

CHAPTER 2

DESCRIPTIONS OF THE ALTERNATIVES, INCLUDING THE PREFERRED COORDINATED ACTIVITY PLAN

ALTERNATIVE FORMULATION

The basic goal in formulating the Coordinated Activity Plan (CAP) alternatives for this EIS is to provide a basis for comparative impact analysis of an adequate range of reasonable management options and alternatives for the planning area. Each alternative identifies combinations of management options to address or prevent conflicts among the various land and resource values and their uses in the planning area, including: leasing and development of mineral resources, recreational activities and facilities, livestock grazing, crucial and important wildlife habitat, cultural and Native American respected sites, sensitive plant and animal species, and other important land and resource uses. Each alternative represents a complete and reasonable interdisciplinary (or multiple use) approach to management of the public lands and resources in the planning area. The JMHCAP EIS provides for more specific management actions for some resource activities (activity planning level decisions), and provides less specific prescriptions (RMP planning level decisions) for others. Providing specific management direction for some resource activities and more generalized management direction for others also results in varying levels of analysis of impacts that would reflect more detailed effects of the specific management direction, and less detailed effects of the generalized management direction.

Documenting the analysis of impacts that would be associated with the alternatives is required by BLM planning regulations and the NEPA-based CEQ regulations. Documenting the comparison of the differences among the alternatives and the differences in the effects or impacts associated with each alternative is also required. Based upon this comparative analysis, BLM managers are able to choose a preferred alternative. The preferred alternative selected may be one of the initial alternatives considered (e.g., the No Action Alternative and alternatives A and B in this document), it may be made up from portions of two or more of those alternatives, or it may be a completely different alternative.

Four alternatives are described and analyzed in the EIS. One alternative represents the continuation of present management, or the “no action” alternative. This alternative describes existing management and anticipated levels of activities that would occur in the planning area, if the existing management direction were to continue. As part of formulating the No Action Alternative, the interdisciplinary planning team prepared a comprehensive description of the existing management situation for the planning area. The team also identified the management objectives and action decisions

from the Green River RMP that apply to the planning area (see Appendix 3).

The other alternatives provide a range of choices for managing resource and land uses in the planning area including, leasing and development of fluid mineral resources, lands and realty actions, livestock grazing management actions, recreation management actions, and prescriptions for management of other resources present in the planning area. These alternatives are based upon public scoping and analysis of the No Action Alternative. An adequate range of alternatives has been presented. Alternative A would generally reduce the level of land use restrictions and allow more development of mineral resources, recreation activities and facilities and livestock grazing, than either the No Action Alternative, Alternative B, and the Preferred Alternative. Alternative B would increase the level of restrictions on land uses and allow less development of mineral resources, recreation activities and facilities, and livestock grazing than under the No Action or Alternative A.

The BLM’s preferred alternative would generally place greater emphasis on protection of the natural environment compared to the No Action Alternative and Alternative A and provide fewer restrictions on land and resource uses compared to Alternative B. The Preferred Alternative was developed to balance production or commodity uses with protection of the environment. Although the Preferred Alternative is presented first, it is actually the last alternative developed in the planning process. The No Action Alternative was the first alternative developed.

ALTERNATIVES AND MANAGEMENT OPTIONS CONSIDERED BUT ELIMINATED FROM DETAILED ANALYSIS

The following alternatives and management options were considered as possible methods of resolving the issues but were eliminated from detailed study because they were unreasonable or not practical due to technical, legal, or policy factors.

Closure to Livestock Grazing

The elimination of livestock grazing from all public lands in the planning area was considered as a possible method of resolving some of the planning issues related to vegetative resources in the Green River RMP EIS, and was dropped from

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detailed analysis in that document. The same reasons for eliminating the “no grazing” option from detailed study apply to the JMHCAP EIS.

Resource conditions on the BLM-administered public lands in the planning area, including range vegetation, watershed, and wildlife habitat, do not warrant prohibition of livestock grazing throughout the planning area. However, reduction or elimination of livestock grazing may be necessary in specific situations where livestock grazing would significantly conflict with other management objectives. Such determinations would be made during site-specific activity planning and would be based on several factors, including monitoring studies and ability to meet the standards for healthy rangelands.

Closure to Mineral Leasing

Closing the planning area to mineral leasing was considered to resolve conflicts with other resource uses. Since much of the planning area has already been leased for federal minerals and portions of the area are developed, this option would not help resolve issues in the short term. Resource conflicts tend to be located in specific areas, not planning area wide, and closing the entire area would not be reasonable. Additionally, resource management in the planning area should respond to the needs for oil and gas resources. This proposal was eliminated from further analysis because it would be contrary to BLM policy, that, “except for congressional withdrawals, public lands shall remain open and available for mineral exploration unless (to do otherwise)... is clearly justified in the national interest” (May 24, 1987). In addition, this would be directly contrary to the BLM’s multiple use management mandate in FLPMA.

Closing the area to leasing of oil and gas resources was also considered in the Big Sandy/Salt Wells Oil and Gas Environmental Assessment (EA) (USDI 1981a) and again in the Green River RMP EIS (USDI 1997). At those times, this option was determined to be unacceptable. Another review of this option, during consideration of possible management options and alternatives for this JMHCAP EIS, revealed that closure to leasing of federal oil and gas resources in the planning area continues to be unacceptable and closure to leasing of the other federal minerals in the area is also unacceptable. The entire planning area does not have conflicts with oil and gas development and, thus, the issue of no mineral leasing or development in the entire planning area is not appropriate. However, not leasing portions of the planning area, in response to other identified resource needs, is addressed in the alternatives analyzed in detail. The alternatives analyzed in detail do include various considerations for eliminating or maximizing individual resource values or uses in specific areas where conflicts exist.

Maximum, Unconstrained Alternatives

Alternatives and general management options that proposed maximum development, production, or protection of one resource at the expense of other resources were not analyzed in detail. Generally, promoting a single land and

resource use by eliminating all others does not meet the objectives of the BLM’s multiple use management mandate and responsibilities (FLPMA Sec. 202 (c) and (e)). Additionally, this approach would not meet the direction developed for the planning area. This direction is described in the Record of Decision for the Green River RMP EIS. However, the alternatives analyzed in detail do include various considerations for eliminating or maximizing individual resource values or uses in specific areas where conflicts exist.

Applying Standard Lease Notice #1 as the Only Mitigation for Surface Disturbance and Disrupting Activities

Application of standard lease notice #1 as the only mitigation for surface disturbing activities, was not considered in detail. Lease Notice #1 is an oil and gas term for the standard lease notice that is included in all federal oil and gas leases. This notice provides guidance for use or occupancy, and in some cases, prohibition of surface disturbing activities on areas with slopes in excess of 25 percent; within 500 feet of water and/or riparian areas; construction with frozen material or during periods when the soil material is saturated or when watershed damage is likely to occur; within 500 feet of interstate highways and 200 feet of other rights-of-way; within 1/4 mile of occupied dwellings; or on material sites. The mitigation described in this lease notice applies to all surface disturbing and disruptive activities whether or not they are related to oil and gas exploration and development activities (i.e., range improvement projects, recreation structures, rights-of-way, etc.). This option was addressed in the Green River RMP EIS. The analysis in that EIS identified potentially significant impacts to resources and uses in the planning area would still result, demonstrating that minimal mitigation would not be sufficient to meet resource objectives or BLM’s multiple use management mandate and responsibilities. However applying the prescription as mitigation for surface disturbance in portions of the planning area, in response to other identified resource needs, is addressed in the alternatives analyzed in detail.

Authorizing Activities with a No Surface Occupancy (NSO) Requirement (For All Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities) On the Entire Planning Area

An NSO requirement precludes surface use of an area by surface disturbing and disruptive activities. Applying this requirement to the entire planning area as project mitigation and mineral lease mitigation (such as oil and gas leases) was considered but dropped from detailed analysis.

Much of the planning area is already leased for oil and gas. Exploration and development activities could (and likely will) occur on some of those leased areas. It is not reasonable to assume that all unleased or undeveloped areas contain the sensitive or significant resources that warrant this most re-

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strictive stipulation. For oil and gas, the issuance of any lease implies that there is some accessibility to the mineral resource. Extensive areas with NSO prescriptions would deny accessibility to the resource for oil and gas development and any other surface disturbing activity (e.g., range improvement projects, recreation structures, rights-of-way, etc.). This could also cause impacts to areas with sensitive resources on adjacent leased areas as activity would be moved to these adjacent areas. However, applying the NSO prescription as mitigation for surface disturbance and disruptive activities in portions of the planning area, in response to other identified resource needs, is addressed in the alternatives analyzed in detail.

Prohibiting Oil and Gas Activity on Existing Leased Areas

During scoping it was suggested that an alternative be considered that would evaluate impacts of a prohibition of further exploration or development of federal lands and minerals that are already leased for oil and gas. Under this option, activities would continue on private and state lands and minerals but not on federal lands and minerals. After review of the leases issued for federal minerals, the BLM determined that this alternative was not reasonable. Outright denial of proposals to develop a valid lease would violate the lessees' contractual rights. A lease grants the "right and privilege to drill from, mine, extract, remove, and dispose of all oil and gas deposits" in the leased lands, subject to the terms and conditions incorporated into the lease. BLM can not directly or indirectly prohibit all development on a lease, unless the lease is issued with a No Surface Occupancy stipulation. Authority for complete denial can be granted only by Congress.

On federal lands, the Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals in *Sierra Club vs. Peterson* (717 F. 2d 1409, 1983) found that "*on land leased without a No Surface Occupancy stipulation, the Department (Interior) cannot deny the permit to drill...once the land is leased the Department no longer has the authority to preclude surface disturbing activity even if the environmental impact of such activity is significant. The Department can only impose mitigation measures upon a lessee who pursues surface disturbing exploration and/or drilling activities.*" The court goes on to say "*notwithstanding the assurance that a later site-specific environmental analysis will be made, in issuing these leases the Department has made an irrevocable commitment to allow some surface disturbing activities, including drilling and road building.*" By issuing the leases, BLM has accepted the possibility of impacts to the environment.

Withdrawing the Entire Core Area From Mineral Location

Pursuing a withdrawal of all public lands in the 80,410-acre core area from mineral location under the 1872 mining law was considered as a possible method of resolving some of the planning issues related to locatable mineral exploration and development activity. After staff review of the area, the potential for such activity is considered to be low; therefore, a major issue did not exist. However, pursuing withdrawals

of sensitive areas for protection from surface disturbance and disruptive activities in portions of the planning area, in response to other identified resource needs, is addressed in the alternatives analyzed in detail.

Identification of New Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs)

During scoping, identification of new WSAs was identified as an issue. In keeping with the ROD for the Green River RMP EIS, BLM will not consider any additions or changes to the existing WSAs in the planning area. The ROD for the Green River RMP states: "The Bureau's recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior on Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs) in the Green River Resource Area have been made under separate documentation. These areas were addressed in separate Wilderness EIS and Wilderness report documents which are also on file in the Green River Resource Area Office. The decisions regarding wilderness area designations are made by Congress. When Congress makes the Wilderness decisions for the WSAs in the Green River Resource Area, they will be incorporated into the Green River RMP" (see Appendix 1). Additionally, in response to a protest on the Green River RMP, it was noted that the initial wilderness inventory included all BLM-administered public lands in Wyoming and began in 1978. All public lands in the Green River RMP planning area were evaluated in this initial intensive wilderness inventory. In 1979, the results of these reviews were made available to the public. Those areas not retained as WSAs were found not to possess one or more of the wilderness characteristics such as naturalness, and the opportunity for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation. This same situation exists today. The draft and final EISs for the Green River RMP noted that no other areas in the planning area (i.e., other than those that have already been reviewed and evaluated in the intensive wilderness inventory) have been identified for wilderness review. Therefore BLM will not consider any additions or changes to the existing WSAs in the Jack Morrow Hills planning area.

ALTERNATIVES ANALYZED IN DETAIL

Appendix 3 is a listing of all the general objective and management action decisions that apply to all alternatives addressed in this EIS. These decisions are not subject to consideration for change in this planning effort. However, for clarification and understanding, some of these objectives and actions may be repeated in describing the alternatives.

In addition to what is in Appendix 3), this document describes the analysis leading to the oil and gas leasing decisions and mineral location decisions that were deferred in the Green River RMP for the core area. Also described and addressed are other management options, identified from new information obtained during this impact analysis, which have potential for amending some of the Green River RMP decisions.

This document also addresses activities or management options that are in conformance and consistent with the Green

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River RMP decisions that would not result in amending the Green River RMP.

The descriptions of the four alternatives addressed in this EIS are summarized in Table 2-1. Management objectives and management actions that are common to all alternatives can be identified in Table 2-1 by noting where they are the same across all alternatives. They are not repeated in the text unless needed for clarity and understanding. The management actions that would occur in the planning area under each alternative are described by resource or resource program component. Following these descriptions for the general planning area, this same format is used to describe the management actions for the core area and each proposed special management area in each alternative. Where the objective and actions are the same for the overall planning area and for the core or special management areas, they are not repeated unless needed for clarity.

The comparisons of the expected environmental consequences of the alternatives are summarized in Table 4-1. The detailed descriptions of the expected environmental consequences expected from implementation of each alternative are described in Chapter 4.

No Action Alternative-This alternative would continue present management direction and practices based on implementation of the approved Green River RMP decisions and would close the core area to oil and gas leasing.

This alternative emphasizes implementation of resource management decisions contained in the Green River RMP (August 1997) and provides for multiple use management of the public lands and resources to meet foreseeable needs and emphasize environmental integrity. This alternative proposes no new management actions, from the status quo. This is done to ensure a good comparison of the different management options among the alternatives, and because the management actions to be implemented have not yet been determined. Other management options, which include mineral leasing in the core area, and identification of areas to be withdrawn from mineral location, are addressed in the other alternatives.

