	<u>Zone:</u> Zone 2: Serviceberry backcountry <u>Objective:</u> Activities: Non-motorized big game hunting and associated undeveloped camping. Experiences: Developing your skills and abilities; gaining a greater sense of achievement; Benefits: Reduced wildlife disturbance from recreation users; greater self-reliance gained from hunting; improved outdoor knowledge and self-confidence;	<u>Zone:</u> Zone 2: Serviceberry backcountry <u>Objective:</u> Activities: Non-motorized big game hunting and associated undeveloped camping. Experiences: Developing your skills and abilities; gaining a greater sense of achievement; Benefits: Reduced wildlife disturbance from recreation users; greater self-reliance gained from hunting; improved outdoor knowledge and self-confidence;

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		<p>positive contributions to local and regional economic stability.</p> <p><u>Prescribed setting character</u></p> <p>Physical: Back country Social: Back country Administrative: Back country</p> <p><u>Activity Planning Framework</u></p> <p>Management: Develop a managed and maintained non-motorized trail system within the area.</p> <p>Marketing: In partnership with Division of Wildlife and local Chambers of Commerce, increase education and interpretation during hunting season to reduce resource impacts and conflicts.</p> <p>Monitoring: Monitor user experience and satisfaction, camp site conditions and use. Monitor to ensure compliance of the motor vehicle closures.</p> <p>Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open to oil and gas exploration and development Locatable – closed Other minerals – open Coal – Not available for leasing • OHV: Closed 	<p>positive contributions to local and regional economic stability.</p> <p><u>Prescribed setting character</u></p> <p>Physical: Back country Social: Back country Administrative: Back country</p> <p><u>Activity Planning Framework</u></p> <p>Management: Develop a minimal managed and maintained non-motorized trail system within the area.</p> <p>Marketing: In partnership with Division of Wildlife and local Chambers of Commerce, increase education and interpretation during hunting season to reduce resource impacts and conflicts.</p> <p>Monitoring: Monitor user experience and satisfaction, camp site conditions and use. Monitor to ensure compliance of the motor vehicle closures.</p> <p>Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open to oil and gas exploration and development Locatable – closed Other minerals – open Coal – Not available for leasing • OHV: Closed

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VRM – Class III Lands and Realty: ROW would be considered on a case-by-case basis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VRM – Class III Lands and Realty: ROW would be considered on a case-by-case basis.
		<p>Limited controls on surface disturbing activities within the area would moderately reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative C</p>
Flycreek			
<p>The Flycreek area is open to OHV use under the current RMP; however, is temporarily closed to OHV use. This area is currently managed as part of the ERMA.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except temporary OHV closures would be removed and would be managed as open to OHV use.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Flycreek area (12,342 acres) will be administered as a backcountry, non-motorized hunting area. Increase education and interpretation during hunting season to reduce resource impacts and conflicts. Develop a managed and maintained a non-motorized trail system within the area. OHV – closed Minerals – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open to oil and gas exploration and 	<p>The Flycreek area (12,342 acres) will be administered as a Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) to provide backcountry, non-motorized hunting experiences.</p> <p><u>Zone:</u> All one RMZ <u>Market:</u> Destination <u>Objective:</u> Activities: Non-motorized big game hunting and associated undeveloped camping. Experiences: Developing your skills and abilities; gaining a greater sense of achievement; Benefits: Reduced wildlife disturbance from recreation users; reduce hunter conflicts; greater self-reliance gained from hunting; improved outdoor knowledge and</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		<p>development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locatable – closed • Other minerals – open • Coal - Not available for leasing <p>6. VRM –Class III</p> <p>7. Lands and Realty: ROW would be considered on a case-by-case basis.</p>	<p>self-confidence; positive contributions to local and regional economic stability.</p> <p><u>Prescribed setting character</u></p> <p>Physical: Back country Social: Primitive Administrative: Back country</p> <p><u>Activity Planning Framework</u></p> <p>Management: Develop a managed and maintained a non-motorized trail system within the area. Increase education and interpretation during hunting season to reduce resource impacts and conflicts. Maintain property boundary signing.</p> <p>Marketing: Coordination with Division of Wildlife, local adjacent land owners, permitted outfitters to provide hunting and recreation information.</p> <p>Monitoring: Monitoring will occur to ensure compliance of the motor vehicle closures. Monitor user experience and satisfaction.</p> <p>Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open to oil and gas exploration and development Locatable – closed Other minerals – open Coal - Not available for