Alternative A-This alternative allows for maximizing resource uses such as mineral development, livestock grazing and similar actions, while staying within the framework of the *Record of Decision and Approved Green River RMP* (August 1997) as much as possible. Management emphasis of the public lands and resources would be primarily for use, development, and intensive management while resource values would, still be protected to the extent required by applicable laws, regulations, and Executive Orders. Compared to Alternative B and the Preferred Alternative, oil and gas leasing would occur in the core area and throughout the planning area, and fewer withdrawals from mineral location would be pursued. Compared to the No Action Alternative, Alternative B or the Preferred Alternative, wildlife habitat protection and recreation quality, including the amount of ORV use, would be more limited, and some Visual Resource Management (VRM) classes would be lower. More livestock grazing improvements would be developed to enhance livestock grazing use, compared to the No Action Alternative, Alternative B, or the Preferred Alternative.

Alternative B-This alternative allows for the maximum protection and enhancement of wildlife habitat, recreation use, watershed, riparian, and cultural resources, Native American concerns, and other sensitive resources, while staying within the framework of the *Record of Decision and Approved Green River RMP* (August 1997) as much as possible. Oil and gas leasing could occur outside the core area and big game migratory corridors; however, the core area and migratory corridors would be closed to mineral leasing. Compared to the other alternatives, more mineral location withdrawals would be pursued and there would be more limitations on range improvements. Compared to the No Action Alternative and Alternative A, there would be more emphasis on vegetation use for watershed and wildlife habitat needs.

Preferred Alternative-This alternative provides for resource tradeoffs, which could favor resource utilization and resource protection or a compromise between them, while staying within the framework of the *Record of Decision and Approved Green River RMP* (August 1997) as much as possible. Compared to the other alternatives, this alternative provides for staged oil and gas leasing and related development. Portions of the planning area would be available for leasing consideration, with appropriate mitigation, upon completion of the Jack Morrow Hills Coordinated Activity Plan. Before other areas would be leased for oil and gas development, they would be withheld from leasing consideration until it could be ensured that adequate big game habitat would remain available for use. This could mean that certain areas would not be leased and subsequently developed until other areas have been developed and habitat restored. In addition an evaluation would be done to aid in determining how much habitat should be withheld, and what mitigation measures would be necessary to ensure habitat objectives are met. Habitat fragmentation is one of the major issues to be addressed in the planning area. This alternative provides one means of ensuring that sufficient habitat is available for big game use (particularly elk) while other areas are developed. Range improvements would be limited, and some guidelines for vegetation use would be provided. Compared to Alternative A, more mineral location withdrawals would be pursued and there would be more limitations on range improvements. Compared to the No Action Alternative and Alternative A, there would be more emphasis on vegetation use for watershed and wildlife habitat needs. Compared to Alternative B, there would be less emphasis on vegetation use for watershed and wildlife habitat needs.

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

Overall Planning Area Management Management Actions Common to All Land and Resource Programs in the Preferred Alternative

Upon completion of the JMHCAP, crucial habitats and other areas of sensitive resource values would be open to further consideration for various multiple use activities so long as crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values would be protected from irreversible adverse effects. This

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would be accomplished in part through controlled timing and sequencing of the various activities and related reclamation in these areas. For example, satisfactory reclamation of surface disturbance may be required before additional surface disturbing activities would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes, and birthing areas. Under this alternative, the following could occur:

Subject to future monitoring and evaluation, portions of the JMHCAP planning area would be temporarily closed to mineral leasing, long-term surface disturbing and disruptive activity, rights-of-way, fencing, powerlines, pipelines, long-term and permanent structures or facilities, rangeland improvements, land treatments, mineral leasing, long-term and permanent land and resource use commitments or allocations. This would be done to satisfy immediate needs for adequate wildlife habitat and use of that habitat (crucial winter range, calving/fawning, migration corridors, etc.), protection of other sensitive resources, and for public health and safety. In particular, in portions of Steamboat Mountain ACEC, Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, the White Mountain and Split Rock areas, and the core and connectivity areas, these types of actions would not be authorized until monitoring and evaluation of ongoing activity in these areas determine that rates and levels of activities and reclamation would allow further activity, would not cause fragmentation and abandonment of habitat, and would still meet stated management objectives. This determination would be based on the effects on elk and their movement patterns, elk use of habitat, effects on other wildlife species and habitats, and effects on other sensitive resources.

The evaluation would incorporate information from the elk study initiated in 1999; application of the standards and guidelines for healthy rangelands; proper functioning condition determinations for riparian areas; and other activities and uses. After the initial phase of the evaluation (about four years), a determination would be made on whether or not areas may become available for consideration of future activities. Should these areas become available, appropriate mitigation would be applied to meet planning area management objectives. If the evaluation concludes that planning area management objectives are not being met, these areas would remain unavailable. As areas become available for consideration of future activities, they would be considered on a case-by-case basis to determine if the planning area management objectives could be met.

Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: NRHP-eligible sites would be avoided by 100 feet.

Expansion Era Roads - The most historically important examples of each Expansion Era Road and the Indian Gap Trail would be preserved for their historic resource values, in their historic context guidance (Map 5). Therefore, surface disturbing activities proposed to affect any segment of an Expansion Era Road or the Indian Gap Trail would be required

to address the effects to the entire Road. The effects to a portion of the road would need to be evaluated against the integrity (according to NRHP guidelines) of the entirety of the road (see Appendix 3). Distance restrictions for surface disturbing activities and visual intrusion would be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Activities would avoid Native American respected places. Traditional tribal elders would be consulted regarding the importance of specific features identified, and for their recommendations of appropriate avoidance distances concerning visual or noise intrusions. Avoidance distances may range from 100 feet to 2-1/2 miles depending on the importance of the features involved and their topographic setting. Viewshed (vista) and noise analyses may be conducted to help determine appropriate avoidance distances.

Activities would be excluded within a 1/2-mile viewshed (vista-same as GRRMP) of the White Mountain Petroglyphs (Appendix 3). Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be prohibited within a 1/2-mile viewshed of all rock art sites. A vista and noise analysis may be conducted for each site.

Surface disturbing activities would avoid the paleosol deposition area. Exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis if adverse effects could be mitigated by authorized users or permittees. Mitigation could include recovery of scientific data, as well as stabilization of remaining, undisturbed resources. Recovery of scientific data within the paleosol deposition area would be guided by research designs developed by BLM in consultation with the SHPO. See recreation section for guidance on back country byway interpretive sites, and project planning for Crookston Ranch and the White Mountain Petroglyphs.

Fire Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Additional fire prescriptions including full suppression for big sagebrush-scurfpea vegetation associations would be applied on a case-by-case basis as necessary.

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: The public lands within the planning area, with the exception of defined exclusion and avoidance areas, would be open to consideration of granting of rights-of-way, permits, and leases (Map 6, Map 7, and Table 2-2). Location of rights-of-way, permits, and leases would be concentrated in certain areas and avoided or excluded in others, to protect sensitive resources. In particular, these actions would avoid the big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation associations to minimize effects to big game habitat. Portions of Indian Gap and the face of Steamboat Mountain (the steep slopes around the perimeter of Steamboat Mountain) would be closed (exclusion areas) to these actions.

Major transportation and utility line rights-of-way would be confined to established ROW concentration areas. Areas designated as utility windows, ROW concentration areas, and existing communication sites would be preferred locations for future grants. Additional right-of-way windows would be

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established to limit the areas disturbed by ROW activity, and to concentrate these types of facilities. Rights-of-way would be located in the windows identified. *Exceptions may be considered if mitigation can be developed to meet area objectives and to alleviate impacts to the sensitive resources in the area.* In particular, pipelines and other linear facilities would follow existing roads and pipelines, and offsite facilities (tank batteries, etc.) would be clustered or located in the same geographic areas. The placement of the offsite facilities may be concentrated in different areas than the linear facilities if area objectives can be met.

In addition to existing guidance (Green River RMP), transportation planning would include the locations of rights-of-way. Linear rights-of-way would follow existing roads and trails in accordance with transportation planning. Areas closed to oil and gas leasing and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to rights-of-way for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. Small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas would be prohibited, unless they: 1) follow existing improved roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet area objectives; and 3) do not create safety hazards. Activity in the South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC, Oregon Buttes ACEC, and White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC would follow the prescriptions in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3).

Steamboat Mountain ACEC, Oregon Buttes ACEC, and Continental Peak would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat and visual values. Communication sites could be considered on Essex Mountain or Pacific Butte with restrictions on the height (where no strobe light would be necessary), visual intrusion (not readily visible), road access, etc. Actions on Pacific Butte would conform to the existing management prescriptions for the South Pass Historic Landscape.

The proposed withdrawals in Table 2-3 would be pursued. In addition to the withdrawals identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3), withdrawals would be pursued for two elk calving areas, the top of Steamboat Mountain, a cultural site, and three Native American respected places (about 9,000 acres) (Map 8). Future withdrawals would also be pursued to protect important resource values as needs are identified.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Same as stated in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3): 1) improve forage production and ecological conditions for the benefit of livestock use, wildlife habitat, watershed, and riparian areas; 2) maintain, improve, or restore riparian habitat to enhance forage conditions, wildlife habitat, and stream quality; and 3) achieve proper functioning condition or better on riparian areas (this is the first priority for vegetation management). Additional objectives include maintaining or improving the vegetative resource (particularly mountain shrub communities), and providing for the maintenance or improvement of wildlife habitat, watershed values and riparian habitat using appropriate vegetation and livestock grazing management practices to

meet the objectives for the planning area (providing the necessary habitat for big game and other wildlife species).

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Authorized grazing use would not exceed the recognized permitted use. For analysis purposes, anticipated actual use would range from approximately 9,851 AUMs (5-year average 1994-1998) to the total permitted use of 26,032 AUMs. The average between the two amounts is 17,941 AUMs (15,814 cattle and 2,127 sheep). Again, for analysis purposes, this grazing level was held constant throughout the planning period.

Standards for Healthy Rangelands and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management (S&Gs) would be implemented, and specific grazing allotment management prescriptions would be developed on a case-by-case basis. Appropriate measures would be taken to meet the standards for healthy rangelands. If standards are not being met, then guidelines would be used and appropriate action would be taken. Actions that would meet the objectives and benefit resources could be considered on a case-by-case basis. For this analysis, the levels of livestock use may be reduced (where appropriate) as one of the appropriate actions taken to meet the Wyoming Standards for Healthy Rangelands.

Livestock turnout dates would be modified on a case-by-case basis to ensure growing season rest. No livestock use would be allowed before range readiness. Range readiness would be determined on a case-by-case basis and could include boot stage of key grass species, soil moisture, and wildlife habitat needs. Livestock grazing plans are required to avoid livestock grazing in an area/pasture/allotment season-long; therefore, season-long use would not occur.

Applications for changes in class of livestock would be considered on a case-by-case basis and would only be approved where such a conversion would aid in achieving management objectives for the planning area.

Livestock grazing suitability reviews would be conducted on a case-by-case basis. Livestock forage use would not be allocated for unsuitable areas and would be removed from the forage base.

Plowing of roads in winter for livestock accessibility and feeding would not be allowed except in emergency situations. Any such activity would conform with transportation planning (see the Travel Management section).

Livestock grazing use on upland key grass species would be limited to 1) no more than 40 percent of the current growth (seasonal utilization); and 2) minimum heights throughout the growing season (to be determined for individual key species), whichever is reached first. Livestock would be removed when either seasonal utilization or minimum height is reached in a given area/pasture/allotment.

Livestock grazing management plans that address riparian and upland areas would be required. Riparian and upland areas would be managed primarily for wildlife and watershed needs. New riparian pastures would be established only if watershed resources and wildlife habitat would be enhanced.

Livestock grazing use in riparian areas would be limited (1) for key riparian shrub species, to no more than 30 percent of

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the stems browsed or (2) for herbaceous plants, to a seasonal utilization of 40 percent or no less than a 6-inch minimum height, whichever occurs first. Key species and plant height monitoring would be conducted throughout the grazing season.

Livestock salt licks would be located no closer than 1/2 mile to water and no closer than 1/4 mile to sensitive plant species locations.

All range improvements would be designed to accommodate multiple resource needs (e.g., watershed, wildlife, etc.).

The connectivity area (migration corridor) is considered big game crucial habitat. Range improvements would be considered in crucial big game habitats only if they would either benefit or not conflict with big game use.

Livestock water development would be prohibited or restricted in crucial wildlife ranges and the connectivity area. Developments must conform with plan objectives and actions, benefit wildlife and wildlife habitat, conform with surface use requirements and transportation planning, and ensure continued use of big game crucial ranges (migration routes, crucial winter ranges, parturition areas, etc.). A grazing plan and ID team review would be required. Livestock water developments could be fenced and offsite water facilities would be developed (pipelines and troughs). Natural water sources (e.g., springs and seeps) would be protected from excessive use.

Livestock water developments would be prohibited in the core area unless the proposed resource evaluation (see oil and gas section) determines that an exception could be granted.

Water developments would not be placed within 1.5 miles (plus 1/4 mile) of active sage grouse leks. Activities, such as occur with pipeline construction, could be granted exceptions in certain circumstances.

Vegetation treatments would be considered on a case-by-case basis. A livestock grazing plan would be prepared prior to treatment. Areas proposed for vegetation treatments may be rested one full year prior to treatment and would be rested two full years after treatment. If optimal vegetation cover exists prior to a treatment, a full year of rest prior to treatment would not be necessary.

Minerals Management

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Same as stated in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3).

Leasable Minerals

Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: 1) allow leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.) while protecting other resource values; 2) allow orderly and timely development of oil and gas reserves; and 3) manage objectives 1 and 2 to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and to protect sensitive resources (e.g., animals, plants, cultural, visual).

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Table 2-4 lists public lands and federal minerals in the planning area with fluid mineral lease requirements that are necessary to protect other resource values.

Areas closed to leasing (discretionary closures) would include portions of the core area and connectivity area, and portions of White Mountain and Split Rock. Approximately 37,240 acres of federal mineral estate would be closed to fluid mineral leasing (Map 9).

The remainder of the federal fluid mineral estate in the planning area could be open to consideration for leasing with conditional requirements that would apply to certain areas. A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-4 and Map 10). About 56,040 acres would be open to leasing with a no surface occupancy requirement.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 347,250 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, raptor habitat, and game fish spawning area (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

Fluid mineral exploration and development activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-4 and Map 12). Surface disturbance conditional requirements would be placed on 416,160 acres.

Crucial habitats and other areas of sensitive resource values would be open to further consideration for fluid mineral leasing and development so long as crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values would be protected from irreversible adverse effects (Figure 1). This would be accomplished in part through controlled timing and sequencing of federal fluid mineral leasing, exploration, development, and reclamation in these areas. For example, satisfactory abandonment of oil and gas wells and surface disturbance reclamation may be required before additional fluid mineral leasing and development would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes, and birthing areas. Under this alternative, the following could occur:

Upon completion of the JMHCAP, fluid mineral leasing, exploration and development would be allowed in portions of the planning area, including portions of the core and connectivity areas. These areas would be open to leasing consideration, with necessary mitigation, which could include CSU, NSO, other stipulations or conditional requirements, and temporary lease suspension. Because there are pre-existing leases in some of the crucial big game habitat areas and other sensitive areas, development in these areas could cause other areas to become crucial habitat or sensitive. Thus, some portions of the planning area may remain permanently closed to leasing and development because other portions of the area with crucial habitat and sensitive resources are already leased.

Subject to future monitoring and evaluation, portions of the planning area would be temporarily closed to leasing to satisfy immediate needs for adequate habitat and use of that

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habitat (crucial winter range, calving/fawning, migration corridors, etc.), protection of sensitive resources, and for public health and safety. The entire planning area would not be leased at the same time, and exploration and development activities would not be allowed to occur at the same time over the entire planning area. In particular, unleased portions of Steamboat Mountain ACEC, Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, the White Mountain and Split Rock areas, and the core and connectivity areas would not be leased until monitoring and evaluation of ongoing exploration and development activity in these areas determine that rates and levels of development and reclamation would allow further leasing and development, would not cause fragmentation and abandonment of habitat, and would still meet stated management objectives. This determination would be based on the effects on elk and their movement patterns, elk use of habitat, effects on other wildlife species and habitats, and effects on other sensitive resources.

The evaluation would incorporate information from the elk study initiated in 1999; application of the standards and guidelines for healthy rangelands; proper functioning condition determinations for riparian areas; and other activities and uses. After the initial phase of the evaluation (about four years), a determination would be made on whether or not unleased areas that may become available for future leasing consideration, would be offered for lease. Should these areas be offered for lease, appropriate mitigation would be applied to meet planning area management objectives. If the evaluation concludes that planning area management objectives are not being met, these areas would either remain unleased, or would be leased with an NSO stipulation.

As areas become available for future leasing consideration, they would be reviewed to determine if the planning area management objectives could be met, if they were leased and developed. To facilitate this and promote consistency in implementing the JMHCAP management decisions, areas determined suitable for leasing consideration within the core and connectivity areas, White Mountain, and Split Rock areas would only be considered once a year. This would allow consideration of each of these areas in their entirety rather than piecemeal consideration of individual lease applications that may be submitted throughout the year.

Exploration and development proposals related to leases in effect before approval of the JMHCAP would be considered on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

- surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in Table 2-4;

- transportation planning, prior to implementing any activity, with an objective of no more than 2 miles of all-weather (improved) road per section in big game crucial habitat areas;

- remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

- multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

- limiting the number of well pads to no more than four per section in sensitive areas;

- directional drilling in crucial wildlife habitats and other sensitive areas (Table 2-4 and Figure 1), where access and surface disturbance or disruptive activity would create irreversible adverse effects;

- clustering or centrally locating tank batteries to limit traffic and disturbance;

- shrub reclamation (containerized stock, transplanting, etc.) where necessary to restore and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat;

- application of geotechnical materials for construction; and

- unitization of potential oil and gas field areas prior to exploration and development.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Areas closed to coal exploration would remain the same as those established in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997). On lands open to coal exploration, exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required. Exploration activities in crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values (Figure 1) would avoid these areas unless a plan could be developed to mitigate adverse impacts to these resource values (Map 13). Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to exploration activities; however, exploration activities could occur on existing roads and trails within these areas in conformance with transportation planning.

Solid Leasables (Sodium/Trona) MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: to provide for both short- and long-range development of federal sodium resources in an orderly and timely manner (same as stated in the Green River RMP, see Appendix 3). In addition, to provide for exploration activities outside the core area, in conformance with objectives to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Areas closed to sodium exploration would remain the same as those established in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997). On lands open to development, exploration and development proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and appropriate mitigation would be applied. Exploration and development activities would avoid sensitive areas (Figure 1). Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to exploration and development activities; however, exploration activities could occur on existing roads and trails within these areas in conformance with transportation planning.

Should trona water development occur, surface facilities such as plants or refineries, or waste water ponds would not be allowed in the planning area. Well locations could be allowed in the planning area and would be determined on a case-by-case basis.

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Salables (Mineral Materials)

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: The areas identified as closed to mineral material sales in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997) would remain closed to mineral material sales. The areas identified in Table 2-6 would be closed to mineral material sales (Map 14).

Mineral material sale would only occur when in support of project development within the core, connectivity, White Mountain, and Split Rock areas. This activity would not detract from the important resource values of these areas. Appropriate mitigation would be applied. New road construction and upgrading of existing roads for mineral material extraction would only be allowed if in accordance with transportation planning.

The remainder of the planning area would be open to consideration of mineral material sales on a case-by-case basis. Sale areas and community pits would be established in conformance with other resource objectives.

Locatable Minerals

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: The proposed withdrawals in Table 2-3 would be pursued. In addition to the withdrawals identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3), withdrawals would be pursued for two elk calving areas, the top of Steamboat Mountain, a cultural site, and three Native American respected places (about 9,000 acres) (Map 8). Future withdrawals would also be pursued to protect important resource values as needs are identified.

Geophysical

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Most of the planning area would be open to consideration of geophysical exploration activities. Based on site specific analysis, geophysical exploration activities would be authorized with appropriate conditional requirements such as limiting the use of vehicles and explosive charges (Table 2-7).

An interdisciplinary team review would be initiated for all geophysical proposals within the planning area. Exploration activities in crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values (Figure 1) would avoid these areas unless a plan could be developed to mitigate adverse impacts to these resource values. Mitigation measures would be applied to protect these sensitive resources (timing limitations, avoidance, restrictions on vehicle use and explosive charges, etc.). Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to off-road vehicle use and explosive charges. In areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities, the core area, crucial habitats, and other sensitive areas (Figure 1 and Table 2-4), exploration activities, without use of explosive charges, could occur on existing roads and trails in conformance with transportation planning.

Areas of Native American concern would be closed to geophysical vehicles and explosive charges.

Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Satisfactory reclamation of surface disturbance and abandonment of facilities, such as oil

and gas wells, range improvements, roads, trails, etc., that are no longer needed may be required before additional facilities or disturbance would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes, and birthing areas.

Special Status Species Management

The Special Status Plant Species ACEC would not be expanded to include *Lesquerella macrocarpa*. This species would continue to be managed as a special status plant species. Known locations of *Lesquerella macrocarpa* would be avoidance areas for rights-of-way (Table 2-2).

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values totaling 56,040 acres (see Table 2-4 and Map 10). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: Boars Tusk, White Mountain Petroglyphs, cultural resource site, Crookston Ranch, developed recreation sites and the ORV parking lot in the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, raptor nesting sites, South Pass Historic Landscape (area visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail), Special Status Plant Species Habitat, Tri-Territory Marker, and sites for interpretive signs.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 347,250 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, raptor habitat, and game fish spawning areas (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Controlled surface use restrictions would be applied to 416,160 acres (Table 2-4). Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation opportunities, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas), stabilized and unstabilized sand dunes, waters and floodplains, and big sagebrush habitat (Map 15). On areas where several of these resources overlap, an NSO requirement could be applied (Figure 1). For more information, see Table 2-4 and Map 12.

Based on site-specific analyses, surface-disturbing activities would be limited during wet weather, on frozen soils, and on slopes greater than 20 percent (70,310 acres).

NRHP-eligible sites would be avoided by 100 feet.

Activities would avoid Native American respected places. Traditional tribal elders would be consulted regarding the importance of specific features identified, and for their recommendations of appropriate avoidance distances concerning visual or noise intrusions. Avoidance distances may range from 100 feet to 2-1/2 miles depending on the importance of the features involved and their topographic setting. Viewshed (vista) and noise analysis may be conducted to help determine appropriate avoidance distances.

Activities would be excluded within a 1/2-mile viewshed (vista-same as GRRMP) of the White Mountain Petroglyphs

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(Appendix 3). Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be prohibited within a 1/2-mile viewshed of all rock art sites. A vista and noise analysis may be conducted for each site.

Surface disturbing activities would avoid the paleosol deposition area. Exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis if adverse effects could be mitigated by authorized users or permittees. Mitigation could include recovery of scientific data, as well as stabilization of remaining, undisturbed resources. Recovery of scientific data within the paleosol deposition area would be guided by research designs developed by BLM in consultation with the SHPO. The area would be reviewed for consideration for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Areas closed to oil and gas leasing (Map 9) and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses. Small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas would be prohibited, unless they: 1) follow roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet area objectives; and 3) do not create safety hazards (see the Lands and Realty Management section). Activity in the South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC, Oregon Buttes ACEC, and White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC would follow the prescriptions in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3).

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES: To provide opportunity for off-road vehicle use in conformance with other resource management objectives (see Appendix 3). In addition, to provide motorized vehicle and non-motorized vehicle use along appropriate routes in conformance with other resource management objectives.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: General winter vehicular access in the planning area, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. Where access on other roads is necessary, routes would be determined on a case-by-case basis and would be limited to over-the-snow vehicles only.

Specific roads and trails designated as “limited to designated roads and trails” would be identified on a case-by-case basis as time allows. A few specific trails may be closed to vehicle use. The existing seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat would apply. Additional seasonal closures may be applied for protection of other resource values as needed.

Road and trail construction or upgrading would be prohibited through woodland habitat (i.e., juniper, limber pine, aspen) or springs and seeps (pre-existing improved roads may be used).

Transportation planning would identify appropriate access routes and provide maximum protection for crucial habitats and sensitive resources (Appendix 5). Time of year and site conditions would be taken into consideration. Future site specific activity or implementation planning would address any needed requirements for motorized vehicular use, nonmotorized vehicular use, or non-motorized mechanical transport and also address any needed requirements for transportation planning.

Factors to be considered in development of transportation plans include:

- Historic use levels of roads and trails.

- Use of required construction specifications.

- Rehabilitating, obliterating, or barricading unused roads and trails, and closure or maintenance of those causing resource damage. The transportation plan and affected maps would be corrected to reflect closed roads and trails.

- Seasonal or administrative road closures/gating in crucial habitats (for single use destination roads or trails) to limit traffic and disrupting activities.

- Concentrating stream and riparian area crossings to key locations to restrict numbers of crossings and to benefit resource management objectives. Exceptions may be granted if proposed crossings would reduce adverse effects, benefit area objectives, and reduce miles of road (and/or frequency of use). Some crossings (2-tracks) would be closed. Commercial and service vehicles would be restricted to identified upgraded crossings. Bridges may be required on Pacific, Jack Morrow, Parnell, and Rock Cabin creeks.

- Limiting the number and location of access routes that bisect wildlife habitats and migration routes.

- Limiting the number and miles of road in crucial habitats.

- Limiting the number and miles of all-weather road, and the level of use on these roads during crucial wildlife and watershed periods (November-June).

- Grouping and offsite location of ancillary facilities away from crucial habitats and sensitive areas.

- Limiting all-season use to primarily identified roads.

- Posting speed limits, as necessary, to protect wildlife and public health and safety, and to meet planning area management objectives.

- In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile):

 - Core and connectivity areas = 2.0 miles or less

 - White Mountain area = 2.0 miles or less

 - All other areas of crucial elk habitat = more than 2.0 miles.

Vegetation Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Desired Plant Community objectives would be established to enhance wildlife habitat,

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watershed, and biodiversity values. Maintaining or enhancing important wildlife (elk, sage grouse, mountain plover, fisheries, etc.) habitat is one of the aspects to be addressed.

Vegetation treatments would be designed to protect water and stream quality, dissipate erosion, and maintain or enhance mountain shrub and woodland communities. Treatment areas in aspen communities would be fenced to protect new plant growth from grazing activity.

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: VRM classes would be managed according to the classifications shown in Table 2-8.

The Steamboat Mountain ACEC and Split Rock would be managed as a Class II VRM areas (Map 16).

Portions of White Mountain would be managed as a Class II VRM area.

Watershed/Water Quality Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Limiting the number of well pads, roads, and other rights-of-way (and overall surface disturbance) may be required in sensitive areas (see the surface disturbance management section).

Wild Horse Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: The existing wild horse herd management area and appropriate management levels would remain unchanged (Map 17).

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the number of roads and access, and limiting the degree of activity and use in the planning area. See Travel Management and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections.