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
			leasing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OHV: Closed • VRM: Class III • Lands and Realty: ROW would be considered on a case-by-case basis.
Allowing cross-country OHV use would remove and degrade vegetation and expose soils and thereby increase the potential for erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative A	Prohibiting cross-country OHV use would reduce the level of vegetation removal and degradation and decrease the potential for erosion by wind and water within the area.	Same as Alternative C
Dinosaur North Area (outside of WSA)			
Multiple use outside existing WSAs Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Controlled Surface Use for oil and gas exploration and development • Locatable - Open • Other Minerals - Open • Coal - Not available for leasing OHV: Open VRM: Not applicable	Same as Alternative A.	Objective: Manage to protect naturalness, opportunities for semi-primitive recreation, and solitude. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No designation with the following prescriptions: 2. Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed to oil and gas exploration and development • Locatable - Closed • Other Minerals - Open • Coal - Not available for leasing 	The Dinosaur North area (41,355 acres) will be administered as a Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) to provide quality primitive recreational experiences in largely natural settings. <u>Zone:</u> All one RMZ <u>Market:</u> Community <u>Objective:</u> Activities: Hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, camping and hunting. Experiences: Feeling good about solitude and being isolated; experiencing a greater sense of

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>Lands and Realty: No restrictions, case-by-case basis</p>		<p>3. OHV: Limited to Designated Routes</p> <p>4. VRM: Class II</p> <p>5. Lands and Realty: ROW – avoidance; no wind energy</p>	<p>independence; enjoying getting some physical exercise</p> <p>Benefits: Closer relationship with the natural world; improved physical fitness; greater retention of distinctive natural landscapes; conservation of entire ecosystems in natural state.</p> <p><u>Prescribed setting character</u></p> <p>Physical: Primitive Social: Primitive Administrative: Primitive</p> <p><u>Activity Planning Framework</u></p> <p>Management: Provide minimally developed trailhead parking and interpretive information adjacent to roads that provide access to the edges of access points.</p> <p>Marketing: Coordinate with Chamber of Commerce, non-motorized recreation organizations, and adjacent land owners in providing maps, brochures and recreation information.</p> <p>Monitoring: Monitoring will occur to ensure compliance of the motor vehicle closures. Monitor user experience and satisfaction.</p> <p>Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closed to oil and gas exploration and development

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
			Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal - Not available for leasing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OHV: Closed • VRM: Class II • Lands and Realty: ROW – exclusion; no wind energy
Allowing cross-country OHV use would remove and degrade vegetation and expose soils and thereby increase the potential for erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative A	Prohibiting cross-country OHV use would reduce the level of vegetation removal and degradation and decrease the potential for erosion by wind and water within the area. Additionally, controlling surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative C Same as Alternative C, except effects would be slightly more extensive and occur over a larger area.
<i>Cold Springs Area (outside of WSA)</i>			
Multiple use outside existing WSAs Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Controlled Surface Use for oil and gas exploration and development • Locatable - Open • Other Minerals - Open 	Same as Alternative A.	Objective: Manage to protect naturalness, opportunities for semi-primitive recreation, and solitude. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No designation with the following prescriptions: 2. Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed to oil and gas 	The Cold Springs Mountain area (30,479 acres) will be administered as a Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) to provide quality primitive recreational experiences in largely natural settings. <u>Zone:</u> All one RMZ <u>Market:</u> Community