The pond (flockets) areas in the sand dunes would be managed for enhancement of wildlife habitat and vegetation communities. Surface uses would be restricted in these areas. Special consideration would be given to management needs of amphibians. Fences may be constructed to control livestock grazing and movement in these areas.

Priority would be given to maintaining or enhancing mountain plover and sage grouse habitat. Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect these habitats (see Vegetation Management and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management Sections). Livestock water developments would not be placed within 1.5 miles (in addition to the lek proper) of sage grouse leks.

In and around the “hay meadow enclosures” on Pacific Creek, riparian and fish habitat would be managed for trout.

Riparian and upland vegetation types would be managed with emphasis on enhancing wildlife habitat, watershed, and

biodiversity values. Wildlife improvements could be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Core Area (Steamboat Mountain ACEC, eastern portion of the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, and adjacent overlapping crucial big game habitat)

Management objectives and management actions for these resource and land use programs are the same as described in the Green River RMP and for the general JMHCAP area. The following management objectives and management actions are either specifically important to the core area and are repeated, or are different from those for the general JMHCAP area.

GENERAL MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: to 1) enhance and maintain water quality, vegetative composition, soil condition, and wildlife and wildlife habitat; 2) ensure biological diversity and a healthy ecosystem in the area; 3) maintain unique and diverse habitat components; 4) provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd, other big game populations, and other important and sensitive wildlife species; and 5) provide for mineral exploration and development activity, livestock grazing, recreation, public health and safety, and other uses, while meeting all other resource management objectives for the core area.

Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource management actions for the overall planning area.

Fire Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fire management actions for the overall planning area.

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Rights-of-way would avoid the big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation associations to minimize effects to big game habitat. Portions of Indian Gap and the face of Steamboat Mountain (the steep slopes around the perimeter of Steamboat Mountain) would be closed (exclusion areas) to these actions (Map 6, Map 7, and Table 2-2).

Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat and visual values. Communication sites could be considered on Essex Mountain.

The proposed withdrawals in Table 2-3 would be pursued. In addition to the withdrawals identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3), withdrawals would be pursued for the top

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of Steamboat Mountain, a cultural site, and two Native American respected places (about 1,480 acres) (Map 8).

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments would be prohibited in the core area unless the proposed resource monitoring and evaluation (see oil and gas section) determines that an exception could be granted. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the core area would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals

Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: 1) to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.) while protecting other resource values; 2) to permit in an orderly and timely manner, the development of oil and gas reserves; and 3) to conduct 1 and 2 in a manner that conforms with the management objectives for providing suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protecting other sensitive resources.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Portions of the core area would be closed to fluid mineral leasing. Approximately 14,130 acres of federal mineral estate would be closed to fluid mineral leasing (Map 9).

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-4 and Map 10). About 12,100 acres would be open to leasing with a no surface occupancy requirement.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 80,410 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Map 11 and Table 2-5). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

Fluid mineral exploration and development activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values in the core area (see Map 12, Table 2-4, and Figure 1). Surface disturbance conditional requirements would be placed on 80,410 acres.

Crucial habitats and other areas of sensitive resource values would be open to further consideration for fluid mineral leasing and development so long as crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values would be protected from irreversible adverse effects (Figure 1). This would be accomplished in part through controlled timing and sequencing of federal fluid mineral leasing, exploration, development, and reclamation in these areas. For example, satisfactory abandonment of oil and gas wells and surface disturbance reclama-

tion may be required before additional fluid mineral leasing and development would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes, and birthing areas. Under this alternative, the following could occur:

Upon completion of the JMHCAP, fluid mineral leasing, exploration and development would be allowed in portions of the planning area, including portions of the core and connectivity areas. These areas would be open to leasing consideration, with necessary mitigation, which could include CSU, NSO, other stipulations or conditional requirements, and temporary lease suspension. Because there are pre-existing leases in some of the crucial big game habitat areas and other sensitive areas, development in these areas could cause other areas to become crucial habitat or sensitive. Thus, some portions of the planning area may remain permanently closed to leasing and development because other portions of the area with crucial habitat and sensitive resources are already leased.

Subject to future monitoring and evaluation, portions of the planning area would be temporarily closed to leasing to provide adequate habitat and use of that habitat (crucial winter range, calving/fawning, migration corridors, etc.) and protection of sensitive resources and public health and safety. The entire planning area would not be leased at the same time, and exploration and development activities would not be allowed to occur at the same time over the entire planning area. In particular, unleased portions of Steamboat Mountain ACEC, Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, the White Mountain and Split Rock areas, and the core and connectivity areas would not be leased until monitoring and evaluation of ongoing exploration and development activity in these areas determine that rates and levels of development and reclamation would allow further leasing and development, would not cause fragmentation and abandonment of habitat, and would still meet stated management objectives. This determination would be based on the effects on elk and their movement patterns, elk use of habitat, effects on other wildlife species and habitats, and effects on other sensitive resources.

The evaluation would incorporate information from the elk study initiated in 1999; application of the standards and guidelines for healthy rangelands; proper functioning condition determinations for riparian areas; and other activities and uses. After the initial phase of the evaluation (about four years), a determination would be made on whether or not unleased areas that may become available for future leasing consideration, would be offered for lease. Should these areas be offered for lease, appropriate mitigation would be applied to meet planning area management objectives. If the evaluation concludes that planning area management objectives are not being met, these areas would either remain unleased, or would be leased with an NSO stipulation.

As areas become available for future leasing consideration, they would be reviewed to determine if the planning area management objectives could be met, if they were leased and developed. To facilitate this and promote consistency in implementing the JMHCAP management decisions, areas determined suitable for leasing consideration within the core

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and connectivity areas, White Mountain, and Split Rock areas would only be considered once a year. This would allow consideration of each of these areas in their entirety rather than piecemeal consideration of individual lease applications that may be submitted throughout the year.

Exploration and development proposals related to leases in the core area that existed before approval of the JMHCAP would be considered on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included (to the extent allowed by regulation) as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

- surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in Table 2-4;

- transportation planning, prior to implementing any activity, with an objective of no more than 2 miles of all-weather (improved) road per section in big game crucial habitat areas;

- remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

- multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

- limiting the number of well pads to no more than four per section in sensitive areas;

- directional drilling in crucial wildlife habitats and other sensitive areas (Table 2-4 and Figure 1), where access and surface disturbance or disruptive activity would create irreversible adverse effects;

 - clustering or centrally locating tank batteries or other ancillary facilities to limit traffic and disturbance;

- shrub reclamation (containerized stock, transplanting, etc.) where necessary to restore and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat;

- application of geotechnical materials for construction; and

- unitization of potential oil and gas field areas prior to exploration and development.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Areas closed to coal exploration would remain the same as those established in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997). Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required. Exploration activities in crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values (Figure 1) would avoid these areas unless a plan could be developed to mitigate adverse impacts to these resource values. Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to exploration activities; however, exploration activities could occur on existing roads and trails within these areas in conformance with transportation planning.

Solid Leasables (Sodium/Trona) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area.

Salables (Mineral Materials)

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. The areas identified in Table 2-6 would be closed to mineral material sales. In addition:

Mineral material sale would only occur when in support of project development within the core area. Appropriate mitigation would be applied to insure this activity would not detract from the important resource values of the area. New road construction and upgrading of existing roads for mineral material extraction would only be allowed if in accordance with transportation planning.

Locatable Minerals

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The proposed withdrawals in Table 2-3 would be pursued. In addition to the withdrawals identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3), withdrawals would be pursued for the top of Steamboat Mountain, a cultural site, and two Native American respected places (about 1,360 acres).

Future withdrawals from mineral location in the core area would be pursued to protect important resource values, as needs are identified.

Geophysical

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

In the core area, exploration activities, without use of explosive charges, could occur on existing roads and trails in conformance with transportation planning (Table 2-7). Exploration activities in crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values (Table 2-4 and Figure 1) would avoid these areas unless a plan could be developed to mitigate adverse impacts to these resource values.

Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Satisfactory reclamation of surface disturbance and abandonment of facilities, such as oil and gas wells, range improvements, roads, trails, etc., that are no longer needed in the core area, may be required before additional facilities or disturbance would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes and birthing areas in the core area.

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Special Status Species Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Special Status Species management actions for the overall planning area.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (on about 12,100 acres) (see Map 10 and Table 2-4). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: Boars Tusk, White Mountain Petroglyphs, Crookston Ranch, developed recreation sites and the ORV parking lot in the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, raptor nesting sites, South Pass Historic Landscape (area visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail), Special Status Plant Species Habitat, Tri-Territory Marker, and sites for interpretive signs.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 80,410 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Map 11 and Table 2-5).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned on about 80,410 acres to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation opportunities, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas), stabilized and unstabilized sand dunes, and big sagebrush habitat. On areas where several of these resources overlap, an NSO requirement could be applied (Figure 1). For more information, see Table 2-4 and Map 12.

Areas closed to oil and gas leasing and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety (Map 9). However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses. Small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas would be prohibited, unless they: 1) follow roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet core area objectives; and 3) do not create safety hazards (see the Lands and Realty Management section).

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: General winter vehicular access in the planning area, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. Where access on other roads is necessary, routes would be determined on a case-by-case basis and access would be limited to over-the-snow vehicles only.

Specific roads and trails to be designated as “limited to designated roads and trails” would be identified on a case-by-case basis as time allows. A few specific trails may be closed to vehicle use. The existing seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat would apply. Additional seasonal closures may be applied for protection of other resource values as needed.

Road and trail construction or upgrading would be prohibited through woodland habitat (i.e., juniper, limber pine, aspen) or springs and seeps (pre-existing improved roads may be used).

Transportation planning would identify appropriate access routes and provide maximum protection for crucial habitats and sensitive resources (Appendix 5). Time of year and site conditions would be taken into consideration. Future site specific activity or implementation planning would address any needed requirements for motorized vehicular use, nonmotorized vehicular use, or nonmotorized mechanical transport and also address any needed requirements for transportation planning.

Factors to be considered in development of transportation plans include:

- Historic use levels of roads and trails.

- Use of required construction specifications.

- Rehabilitating, obliterating, or barricading unused roads and trails, and closure or maintenance of those causing resource damage. The transportation plan and affected maps would be corrected to reflect closed roads and trails.

- Seasonal or administrative road closures/gating in crucial habitats (for single use destination roads or trails) to limit traffic and disrupting activities.

- Concentrating stream and riparian area crossings to key locations to restrict numbers of crossings and to benefit resource management objectives. Exceptions may be granted if proposed crossings would reduce adverse effects, benefit area objectives, and reduce miles of road (and/or frequency of use). Some crossings (2-tracks) would be closed. Commercial and service vehicles would be restricted to identified upgraded crossings. Bridges may be required on Pacific, Jack Morrow, Parnell, and Rock Cabin creeks.

- Limiting the number and location of access routes that bisect wildlife habitats and migration routes.

- Limiting the number and miles of road in crucial habitats.

- Limiting the number and miles of all-weather roads, and the level of use on these roads during crucial wildlife and watershed periods (November-June).

- Grouping and offsite location of ancillary facilities away from crucial habitats and sensitive areas.

- Limiting all-season use to primarily identified roads.

- Posting speed limits, as necessary, to protect wildlife and public health and safety, and to meet planning area management objectives.

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In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile):

- Core and connectivity areas = 2.0 miles or less
- White Mountain area = 2.0 miles or less
- All other areas of crucial elk habitat = more than 2.0 miles.

Vegetation Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Vegetation management actions for overall planning area.

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Visual Resource management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

The Steamboat Mountain ACEC and Split Rock would be managed as Class II VRM areas (Map 16 and Table 2-8).

Watershed/Water Quality Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Watershed/Water Quality management actions for overall planning area.

Wild Horse Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wild Horse management actions for overall planning area.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the number of roads and access, and limiting the degree of activity and use in the core area. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

The pond (flockets) areas in the sand dunes would be managed for enhancement of wildlife habitat and vegetation communities. Surface uses would be restricted in these areas. Special consideration would be given to management needs of amphibians. Fences may be constructed to control livestock grazing and movement in these areas. Interpretive signs would be used to direct ORV use around the ponds to prevent resource damage.

Greater Sand Dunes ACEC (38,650 acres in the planning area)

The western portion of the ACEC is within the Buffalo Hump and Sand Dunes WSAs and lies outside the core area. The western portion would be managed under the "Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review" (USDI 1995). The eastern portion of the ACEC is inside the core area and for consistency in management of the ACEC, the

following discussion presents the actions for the entire ACEC. Actions that apply solely to either the eastern or western portion are so noted.

Management objectives and management actions for these resource and land use programs are the same as those for the general JMHCAP and for the core area. The following management objectives and management actions are either specifically important to the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC and are repeated, or are different from those for the core area.

Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource management actions for the overall planning area.

Fire Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fire management actions for the overall planning area. In Addition:

Additional fire prescriptions including full suppression for big sagebrush-scurfpea vegetation associations would be applied on a case-by-case basis as necessary.

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area (Appendix 3). In addition:

Rights-of-way would avoid the big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation associations to minimize effects to big game habitat. The base of Steamboat Mountain and the steep slopes around the perimeter of Steamboat Mountain (i.e., those portions which are within the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC) would be closed (exclusion areas) to these actions (Map 6, Map 7, and Table 2-2).

Within the eastern portion of the ACEC (inside the core area), both stabilized and active sand dunes would be closed to construction and development types of activities and related surface disturbance, unless analysis indicates that the management objectives for the area could be met. In situations where there are pre-existing authorizations and ongoing development in the area, new linear facilities such as pipelines and phone lines would be laid on the surface, or buried adjacent to access roads, or within existing concentration areas containing such lines, in conformance with transportation planning. Surface pipelines would be monitored by the operators to identify potential hazards to public health and safety, particularly in the open ORV area. Identified hazards would be marked to improve visibility. A recreation user map would be developed in cooperation with oil and gas operators to show the location of aboveground facilities (e.g., pipelines, well production facilities, snow fences, etc.).