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coal - Not available for leasing <p>OHV: Majority Limited to Existing, remainder is Open</p> <p>VRM: Not applicable</p> <p>Lands and Realty: No restrictions, case-by-case basis</p>		<p>exploration and development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locatable - Closed • Other Minerals - Open • Coal - Not available for leasing <p>3. OHV: Limited to Designated routes</p> <p>4. VRM: Class III</p> <p>5. Lands and Realty: ROW – avoidance; accept wind energy applications on case-by-case basis.</p>	<p><u>Objective:</u></p> <p>Activities: Hiking, backpacking, horseback riding, camping, hunting</p> <p>Experiences: Feeling good about solitude and being isolated; experiencing a greater sense of independence; enjoying getting some physical exercise</p> <p>Benefits: Closer relationship with the natural world; improved physical fitness; greater retention of distinctive natural landscapes; conservation of functioning ecosystems in natural state.</p> <p><u>Prescribed setting character</u></p> <p>Physical: Primitive</p> <p>Social: Primitive</p> <p>Administrative: Primitive</p> <p><u>Activity Planning Framework</u></p> <p>Management: Provide minimally developed trailhead parking and interpretive information adjacent to roads that provide access to the edges of access points. Provide minimal managed and signed trail system.</p> <p>Marketing: Coordinate with Browns Park Wildlife Refuge, Chamber of Commerce, non-motorized recreation organizations, and adjacent land owners in providing maps, brochures and recreation information.</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
			<p>Monitoring: Monitoring will occur to ensure compliance of the motor vehicle closures. Monitor user experience and satisfaction.</p> <p>Administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minerals and Energy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closed to oil and gas exploration and development Locatable - Closed Other Minerals - Closed Coal - Not available for leasing • OHV: Closed • VRM: Class II • Lands and Realty: ROW – exclusion; no wind energy
<p>Limited controls on surface disturbing activities within the area would moderately reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Controlling and/or prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Prohibiting surface disturbing activities would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>
<p>Special Recreation Permits</p>			
<p>Consider Special Recreation Permits on a case-by-case depending on applications received</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>
<p>Controlling recreational activities via Special Recreation Permits would</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<p>serve to control surface disturbance, and thereby reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>			
<p>Current plans provide no guidance on competitive events.</p>	<p>Permit no competitive events in WSAs.</p> <p>Authorize motorized and non-motorized competitive events consistent with OHV area and route designations.</p> <p>No similar action</p> <p>Permitted commercial events in the ERMA will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative B</p> <p>Same as Alternative B</p> <p>Permitted commercial events in backcountry SRMAs (Serviceberry SRMA) will be limited to 50 participants and non-motorized events.</p> <p>Permitted commercial events in the ERMA and non-backcountry SRMAs (Cedar Mountain SRMA, South Sand Wash SRMA, Little Yampa Canyon SRMA, and Juniper Mountain SRMA) will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative B</p> <p>Same as Alternative B</p> <p>Permitted commercial events in backcountry SRMAs (Serviceberry SRMA, Flycreek SRMA, Cold Springs Mountain SRMA, Dinosaur North SRMA,), will be limited to 25 participants and non-motorized events.</p> <p>Same as Alternative C</p>
		<p>Limitations on event type and the number of participants would help to</p>	<p>Same as Alternative C, except effects would be increased.</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
		further reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	
FOREST PRODUCTS			
Manage 6,330 acres of commercial forest lands to produce a variety of forest products on a sustained yield basis and manage the remaining commercial forest lands using such limited techniques as natural revegetation and minimal cultural treatments.	Same as Alternative A.	Manage forest communities for forest health using fire and other treatments (see Vegetation section) and allowing product sales.	Same as Alternative C.
Timber harvest and associated surface disturbances could remove and degrade vegetation and increase soil erosion over the short term.	Same as Alternative A.	Forest management actions and associated surface disturbances could remove and degrade vegetation and increase soil erosion over the short term.	Same as Alternative C
Manage approximately 37,600 acres of woodland to produce a variety of woodland products on a sustained-yield basis and apply limited management to the remaining woodland acreage.	Same as Alternative A.	Manage woodland communities for woodland health using fire and other treatments (see Vegetation section) and allowing product sales.	Same as Alternative C.
Harvest of woodland and associated surface disturbances could remove and degrade vegetation and increase soil erosion over the short term. Managing on a sustained yield	Same as Alternative A.	Woodland management actions and associated surface disturbances could remove and degrade vegetation and increase soil erosion over the short term.	Same as Alternative C

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
would help to limit impacts.			
LANDS AND REALTY			
Land Tenure Adjustments			
Rights-of-Way			
<p>No rights-of-way corridors are formally designated.</p> <p>The existing and potential corridors identified as suitable on page 29 of the RMP/ROD and displayed on pages 32 and 33 of the RMP/ROD are considered open and are preferred routes.</p> <p>Minor rights-of-way will be processed on a case-by-case basis, generally guided by the criteria identified for major rights-of-way.</p> <p>Rights-of-way will be allowed in all areas if needed to develop valid existing rights.</p>	<p>ROWs allowed on a case-by-case basis.</p>	<p>Encourage ROW in the following existing corridors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major roads including county roads (e.g., CR 20, 4, 7, 57) • Power transmission lines • Oil and gas pipelines 	<p>Encourage ROW in the following existing corridors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major roads including county roads (e.g., CR 20, 4, 7, 57) • Power transmission lines • Oil and gas pipelines
<p>Development/construction of ROWs could would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A</p>
<p>Specific areas unsuitable for major rights-of-way are:</p>	<p>ROW Exclusion: WSAs; VRM Class I</p>	<p>ROW Exclusion:</p>	<p>ROW Exclusion:</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSAs • Limestone Ridge ACEC/RNA • Lookout Mountain ACEC • Irish Canyon ACEC • Little Yampa/Juniper Canyon SRMA (lower unit) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSAs • VRM Class I areas • Portions of Vermillion Basin Zone 2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WSAs • VRM Class I and II • Lookout Mountain ACEC • Limestone Ridge ACEC • Irish Canyon ACEC • Cross Mountain Canyon ACEC • White-Tailed Prairie Dog ACEC • If released from Congress, WSAs recommended as non-suitable (Ant Hills, Chew Winter Camp, Peterson Draw, Vale of Tears) • Vermillion Basin • Dinosaur North • Cold Springs Mountain • Cedar Mountain SRMA
<p>Prohibiting ROWs would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in the restricted areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a smaller area.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a smaller area.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a larger area.</p>
<p>Specific areas that are sensitive for siting major rights-of-way are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little Yampa/Juniper Canyon SRMA (upper unit) • Lookout Mountain ACEC 	<p>ROW Avoidance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VRM Class II • Occupied black-footed ferret habitat. 	<p>ROW Avoidance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VRM II • West Cold Springs WSA • If released from Congress, WSAs recommended as non-suitable (Ant Hills, Chew Winter Camp, Peterson Draw, Vale of 	<p>ROW Avoidance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Systems ACECs • Occupied black-footed ferret habitat.

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horse Draw • Vermillion Creek • Ace-in-the-Hole • Vermillion Bluffs • G Gap • Hells Canyon • Portions of Vermillion Creek Drainage • Sand Wash Drainage • Buffalo Gulch/Twelvemile Mesa • Little Snake River • Sand Creek • Conway Draw • Deception Creek • Occupied black-footed ferret habitat. 		<p>Tears)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cold Springs Mountain • Cedar Mountain SRMA • Dinosaur North • Vermillion Bluffs in Vermillion Basin Zone 1 • Portions of Vermillion Basin Zone 2 • Occupied black-footed ferret habitat. 	
<p>Controlling the development of ROWs would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in the restricted areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a smaller area.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a smaller area.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a smaller area.</p>
TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS & TRAVEL MANAGEMENT			
Travel Management			
Closed			
<p>The following area would be managed as closed to OHV use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diamond Breaks WSA • Limestone ACEC • Cross Mountain WSA 	<p>The following area would be managed as closed to OHV use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diamond Breaks WSA • Cross Mountain WSA • Maybell Uranium pit 	<p>The following area would be managed as closed to OHV use.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diamond Breaks WSA • Limestone Ridge • Cross Mountain WSA 	<p>The following area would be managed as closed to OHV use:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All WSAs • Limestone Ridge ACEC • Serviceberry SRMA