The entire ACEC would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat, visual values, and geologic features.

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Areas closed to oil and gas leasing and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses. Small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas would be prohibited, unless they: 1) follow roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet ACEC objectives; and 3) do not create safety hazards (see the Lands and Realty Management section).

The proposed withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws in the ACEC (Table 2-3) would be pursued.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Same as general Livestock Grazing management objective for the overall planning area.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments would be prohibited in the ACEC unless the proposed resource evaluation (see oil and gas section) determines that an exception could be granted. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the ACEC would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE (within the eastern portion of the ACEC): 1) to provide maximum protection to the relevant and important ACEC values, provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protect other sensitive resources; and 2) to provide for continued ORV use and public health and safety by closing the eastern portion of the ACEC to leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.).

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would be closed to fluid mineral leasing. Approximately 3,400 acres of currently unleased federal mineral estate would be closed to fluid mineral leasing (Map 9).

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (Map 10 and Table 2-4).

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also

see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

Fluid mineral exploration and development activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values in the ACEC (see Table 2-4, Figure 1, and Map 12).

Crucial habitats and other areas of sensitive resource values would be open to further consideration for fluid mineral leasing and development so long as crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values would be protected from irreversible adverse effects (Figure 1). This would be accomplished in part through controlled timing and sequencing of federal fluid mineral leasing, exploration, development, and reclamation in these areas. For example, satisfactory abandonment of oil and gas wells and surface disturbance reclamation may be required before additional fluid mineral leasing and development would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes, and birthing areas. See the Fluid Minerals section of the core Area for a description of management actions involving timing and sequencing of leasing exploration and development.

Exploration and development proposals related to leases in the ACEC in effect before approval of the JMHCAP, would be considered on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included (to the extent allowed by regulation) as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

- surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in Table 2-4;

- transportation planning, prior to implementing any activity, with an objective of no more than 2 miles of all-weather (improved) road per section in big game crucial habitat areas;

- remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

- multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

- limiting the number of well pads to no more than four per section in sensitive areas;

- directional drilling in crucial wildlife habitats and other sensitive areas (Table 2-4 and Figure 1), where access and surface disturbance or disruptive activity would create irreversible adverse effects;

- clustering or centrally locating tank batteries or other ancillary facilities to limit traffic and disturbance;

- shrub reclamation (containerized stock, transplanting, etc.) where necessary to restore and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat;

- application of geotechnical materials for construction; and

- unitization of areas prior to exploration and development.

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As development of the coalbed methane wells occurs, BLM would monitor the health and safety issues associated with increased development in the ORV open area. Efforts would be made to mitigate hazards by working with industry to notify ORV users of the locations of hazards. Efforts would be made to not reduce the size of the open area, but that would be dictated by the level of new development.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Areas closed to coal exploration would remain the same as those established in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997). Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required. Exploration activities in crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values (Figure 1) would avoid these areas unless a plan could be developed to mitigate adverse impacts to these resource values. Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to exploration activities; however, exploration activities could occur on existing roads and trails within these areas in conformance with transportation planning.

Solid Leasables (Sodium/Trona) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area.

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Mineral location withdrawals would be pursued for Crookston Ranch and the western portion of the ACEC for the protection of cultural and historic values, visual resource values, geologic features, pond (flockets) areas, important wildlife habitat, and Native American respected places (about 23,890 acres).

The proposed withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws in the ACEC (Table 2-3) would be pursued.

Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

In the eastern portion of the ACEC, exploration activities, without use of explosive charges, could occur on existing roads and trails in conformance with transportation planning (Table 2-7). The ORV parking area would also be closed.

A few specific trails may be closed to vehicle use.

Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Satisfactory reclamation of surface disturbance and abandonment of facilities (e.g., oil and gas wells, range improvements, roads, trails, etc.) that are no longer needed in the ACEC, may be required before additional facilities or distur-

bance would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes and birthing areas, and on stabilized dunes in the ACEC.

Special Status Species Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Special Status Species management actions for the overall planning area.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-4 and Map 10). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: Boars Tusk, Crookston Ranch site, developed recreation sites, the ORV parking lot, raptor nesting sites, special status plant species habitat, big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation communities, sites for interpretive signs, and important cultural sites.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation opportunities, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas), stabilized and unstabilized sand dunes, and big sagebrush habitat. On areas where several of these resources overlap, an NSO requirement could be applied (Figure 1). For more information, see Table 2-4 and Map 12.

In the eastern portion, areas closed to oil and gas leasing (Map 9) and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses. Small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas would be prohibited, unless they: 1) follow roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet core area objectives; and 3) do not create safety hazards (see the Lands and Realty Management section).

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

In the eastern portion, general winter vehicular access in the ACEC, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. However, access on other

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roads could be authorized for over-the-snow vehicles only. The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat in the ACEC would apply. Additional seasonal closures may be applied for protection of other resource values as needed. Specific roads and trails designated as “limited to designated roads and trails” in the ACEC would be identified on a case-by-case basis as time allows. A few specific trails may be closed to vehicle use

In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile): the ACEC and connectivity area = 2.0 miles or less.

Vegetation Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Vegetation management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Native vegetation would be maintained and protected on the BLM-administered public lands to allow natural plant succession to continue. Revegetation of disturbed areas with big sagebrush, other adaptable shrubs, and native vegetation would be required to maintain or improve big game habitat.

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Visual Resource management actions for overall planning area.

The ACEC would continue to be managed as a Class II VRM area (Map 16).

Wild Horse Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wild Horse management actions for overall planning area.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the number of roads and access, and limiting the degree of activity and use in the ACEC. The integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas and winter ranges would be maintained. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

The pond (flockets) areas in the sand dunes would be managed for enhancement of wildlife habitat and vegetation communities. Surface uses would be restricted in these areas. Special consideration would be given to management needs of amphibians. Fences may be constructed to control livestock grazing and movement in these areas. Interpretive signs would be used to direct ORV use around the ponds to prevent resource damage in the eastern portion of the ACEC.

The relatively pristine portion of the eastern area that has no developments (approximately 8,800 acres), including the base of Steamboat Rim, would be managed to protect big

game habitat, vegetation communities, and visual and recreation resources.

To support and improve the diversity of wildlife species within the area, wildlife habitat on the BLM-administered public lands would be protected, maintained, or enhanced. Crucial elk winter range in the area would be maintained as an essential component of the elk habitat.

Projects to improve the interdunal ponds for bird, amphibian, and mammal habitat would be considered and evaluated for development on the BLM-administered public lands. The ponds would not be used as water sources for development activities.

Steamboat Mountain ACEC (43,310 acres in the planning area)

Management objectives and management actions for these resource and land use programs are the same as those for the general JMHCAP and for the core area. The following management objectives and management actions are either specifically important to the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC and are repeated, or are different from those for the core area.

Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource management actions for the overall planning area.

Fire Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fire management actions for the overall planning area.

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would be an avoidance area for rights-of-way. In particular, rights-of-way would avoid the big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation associations to minimize effects to big game habitat. Steamboat Rim, portions of Indian Gap and the face of Steamboat Mountain (the steep slopes around the perimeter of Steamboat Mountain), Johnson Gap, and the big sagebrush-scurfpea vegetation type at the base of Steamboat Mountain would be exclusion areas for all rights-of-way, no exceptions (Map 6, Map 7, and Table 2-2).

Where right-of-way activity cannot avoid the ACEC, transportation planning would be used to determine right-of-way locations. Linear rights-of-way would follow existing roads and trails in accordance with transportation planning. Existing right-of-way routes would be used whenever possible. Areas closed to mineral leasing and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to the location of additional rights-of-way. Within these areas and in conformance with transportation planning, pre-existing rights-of-way as of the date of approval of the JMHCAP could remain in place and

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continue to be used. Small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas could be authorized only if they: 1) follow pre-existing improved roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet area objectives; and 3) do not create safety hazards.

The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat and visual values.

Withdrawals would be pursued for the top of Steamboat Mountain and two Native American respected places (about 1,040 acres). Future withdrawals from mineral location in the ACEC would be pursued to protect important resource values, as needs are identified.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Same as general Livestock Grazing management objective for the overall planning area.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments would be prohibited in the ACEC unless the proposed resource evaluation (see oil and gas section) determines that an exception could be granted. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the ACEC would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: 1) to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.) while protecting other resource values; 2) to permit in an orderly and timely manner, the development of oil and gas reserves in the ACEC; and 3) to conduct 1 and 2 in a manner that conforms with the management objectives for providing suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protecting other sensitive resources.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Portions of the ACEC would be closed to fluid mineral leasing (approximately 8,000 acres of federal mineral estate) (Map 9).

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-4 and Map 10). About 7,845 acres would be open to leasing with a no surface occupancy requirement.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat within the ACEC (about 43,950 acres) (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

Fluid mineral exploration and development activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important

resource values in the ACEC (about 43,950 acres) (see Table 2-4, Figure 1, and Map 12).

We're in Steamboat: Crucial habitats and other areas of sensitive resource values would be open to further consideration for fluid mineral leasing and development so long as crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values would be protected from irreversible adverse effects (Figure 1). This would be accomplished in part through controlled timing and sequencing of federal fluid mineral leasing, exploration, development, and reclamation in these areas. For example, satisfactory abandonment of oil and gas wells and surface disturbance reclamation may be required before additional fluid mineral leasing and development would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes, and birthing areas. See the Fluid Minerals section of the core Area for a description of management actions involving timing and sequencing of leasing exploration and development.

Exploration and development proposals related to leases in the ACEC in effect before approval of the JMHCAP would be considered on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included (to the extent allowed by regulation) as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in Table 2-4;

transportation planning, prior to implementing any activity, with an objective of no more than 2 miles of all-weather (improved) road per section in big game crucial habitat areas;

remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

limiting the number of well pads to no more than four per section in sensitive areas;

directional drilling in crucial wildlife habitats and other sensitive areas (Table 2-4 and Figure 1), where access and surface disturbance or disruptive activity would create irreversible adverse effects;

clustering or centrally locating tank batteries or other ancillary facilities to limit traffic and disturbance;

shrub reclamation (containerized stock, transplanting, etc.) where necessary to restore habitat and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat;

application of geotechnical materials for construction; and

unitization of potential oil and gas field areas prior to exploration and development.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

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Areas closed to coal exploration would remain the same as those established in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997). Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required. Exploration activities in crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values (Figure 1) would avoid these areas unless a plan could be developed to mitigate adverse impacts to these resource values. Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to exploration activities; however, exploration activities could occur on existing roads and trails within these areas in conformance with transportation planning.

Solid Leasables (Sodium/Trona) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area.

Salables (Mineral Materials) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. The areas identified in Table 2-6 would be closed to mineral material sales.

The top of Steamboat Mountain proper (lava material) would be closed to mineral material sale (Map 14). In the remaining portion of the ACEC, mineral material sales would only occur when in support of project development within the ACEC. Appropriate mitigation would be applied to insure this activity would not detract from the relevant and important values of the area. New road construction and upgrading of existing roads for mineral extraction would only be allowed if in accordance with transportation planning.

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Withdrawals would be pursued for the top of Steamboat Mountain and two Native American respected places (about 1,040 acres). Future withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws in the ACEC would be pursued to protect important resource values, as needs are identified.

Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

In the ACEC, exploration activities, without use of explosive charges, could occur on existing roads and trails in conformance with transportation planning (Table 2-7).

Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Satisfactory reclamation of surface disturbance and abandonment of facilities, such as oil and gas wells, range improvements, roads, trails, etc., that are no longer needed in the ACEC, may be required before additional facilities or disturbance would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes and birthing areas in the ACEC.

Special Status Species Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Special Status Species management actions for the overall planning area.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-4 and Map 10). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: raptor nesting sites, Special Status Plant Species Habitat, Tri-Territory Marker, and locations for interpretive signs.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation opportunities, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas), and big sagebrush habitat. On areas where several of these resources overlap, an NSO requirement could be applied (Figure 1). For more information, see Table 2-4 and Map 12.

Areas closed to oil and gas leasing (Map 9) and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses. Small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas would be prohibited, unless they: 1) follow roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet ACEC objectives; and 3) do not create safety hazards (see the Lands and Realty Management section).

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

General winter vehicular access in the ACEC, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. However, access on other roads could be authorized for over-the-snow vehicles only. The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat in the ACEC would apply. Additional seasonal closures may be applied for protection of other resource values as needed.

Specific roads and trails designated as "limited to designated roads and trails" in the ACEC would be identified on a

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case-by-case basis as time allows. A few specific trails may be closed to vehicle use. Time of year and site conditions would be taken into consideration. Future site specific activity or implementation planning in the ACEC would address any needed requirements for motorized vehicular use, non-motorized vehicular use, and non-motorized mechanical transport.

Transportation planning would identify appropriate access routes and provide maximum protection to crucial habitats and sensitive resources (see Appendix 5) for specific access routes that apply to the ACEC.

In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile): The ACEC and connectivity areas = 2.0 miles or less.

Road construction and new access may not be feasible for much of the ACEC. To prevent conflicts with big game and big game habitat, recreation users, and other resource and land use activities, alternative access methods may be needed (use of existing or designated roads or pads, seasonal travel requirements or restrictions, use of helicopters, etc.) (see Appendix 3).

Vegetation Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Vegetation management actions for overall planning area.

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Visual Resource management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be managed as a Class II VRM area (Map 16 and Table 2-8).