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Serviceberry area • Fly Creek area • Maybell Uranium pit 		(Including Wild and Scenic River segment) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water impoundments (year-round) and within the high water mark when dry, except where a designated road crosses impoundment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fly Creek SRMA • Dinosaur North SRMA • Maybell Uranium pit • Water impoundments (year-round) and within the high water mark when dry, except where a designated road crosses impoundment.
Closing areas to OHV use would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a smaller area.	Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a larger area.	Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a larger area.
Limited to Designated Roads and Trails			
The following areas would be managed as limited to designated roads and trails: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lookout Mountain ACEC • Irish Canyon ACEC • Sections of Little Yampa/Juniper Canyon SRMA • Cottonwood Creek area • Cedar Mountain • Browns Park cellular site • Wild Mountain area 	No areas would be managed as limited to designated roads and trails.	Designate routes determined through adaptive management and travel management planning. The following areas would be managed as limited to designated routes for OHV use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little Yampa Canyon SRMA • Cedar Mountain SRMA • Cottonwood Creek area • Irish Canyon ACEC • Lookout Mountain ACEC • Browns Park cellular site • Wild Mountain area • Hoy Mountain area 	All areas not managed as open or closed would be managed as limited to designated roads and trails. Criteria in Appendix XX would be used to prioritize areas for transportation planning.

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hoy Mountain area 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zones within South Sand Wash SRMA 	
<p>Controlling OHV use and prohibiting cross-country travel would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Not controlling OHV use and allowing cross-country travel would result in increased disturbance of vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a larger area.</p>	<p>Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a larger area.</p>
Limited to Existing Roads and Trails			
<p>The following areas would be managed as limited to existing roads and trails:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Areas that meet fragile soil criteria WSAs: All except Diamond Breaks and Cross Mountain Lands adjacent to Cross Mountain WSA Sections of Little Yampa/Juniper Canyon SRMA Pole Gulch area Big Hole Gulch area Cold Springs Mountain Sections of Axial Basin Willow Creek area South Nipple area 	<p>The following areas would be managed as limited to existing roads and trails:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WSAs: All except Diamond Breaks and Cross Mountain Areas that meet fragile soil criteria Fragile soil criteria areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Are rated as highly or severely erodible by wind or water, as described by the Natural Resources Conservation Service in the Area Soil Survey Report or as described by on-site inspection. Have slopes greater than or equal to 35%, if they also have one of 	<p>All areas not managed as open or closed would be managed as limited to existing roads and trails.</p> <p>See adaptive OHV designation process explained below.</p>	<p>No areas would be managed as limited to existing roads and trails.</p>

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
	the following soil characteristics: a) Surface texture that is sand, loamy sand, very fine sandy loam, silty clay or clay. b) A depth to bedrock less than 20 inches. c) Erosion condition rated as 'poor'. d) K factor greater than 0.32.		
Controlling OHV use and prohibiting cross-country travel would reduce disturbance to vegetation and soil and subsequent erosion by wind and water in these areas.	Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a larger area.	Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a larger area.	
Open			
Approximately 71% of the Field Office would be managed as open to OHV use.	All areas of the Field Office that would not be managed as limited or closed to OHV use.	The following areas would be managed as open to OHV use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Sand Wash SRMA (play area south edge and Clay Buttes area) • Hiawatha open, except from April 15 to July 15 it would be limited to existing routes. 	The following areas would be managed as open to OHV use: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Sand Wash SRMA (play area south edge, smaller area than Alternative C).
Allowing cross-country OHV use would remove and degrade vegetation and expose soils and thereby increase the potential for	Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a smaller area.	Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a smaller area.	Same as Alternative A, except the effects would occur over a smaller area.

Table X. SUMMARY OF IMPACTS TO SOILS

ALTERNATIVE A (NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE)	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C	ALTERNATIVE D
erosion by wind and water in these areas.			