Watershed/Water Quality Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Watershed/Water Quality management actions for overall planning area.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the number of roads and access, and limiting the degree of activity and use in the ACEC. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

All activities would be designed to place priority consideration on elk habitat over conflicting land uses to ensure continued elk use in the ACEC. Steamboat Rim and the base of the rim would be managed to protect big game habitat, vegetation communities, and visual and recreation resources.

Other Special Management Areas

Oregon Buttes ACEC (3,450 acres in the planning area)

The Oregon Buttes ACEC lies within portions of the Oregon Buttes, White Horse Creek, and Honeycomb Buttes WSAs and lies outside the core area. The ACEC would be managed under the “Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review” (USDI 1995). The management decisions are the same as described in the Green River RMP and for the general JMHCAP planning area. The following management objectives and management actions are either specifically important to the ACEC and are repeated or are different from the general JMHCAP planning area.

Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource management actions for the overall planning area.

Fire Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fire management actions for the overall planning area.

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat, historic, geological, and visual values.

Future withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws in the ACEC would be pursued to protect important resource values, as needs are identified.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: The ACEC would remain closed to fluid mineral leasing (nondiscretionary closure is approximately 3,450 acres of federal mineral estate).

Salables (Mineral Materials) MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Same as general Mineral Materials management objective for the overall planning area.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would remain closed to mineral material sales.

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Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Future withdrawals from mineral location in the ACEC would be pursued to protect important resource values, as needs are identified.

The ACEC is closed to sodium exploration and development.

Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

In the ACEC, exploration activities, without use of explosive charges or motorized vehicles, could occur in conformance with ACEC objectives (Table 2-7).

Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring actions for the overall planning area.

Special Status Species Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Special Status Species management actions for the overall planning area.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: The ACEC is closed to surface disturbing activities that could adversely affect resource values in the area.

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: The ACEC would remain closed to motorized vehicle use (Appendix 3).

Future site specific activity or implementation planning in the ACEC would address any needed requirements for non-motorized vehicular use and non-motorized mechanical transport.

Vegetation Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Vegetation management actions for overall planning area.

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Visual Resource management actions for overall planning area.

Watershed/Water Quality Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Watershed/Water Quality management actions for overall planning area.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the number of roads and access, and limiting the degree of activity and use in the ACEC.

South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC (45,830 acres in the planning area)

Management objectives and management actions for these resource and land use programs are the same as described in the Green River RMP and for the general JMHCAP area. The following management objectives and management actions are either specifically important to the South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC and are repeated, or are different from those for the general JMHCAP area.

Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource management actions for the overall planning area.

Fire Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fire management actions for the overall planning area.

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Communication sites could be considered on Pacific Butte with restrictions on the height (no strobe light necessary), visual intrusion, road access, etc. Actions on Pacific Butte would conform to the existing management prescriptions for the South Pass Historic Landscape (Table 2-2 and Appendix 3).

Withdrawals would be pursued for two elk calving areas (about 5,020 acres) in addition to those withdrawals listed in the Green River RMP. Future withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws in the ACEC would be pursued to protect important resource values, as needs are identified.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Same as general Livestock Grazing management objective for the overall planning area.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments would be prohibited in the ACEC unless the proposed resource evaluation (see oil and gas section) determines that an exception could be granted and the ACEC management objectives and action would be met. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be main-

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tained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the ACEC would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: 1) to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.) while protecting other resource values; 2) to permit in an orderly and timely manner, the development of oil and gas reserves in the ACEC; and 3) to conduct 1 and 2 in a manner that conforms with the management objectives for the South Pass Historic Landscape, and for providing suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protecting other sensitive resources.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat within the ACEC (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

Fluid mineral exploration and development activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values in the ACEC (about 23,140 acres) (see Table 2-4, Figure 1, and Map 12).

A no surface occupancy requirement would continue to be used to protect historic resources and certain important resource values (area visible within 3 miles of the Oregon Trail) (about 24,600 acres) (see Table 2-4 and Map 10). Other resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: raptor nesting sites, special status plant species habitat, and locations for interpretive signs.

The historic values in the landscape, crucial habitats, and other areas of sensitive resource values would be open to consideration for fluid mineral leasing and development so long as they would be protected from irreversible adverse effects (Figure 1). This would be accomplished in part through controlled timing and sequencing of federal fluid mineral leasing, exploration, development and reclamation in these areas. For example, satisfactory abandonment of oil and gas wells or surface disturbance reclamation may be required before additional fluid mineral leasing and development could occur in big game crucial ranges, migration routes and birthing areas. See the Fluid Minerals section of the overall planning area for a description of management actions involving timing and sequencing of leasing exploration and development.

Exploration and development proposals related to leases in the ACEC in effect before approval of the JMHCAP would be considered on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included (to the extent allowed by regulation) as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in Table 2-4;

transportation planning, prior to implementing any activity, with an objective of no more than 2 miles of all-weather (improved) road per section in big game crucial habitat areas;

remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

limiting the number of well pads to no more than four per section in sensitive areas;

directional drilling in crucial wildlife habitats and other sensitive areas (Table 2-4 and Figure 1), where access and surface disturbance or disruptive activity would create irreversible adverse effects;

clustering or centrally locating tank batteries or other ancillary facilities to limit traffic and disturbance;

shrub reclamation (containerized stock, transplanting, etc.) where necessary to restore habitat and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat;

application of geotechnical materials for construction; and

unitization of potential oil and gas field areas prior to exploration and development.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general coal management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Areas closed to coal exploration would remain the same as those established in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997). Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required. Exploration activities in crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values (Figure 1) would avoid these areas unless a plan could be developed to mitigate adverse impacts to these resource values. Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to exploration activities; however, exploration activities could occur on existing roads and trails in these areas in conformance with transportation planning.

Solid Leasables (Sodium/Trona) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The no surface occupancy portions of the ACEC would be closed to sodium exploration and development activities.

Salables (Mineral Materials) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. The areas identified as closed to mineral material sales in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997) would remain closed to mineral material sales. In addition:

Mineral material extraction would only be considered in those portions of the ACEC not visible from the historic trail (vista). This activity would not detract from the relevance and

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importance values of the ACEC. Sale proposals would be considered on a case-by-case basis, and appropriate mitigation would be required. Road construction and upgrading of roads for mineral material extraction would only be allowed in accordance with transportation planning.

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Withdrawals would be pursued for two elk calving areas (about 5,020 acres) in addition to those withdrawals listed in the Green River RMP. Future withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws in the ACEC would be pursued to protect important resource values, as needs are identified.

Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area.

Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Satisfactory reclamation of surface disturbance and abandonment of facilities, such as oil and gas wells, range improvements, roads, trails, etc., that are no longer needed in the ACEC, may be required before additional facilities or disturbance would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes and birthing areas in the ACEC.

Special Status Species Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Special Status Species management actions for the overall planning area.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect historic resources and certain important resource values (area visible within 3 miles of the Oregon Trail) (about 23,640 acres) (see Table 2-4 and Map 10). Other resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: raptor nesting sites, Special Status Plant Species Habitat, and locations for interpretive signs.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation opportunities, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and

nesting and breeding areas), and big sagebrush habitat (about 22,190 acres). On areas where several of these resources overlap, an NSO requirement would be applied (Figure 1). For more information, see Table 2-4 and Map 12.

Areas closed to oil and gas leasing (Map 9) and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural and historic resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses. Small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas would be prohibited, unless they: 1) follow roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet ACEC objectives; and 3) do not create safety hazards (see the Lands and Realty Management section).

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

General winter vehicular access in the ACEC, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. However, access on other roads could be authorized for over-the-snow vehicles only.

Specific roads and trails designated as “limited to designated roads and trails” in the ACEC would be identified on a case-by-case basis as time allows. A few specific trails may be closed to vehicle use. Where necessary, seasonal closures would be considered for protection of other resource values as needed. Time of year and site conditions would be taken into consideration. Future site specific activity or implementation planning in the ACEC would address any needed requirements for motorized vehicular use, non-motorized vehicular use, and non-motorized mechanical transport.

In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile): connectivity area = 2.0 miles or less.

Vegetation Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Vegetation management actions for overall planning area.

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Visual Resource management actions for overall planning area.

Watershed/Water Quality Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Watershed/Water Quality management actions for overall planning area.

Wild Horse Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wild Horse management actions for overall planning area.

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The wild horse herd management area would not be expanded.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the number of roads and access, and limiting the degree of activity and use in the ACEC. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC (20 acres in the planning area)

Management objectives and management actions for these resource and land use programs are the same as described in the Green River RMP and for the general JMHCAP area. The following management objectives and management actions are either specifically important to the White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC and are repeated, or are different from those for the general JMHCAP area.

Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource management actions for the overall planning area.

Fire Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fire management actions for the overall planning area.

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The pre-existing withdrawal would be retained.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Same as general Livestock Grazing management objective for the overall planning area.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments would be prohibited in the ACEC unless the proposed resource evaluation (see oil and gas section) determines that an exception could be granted and the ACEC management objectives and action would be met. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the ACEC would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: 1) to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.) while protecting other resource values; 2) to permit in an orderly and timely manner, the development of oil and gas reserves in the ACEC; and 3) to conduct 1 and 2 in a manner that conforms with the management objectives for protection of cultural, and visual resources, Native American concerns, and for providing suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protecting other sensitive resources.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat within the ACEC (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

The ACEC would remain closed to surface disturbance activities associated with fluid mineral development. Map 10 shows those portions of the ACEC that would be closed to surface occupancy and that would be subject to conditional requirements. See the Fluid Minerals section of the core Area for a description of management actions involving timing and sequencing of leasing exploration and development.

As additional areas become available for future leasing consideration, they would be considered on a case-by-case basis to determine if the ACEC management objectives could be met, if they were to be leased and developed. To facilitate this and promote consistency in implementing the JMHCAP management decisions, areas determined suitable for leasing consideration within the ACEC and connectivity areas, overlapping parturition and crucial winter ranges, would only be considered once a year.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area.

Solid Leasables (Sodium/Trona) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would be closed to sodium exploration and development activities.

Salables (Mineral Materials) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area.

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The pre-existing withdrawal would be retained.

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Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

In the ACEC, exploration activities, without use of explosive charges or vehicles, could occur (Table 2-7).

Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring actions for the overall planning area.

Special Status Species Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Special Status Species management actions for the overall planning area.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would remain closed to surface disturbing activities that could adversely affect the ACEC. A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (Map 10).

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

No surface occupancy areas would be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses.

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Seasonal closures may be applied for protection of other resource values as needed. The ACEC would remain closed to off-road vehicle travel.

Future site specific activity or implementation planning in the ACEC would address any needed requirements for nonmotorized vehicular use and non-motorized mechanical transport.

Vegetation Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Vegetation management actions for overall planning area.

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Visual Resource management actions for overall planning area.

Watershed/Water Quality Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Watershed/Water Quality management actions for overall planning area.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the number of roads and access, and limiting the degree of activity and use in the ACEC. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

Red Desert Watershed Area (169,010 acres in the planning area)

Management objectives and management actions for these resource and land use programs are the same as described in the Green River RMP and for the general JMHCAP area. The following management objectives and management actions are either specifically important to the Red Desert Watershed Area and are repeated, or are different from those for the general JMHCAP area.

About two thirds of the Oregon Buttes ACEC occurs in the Red Desert Watershed Area. A portion of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC, and therefore, the core area, Split Rock, and the connectivity areas also occur in the watershed area. Where the Red Desert Watershed Area overlaps these areas, the management objectives and actions are discussed in those specific areas and not repeated here. In addition:

Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource management actions for the overall planning area.

Fire Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fire management actions for the overall planning area.

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Rights-of-way would avoid the big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation associations to minimize effects to big game habitat (Map 6, Map 7, and Table 2-2).

The proposed withdrawals in Table 2-3 would be pursued. Future withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws would be pursued to protect important resource values, as needs are identified.

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Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Same as general Livestock Grazing management objective for the overall planning area.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water development would be prohibited or restricted in crucial wildlife ranges and the connectivity area. Developments must conform with plan objectives and actions, benefit wildlife and wildlife habitat, conform with surface use requirements and transportation planning, and ensure continued use of big game crucial ranges (migration routes, crucial winter ranges, parturition areas, etc.). A grazing plan and ID team review would be required. Water developments would be fenced and offsite water facilities could be developed (pipelines and troughs). Existing water sources (springs and seeps) in the core area would be protected.

Livestock water developments would be prohibited in the core area unless the proposed resource evaluation (see oil and gas section) determines that an exception could be granted.

Water developments would not be placed within 1.5 miles (plus 1/4 mile) of active sage grouse leks. Activities, such as occur with pipeline construction, could be granted exceptions in certain circumstances.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: 1) to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.) while protecting other resource values; 2) to permit in an orderly and timely manner, the development of oil and gas reserves, inside and outside the core area; and 3) to conduct 1 and 2 in a manner that conforms with the management objectives for providing suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protecting other sensitive resources.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Approximately 3,460 acres of federal mineral estate would be closed to fluid mineral leasing (Map 9).

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-4 and Map 10). About 9,040 acres would be open to leasing with a no surface occupancy requirement.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 56,500 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

Fluid mineral exploration and development activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important

resource values (see Table 2-4, and Figure 1, and Map 12). Surface disturbance conditional requirements would be placed on about 169,010 acres.

Crucial habitats and other areas of sensitive resource values would be open to further consideration for fluid mineral leasing and development so long as crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values would be protected from irreversible adverse effects (Figure 1). This would be accomplished in part through controlled timing and sequencing of federal fluid mineral leasing, exploration, development, and reclamation in these areas. For example, satisfactory abandonment of oil and gas wells and surface disturbance reclamation may be required before additional fluid mineral leasing and development would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes, and birthing areas. See the Fluid Minerals section of the overall planning area for a description of management actions involving timing and sequencing of leasing exploration and development.

Exploration and development proposals related to leases in effect before approval of the JMHCAP would be considered on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included (to the extent allowed by regulation) as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

- surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in Table 2-4;

- transportation planning, prior to implementing any activity, with an objective of no more than 2 miles of all-weather (improved) road per section in big game crucial habitat areas;

- remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

- multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

- limiting the number of well pads to no more than four per section in sensitive areas;

- directional drilling in crucial wildlife habitats and other sensitive areas (Table 2-4 and Figure 1), where access and surface disturbance or disruptive activity would create irreversible adverse effects;

- clustering or centrally locating tank batteries or other ancillary facilities to limit traffic and disturbance;

- shrub reclamation (containerized stock, transplanting, etc.) where necessary to restore and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat;

- application of geotechnical materials for construction; and

- unitization of potential oil and gas field areas prior to exploration and development.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

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Areas closed to coal exploration would remain the same as those established in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997). Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required. Exploration activities in crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values (Table 2-4) would avoid these areas unless a plan could be developed to mitigate adverse impacts to these resource values. Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive would be closed to exploration activities; however, exploration activities could occur on existing roads and trails within these areas in conformance with transportation planning.

Solid Leasables (Sodium/Trona) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area.

Salables (Mineral Materials) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. The areas identified in Table 2-6 would be closed to mineral material sales. In addition:

The remainder of the Red Desert Watershed would be open to consideration of mineral material sales on a case-by-case basis. Sale areas and community pits would be established in conformance with other resource objectives.

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Future withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws would be pursued to protect important resource values, as needs are identified.

Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Most of the Red Desert Watershed Area would be open to consideration of geophysical exploration activities. Based on site specific analysis, geophysical exploration activities could be authorized with appropriate conditional requirements such as limiting the use of vehicles and explosive charges (Table 2-7). Exploration activities in crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values (Table 2-4 and Figure 1) would avoid these areas unless a plan could be developed to mitigate adverse impacts to these resource values.

Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Satisfactory reclamation of surface disturbance and abandonment of facilities, such as oil and gas wells, range improvements, roads, trails, etc., that are no longer needed in the Red Desert Watershed Area, may be required before additional facilities or disturbance would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes and birthing areas in the Red Desert Watershed Area.

Special Status Species Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Special Status Species management actions for the overall planning area.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area.

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-4 and Map 10). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: special status plant species habitat, Tri-Territory Marker, and sites for interpretive signs.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 56,500 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation opportunities, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas), stabilized and unstabilized sand dunes, and big sagebrush habitat. On areas where several of these resources overlap, an NSO requirement would be applied (Figure 1). For more information, see Table 2-4 and Map 12.

Areas closed to oil and gas leasing (Map 9 and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses. Small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas would be prohibited, unless they: 1) follow roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet core area objectives; and 3) do not create safety hazards (see the Lands and Realty Management section).

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

General winter vehicular access in the planning area, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. However, access on other roads could be authorized for over-the-snow vehicles only.

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The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat in the core area would apply. Additional seasonal closures may be applied for protection of other resource values as needed.

Specific roads and trails designated as “limited to designated roads and trails” in the ACEC would be identified on a case-by-case basis as time allows. A few specific trails may be closed to vehicle use. Time of year and site conditions would be taken into consideration. Site specific activity or implementation planning in the Red Desert would address any needed requirements for motorized vehicular, non-motorized vehicular use, and non-motorized mechanical transport.

In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile): core and connectivity areas = 2.0 miles or less.

Vegetation Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Vegetation management actions for overall planning area.

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Visual Resource management actions for overall planning area.

Watershed/Water Quality Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Watershed/Water Quality management actions for overall planning area.

Wild Horse Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wild Horse management actions for overall planning area.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the number of roads and access, and limiting the degree of activity and use in the planning area. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Where the management objectives and actions are the same as described for the Preferred Alternative, they generally are not repeated. Some of the actions in these resource management sections may be the same as described in the Preferred Alternative but are repeated here for understanding and clarification.

An evaluation to acquire additional resource information for evaluating land and resource use proposals would not be conducted prior to leasing portions of the planning area. Monitoring would occur as described in the Monitoring section (Table 2-1) and Appendix 6.

Overall Planning Area Management

Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: NRHP-eligible sites would be avoided by 100 feet.

Expansion Era Roads - Expansion Era Roads would be managed in their historical context. Distance restrictions for surface disturbing activities would be determined on a case-by-case basis (Appendix 3).

Activities would avoid Native American respected places by 100 feet. Viewshed (vista) and noise analyses may be conducted to help determine appropriate avoidance distances.

Activities would be excluded within a 1/2-mile viewshed (vista-same as GRRMP) of the White Mountain Petroglyphs (Appendix 3). All other rock art sites would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and an appropriate avoidance distance for surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be determined. A vista and noise analysis may be conducted for each site.

Surface disturbing activities would avoid individual sites located within the paleosol deposition area by 100 feet. Exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis if adverse effects could be mitigated. Mitigation could include recovery of scientific data, as well as stabilization of remaining, undisturbed resources. Recovery of scientific data within the paleosol deposition area would be guided by research designs developed by BLM in consultation with the SHPO.

See recreation section for guidance on back country byway interpretive sites, and project planning for Crookston Ranch and the White Mountain Petroglyphs.

Fire Management

Full suppression of the big sagebrush-scurfpea vegetation associations would not occur.

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as stated in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3), except as noted.

The public lands within the planning area, with the exception of defined exclusion and avoidance areas, would be open to consideration of granting of rights-of-way, permits, and leases (Map 18, Map 19, and Table 2-9).

Areas designated as utility windows, ROW concentration areas, and existing communication sites would be preferred locations for future grants. Additional right-of-way windows would not be established.

Steamboat Mountain ACEC, Oregon Buttes ACEC, and Continental Peak would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat and visual values. Communication sites could be considered on Essex Mountain or Pacific Butte. Actions on Pacific Butte would conform to the existing

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management prescriptions for the South Pass Historic Landscape.

Pursue the withdrawals identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3 and Map 25-A). Additional withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws would not be pursued.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Same as stated for the Green River RMP.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Authorized grazing use would not exceed the recognized permitted use. For analysis purposes, anticipated actual use would range from approximately 13,038 AUMs (1998 base year usage) to the total permitted use of 26,032 AUMs. The average between the two amounts is 19,535 AUMs (17,379 cattle and 2,156 sheep). Again, for analysis purposes, this grazing level was held constant throughout the planning period.

Standards for Healthy Rangelands and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management (S&Gs) would be implemented, and specific grazing allotment management prescriptions would be developed on a case-by-case basis. Appropriate measures would be taken to meet the standards for healthy rangelands. If standards are not being met, then guidelines would be used and appropriate action would be taken. Actions that would meet the objectives and benefit resources could be considered on a case-by-case basis. For this analysis, the levels of livestock use may be reduced (where appropriate) if this is the only appropriate action that can be taken to meet the Wyoming Standards for Healthy Rangelands.

Livestock turnout dates and established seasons of use would continue; however, modifications could be considered. Earlier seasons of use would not be considered.

Applications for changes in class of livestock would be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Livestock grazing suitability reviews would be conducted on a case-by-case basis. Livestock forage use would not be allocated for unsuitable areas and would be removed from the forage base.

Plowing of roads in winter for livestock accessibility and feeding would be considered on a case-by-case basis. Any such activity would conform with transportation planning (see the Travel Management section).

Livestock grazing use on upland key grass species would be limited to 1) no more than 50 percent of the current annual growth and 2) minimum heights at the end of the growing season (to be determined for individual key species), whichever is reached first.

Livestock grazing management plans that address riparian and upland areas would be required. New riparian pastures would not be established.

Livestock grazing use in riparian areas would be limited to 1) no more than 50 percent of the stems browsed on key riparian shrub species or 2) for herbaceous plants, minimum heights of

6 inches at the end of the growing season or 50 percent utilization. Key species and plant height monitoring would be conducted at the end of the grazing season.

Livestock salt licks would be located no closer than 500 feet to water and no closer than 500 feet to sensitive plant species locations.

No new range improvements would be authorized. Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the planning area. Springs and seeps would be protected from excessive use. Vegetation treatments would not be authorized.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals

Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: 1) to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.) while protecting other resource values; 2) to permit in an orderly and timely manner, the development of oil and gas reserves, outside the core area; and 3) to conduct 1 and 2 in a manner that conforms with the management objectives for providing suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protecting sensitive resources.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Table 2-10 lists public lands and federal minerals in the planning area with fluid mineral lease requirements that are necessary to protect other resource values.

Areas closed to leasing (discretionary closures) would include the core area. Approximately 82,220 acres of federal mineral estate would be closed to fluid mineral leasing (Map 20).

The remainder of the federal fluid mineral estate in the planning area would be open to consideration for leasing with conditional requirements that would apply to certain areas. A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-10 and Map 21). About 30,580 acres would be open to leasing with a no surface occupancy requirement.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 347,250 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, raptor habitat, and game fish spawning areas (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

Fluid mineral exploration and development activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-10 and Map 22). Surface disturbance conditional requirements would be placed on 320,580 acres.

Crucial habitats and other areas of sensitive resource values would be open to further consideration for fluid mineral leasing and development so long as crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values would be protected from irreversible adverse effects (Figure 1). This would be accomplished in part through applying appropriate requirements to mitigate

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surface disturbing and disruptive activities. Under this alternative, the following could occur:

Fluid mineral leasing could occur in portions of the planning area including portions of the connectivity area. Upon completion of the CAP, these areas would be open to leasing consideration, with necessary mitigation, which could include CSU, NSO, and other stipulations or conditional requirements. The core area would be closed to leasing.

As additional areas become available for future leasing consideration, outside the core area, they would be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Exploration and development activities related to leases in effect before approval of the CAP would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in the RMP (see Table 2-10);

transportation planning, prior to implementing any new activity;

remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

clustering or centrally locating tank batteries to limit traffic and disturbance;

standard reclamation practices to restore and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat; or

application of geotechnical materials for construction.

Solid Leasables (Coal) Areas closed to coal exploration would be the same as those established in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997) (Map 23). Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be applied. The Steamboat Mountain area (outside area with coal recommendations) would be closed to coal exploration activities (USDI 1997).

Solid Leasables (Sodium/Trona) MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES: Same as GRRMP (see Appendix 3).

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Areas closed to sodium exploration would be the same as those established in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997). Exploration and development proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and appropriate mitigation would be applied.

Should trona water development occur, waste water ponds would not be allowed in the planning area. Well locations could be allowed in the planning area and would be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Salables (Mineral Materials)

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: The areas identified as closed to mineral material sales in the Green River RMP (USDI

1997) would remain closed to mineral material sales. The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to mineral material sales (Map 24).

The remainder of the planning area would be open to consideration of mineral material sales on a case-by-case basis. Sale areas and community pits would be established in conformance with other resource objectives. Adequate mine and reclamation plans for use areas would be required.

Locatable Minerals

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Pursue the withdrawals identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3 and Map 25). Additional withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws would not be pursued.

Geophysical

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Most of the planning area would be open to consideration of geophysical exploration activities (USDI 1997). Based on site specific analysis, geophysical exploration activities would be authorized with appropriate conditional requirements such as limiting the use of vehicles and explosive charges.

An interdisciplinary team review would be initiated for all geophysical proposals within the planning area. Exploration activities in sensitive areas would be limited and mitigation measures would be applied to protect sensitive resources (timing limitations, avoidance, restrictions on vehicle use and explosive charges, etc.).

Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring

Same as described in the Preferred Alternative.

Special Status Species Management

Same as described in the Preferred Alternative.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-10 and Map 21). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: Boars Tusk, White Mountain Petroglyphs, cultural site, Crookston Ranch, developed recreation sites and the ORV parking lot in the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, raptor nesting sites, South Pass Historic Landscape (area visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail), Special Status Plant Species Habitat, Tri-Territory Marker, and sites for interpretive signs.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 347,250 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, raptor habitat, and game fish spawning areas (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation values, public health and safety, cultural

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values, geologic features; crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas), stabilized and unstabilized sand dunes. For more information, see Table 2-10 and Map 22.

Based on site-specific analyses, surface-disturbing activities would be limited during wet weather, on frozen soils, and on slopes greater than 25 percent.

NRHP-eligible sites would be avoided by 100 feet.

Activities would avoid Native American respected places by 100 feet. A vista and noise analysis may be conducted for each site.

Activities would be excluded within a 1/2-mile viewshed (vista-same as GRRMP) of the White Mountain Petroglyphs (Appendix 3). All other rock art sites would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and an appropriate avoidance distance for surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be determined. A vista and noise analysis may be conducted for each site.

Surface disturbing activities would avoid sites located in the paleosol deposition area by 100 feet. Exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis if adverse effects could be mitigated. Mitigation could include recovery of scientific data, as well as stabilization of remaining, undisturbed resources. Recovery of scientific data within the paleosol deposition area would be guided by research designs developed by BLM in consultation with the SHPO. The area would be reviewed for consideration for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Areas closed to oil and gas leasing (Map 20) and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses. Activity in the South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC, Oregon Buttes ACEC, and White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC would follow the prescriptions in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3).

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as Preferred, except:

General winter vehicular access in the planning area, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. Access on other roads could be authorized for all types of vehicles including, over-the-snow vehicles.

The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat would apply. Additional seasonal closures would not apply.

Transportation planning would identify appropriate access routes. Future site specific activity or implementation planning would also address any needed requirements for motorized vehicular use, non-motorized vehicular use, or non-

motorized mechanical transport and also address any need requirements for transportation planning.

Factors to be considered in development of transportation plans include:

Concentrating stream and riparian area crossings to key locations to restrict numbers of crossings and to benefit resource management objectives. Exceptions may be granted if proposed crossings would reduce adverse effects, benefit area objectives, and reduce miles of road (and/or frequency of use). Some crossings (2-tracks) would be closed. Commercial and service vehicles may not be restricted to identified upgraded crossings. Bridges may not be required on Pacific, Jack Morrow, Parnell, and Rock Cabin creeks.

No road density guidelines would be applied. Numbers and miles of roads in crucial habitats, or that bisect wildlife habitats, would not be limited.

Vegetation Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Desired Plant Community objectives would be established to enhance wildlife habitat, watershed, and biodiversity values.

Vegetation treatments would not be conducted.

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: VRM classes would be managed according to the classifications shown in Table 2-8.

Watershed/Water Quality Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Limiting the number of well pads, roads, and other rights-of-way (and overall surface disturbance) would not be required in sensitive areas (see the surface disturbance management section).

Wild Horse Management

Same as described in the Preferred Alternative.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the degree of activity and use in the core area. See Travel Management and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections.

The pond (flockets) areas in the sand dunes would be managed for maintenance of wildlife habitat and vegetation communities. Surface uses would be restricted in these areas. Interpretive signs would be used to direct ORV use around the ponds to prevent resource damage.

Priority would be given to maintaining mountain plover and sage grouse habitat. Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect these habitats (see Vegetation Management and Surface Disturbing

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and Disruptive Management Sections).

In and around the “hay meadow exclosures” (currently 4) on Pacific Creek, riparian and fish habitat would be managed for all wildlife species

Riparian and upland vegetation types would be managed to maintain wildlife habitat, watershed values, and biodiversity values.

See the Travel Management and Reclamation sections for other requirements concerning wildlife habitats.

Core Area (Steamboat Mountain ACEC, eastern portion of the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, and adjacent overlapping crucial big game habitat)

Management objectives and management actions for these resource and land use programs are the same as described in the Green River RMP and for the general JMHCAP area. The following management objectives and management actions are either specifically important to the core area and are repeated, or are different from those for the general JMHCAP area.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: to 1) maintain water quality, vegetative composition, soil condition, and wildlife and wildlife habitat; 2) ensure biological diversity and a healthy ecosystem in the area; 3) maintain unique and diverse habitat components; 4) provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd, other big game populations, and other important and sensitive wildlife species; and 5) provide for mineral exploration and development activity, livestock grazing, recreation, and other uses, while meeting the above and other resource management objectives for the core area.

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Rights-of-way would avoid the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, Steamboat Mountain ACEC, and the locations described in Table 2-9 and Map 18.

The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat and visual values. Communication sites could be considered on Essex Mountain.

Pursue the withdrawals identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3). Additional withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws would not be pursued.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments and range improvements would not be allowed in the core area. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the core area would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals

Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE : to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protect other sensitive resources.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The core area would be closed to fluid mineral leasing (Map 20). Fluid mineral exploration and development activities would not occur in the core area.

For purposes of analysis, it is assumed that exploration and development activities related to leases in the core area that existed before approval of the CAP would not occur.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

About 35,580 acres would be closed to coal exploration. Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required.

Solid Leasables (Sodium/Trona) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The Boars Tusk, Crookston Ranch, Steamboat Mountain Area, and the Tri-Territory Marker would be closed to sodium exploration and development activities.

Salables (Mineral Materials)

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The areas identified as closed to mineral material sales in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997) would remain closed to mineral material sales. The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to mineral material sales (Map 24).

Locatable Minerals

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Additional withdrawals from those identified in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997) would not be pursued.

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Geophysical

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

In the core area, exploration for minerals other than oil and gas, with the use of explosive charges, could occur throughout the area with the exception of the areas identified in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997).

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-10 and Map 21). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: Boars Tusk, Crookston Ranch, developed recreation sites and the ORV parking lot in the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, raptor nesting sites, Special Status Plant Species Habitat, Tri-Territory Marker, and sites for interpretive signs.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 80,410 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation values, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features; crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas), stabilized and unstabilized sand dunes. For more information, see Table 2-10 and Map 22.

Controlled surface use (CSU) requirements on oil and gas leasing in the core area would apply to about 37,840 acres.

Areas closed to oil and gas leasing (Map 20) and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses.

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel Management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

General winter vehicular access in the core area, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. Access on other roads could be authorized for all types of vehicles, including over-the-snow vehicles. The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer partu-

rition habitat in the core area would apply. Additional seasonal closures would not be considered.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the degree of activity and use throughout the core area. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

The pond (flockets) areas in the sand dunes would be managed for maintenance of wildlife habitat and vegetation communities. Surface uses would be restricted in these areas. Interpretive signs would be used to direct ORV use around the ponds to prevent resource damage.

Greater Sand Dunes ACEC (38,650 acres in the planning area)

The western portion of the ACEC is within the Buffalo Hump and Sand Dunes WSAs and lies outside the core area. The western portion would be managed under the "Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review" (USDI 1995). The eastern portion of the ACEC is inside the core area; for consistency in management of the ACEC, the following discussion presents the actions for both the eastern and western portions of the ACEC. Some of the general JMHCAP proposed decisions are repeated, where they apply to the entire ACEC or where they are needed to complement understanding of the discussion. Actions that apply solely to either the eastern or western portion are so noted.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as stated in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3). In addition:

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area (see Appendix 3). In addition:

Within the eastern portion of the ACEC (inside the core area), both stabilized and active sand dunes would be closed to construction and development types of activities and related surface disturbance, unless analysis indicates that the management objectives for the area could be met. Surface pipelines would be monitored by the operators to identify potential hazards to public health and safety, particularly in the open ORV area. Identified hazards would be marked to improve visibility. A recreation user map would be developed in cooperation with oil and gas operators to show the location of above ground facilities (e.g., pipelines, well production facilities, snow fences, etc.).

The western portion of the ACEC would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat, visual values and geologic features.

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Additional withdrawals from those identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3) would not be pursued.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Same as general Livestock Grazing management objective for the overall planning area.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the ACEC. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the core area would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE (within the eastern portion of the ACEC): 1) to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protecting other sensitive resources and 2) to provide for public health and safety.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The eastern portion of the ACEC would be closed to fluid mineral leasing.

For analysis purposes exploration and development activities related to leases in the ACEC that existed before approval of the JMHCAP, would not occur.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

About 23,980 acres are closed to coal exploration. Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required.

Solid Leasables (Sodium/Trona) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Should trona water development occur, well locations and waste water ponds would not be allowed in the ACEC. Boars Tusk and Crookston Ranch would be closed to sodium exploration and development activities.

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition: Additional withdrawals from those identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3) would not be pursued.

Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

In the eastern portion of the ACEC, exploration activities could occur providing resource damage would not occur and the activity is in conformance with transportation planning.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-10 and Map 21). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: Boars Tusk, Crookston Ranch site, developed recreation sites, the ORV parking lot, raptor nesting sites, special status plant species habitat, sites for interpretive signs, and important cultural sites.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation values, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas), stabilized and unstabilized sand dunes. For more information, see Table 2-10 and Map 22.

In the eastern portion, areas closed to oil and gas leasing (Map 20) and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses.

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel Management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

In the eastern portion, general winter vehicular access in the ACEC, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. Access on other roads could be authorized for all types of vehicles, including over-the-snow vehicles

The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat in the ACEC would apply. Additional seasonal closures would not be considered.

Vegetation Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Vegetation management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Native vegetation would be maintained and protected on the BLM-administered public lands to allow natural plant succession to continue. Revegetation of disturbed areas with big sagebrush and other adaptable shrubs would be required to maintain or improve big game habitat.

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Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Visual Resource management actions for overall planning area.

The ACEC would be managed as a Class II VRM area (Map 26).

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the degree of activity and use in the ACEC. The integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas and winter ranges would be maintained. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

The pond (flockets) areas in the sand dunes would be managed for maintenance of wildlife habitat and vegetation communities. Surface uses would be restricted in these areas. Interpretive signs would be used to direct ORV use around the ponds to prevent resource damage in the eastern portion.

The relatively pristine portion of the eastern area that has no developments (approximately 8,800 acres), including the base of Steamboat Rim, would be managed to protect big game habitat, vegetation communities, and visual and recreation resources.

To support and improve the diversity of wildlife species within the area, wildlife habitat on the BLM-administered public lands would be protected, maintained, or enhanced. Crucial elk winter range in the area would be maintained as an essential component of the elk habitat.

Projects to improve the interdunal ponds for bird, amphibian, and mammal habitat would be considered and evaluated for development on the BLM-administered public lands. The ponds would not be used as water sources for development activities.

Steamboat Mountain ACEC (43,310 acres in the planning area)

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as stated in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3). In addition:

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would be an avoidance area for rights-of-way. Maintenance of existing facilities would be allowed. The ACEC would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat and visual values.

Additional withdrawals from those identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3) would not be pursued.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Same as general Livestock Grazing management objective for the overall planning area.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the ACEC. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the ACEC would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protect other sensitive resources.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would be closed to fluid mineral leasing (approximately 43,310 acres of federal mineral estate (Map 20).

For analysis purposes, exploration and development activities related to leases in the ACEC that existed before approval of the CAP would not occur.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

About 33,530 acres would be closed to coal exploration. Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required.

Solid Leasables (Sodium/Trona) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The Steamboat Mountain area (outside area with coal recommendation) would be closed to sodium exploration and development activities.

Salables (Mineral Materials) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would be closed to mineral material sales (Map 24).

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Additional withdrawals from those identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3) would not be pursued.

Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

In the ACEC, exploration activities, could occur in most of the ACEC, with appropriate mitigation.

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Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-10 and Map 21). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: raptor nesting sites, special status plant species habitat, Tri-Territory Marker, and locations for interpretive signs.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation values, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, and crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas). On areas where several of these resources overlap, an NSO requirement would be applied (Figure 1). For more information, see Table 2-10 and Map 22.

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel Management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

General winter vehicular access in the ACEC, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. Access on other roads could be authorized for all types of vehicles, including over-the-snow vehicles.

The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat in the ACEC would apply. Additional seasonal closures would not apply.

Road construction and new access may not be feasible for much of the ACEC. To prevent conflicts with big game and big game habitat, recreation users, and other resource and land use activities, alternative access methods may be needed (use of existing or designated roads or pads, seasonal travel requirements or restrictions, use of helicopters, etc.).

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Visual Resource management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Part of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be managed as a Class II VRM area and part would be managed as a Class III VRM area (Map 26 and Table 2-8).

Watershed/Water Quality Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Watershed/Water Quality management actions for overall planning area.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the degree of activity and use in the ACEC. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

All activities would be designed to place priority consideration on elk habitat over conflicting land uses to ensure continued elk use in the ACEC. Steamboat Rim and the base of the rim would be managed to protect big game habitat, vegetation communities, and visual and recreation resources.

Other Special Management Areas

Oregon Buttes ACEC (3,450 acres in the planning area)

The ACEC is within the Oregon Buttes, White Horse Creek, and Honeycomb Buttes WSAs and lies outside the core area. The ACEC would be managed under the "Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review" (USDI 1995). The management objectives and actions would be the same as described for the Preferred Alternative except as discussed for the following resources. Some of the actions in these resource management sections may be the same as described in the Preferred Alternative but are repeated here for understanding and clarification.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as stated in the Green River RMP. In addition:

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

No specific closure for communication sites would be established. However, since the entire ACEC is closed to surface disturbing and disrupting activities, communication sites could not be constructed.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general livestock grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

No livestock management facilities would be constructed.

Locatable Minerals

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general locatable minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Additional withdrawals from those identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3) would not be pursued.

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South Pass Historic Landscape (45,830 acres in the planning area)

The management objectives and actions would be the same as described for the Preferred Alternative except for the following resources. Some of the actions in these resource management sections may be the same as described in the Preferred Alternative but are repeated here for understanding and clarification.

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Communication sites could be considered on Pacific Butte with restrictions on the height (no strobe light necessary), visual intrusion, road access, etc. Actions on Pacific Butte would conform to the existing management prescriptions for the South Pass Historic Landscape (Appendix 3).

Additional withdrawals from those identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3) would not be pursued.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat within the ACEC (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

The historic values in the landscape, crucial habitats, and other areas of sensitive resource values would be open to consideration for fluid mineral leasing and development so long as they would be protected from irreversible adverse effects. Fluid mineral exploration and development activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values in the ACEC (see Table 2-10, Map 22, Map 21, and Figure 1). See the Fluid Minerals section of the overall planning area for a description of management actions involving fluid mineral leasing exploration and development.

As additional areas become available for future leasing consideration, they would be considered on a case-by-case basis to determine if the ACEC management objectives could be met, if lands were to be leased and developed.

Exploration and development activities related to leases in the ACEC that existed before approval of the CAP would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included (to the extent allowed by regulation) as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in Table 2-10;

transportation planning, prior to implementing any activity;

remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

clustering or centrally locating tank batteries or other ancillary facilities to limit traffic and disturbance;

standard reclamation practices to restore habitat and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat; or

application of geotechnical materials for construction.

Solid Leasables (Coal) About 23,640 acres would remain closed to coal exploration. Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required.

Salables (Mineral Materials) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. The areas identified as closed to mineral material sales in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997) would remain closed to mineral material sales. In addition:

Portions of the ACEC (area within the vista and elk calving areas) would remain closed to mineral material sales.

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Additional withdrawals from those identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3) would not be pursued.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect Historic resources and certain important resource values (see Table 2-10 and Map 21). Other resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: raptor nesting sites, special status plant species habitat, and locations for interpretive signs.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation values, public health and safety, cultural and historic values, geologic features, and crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas). For more information, see Table 2-10 and Map 22.

Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural and historic resources,

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special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses.

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel Management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

General winter vehicular access in the ACEC, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. Access on other roads could be authorized for all types of vehicles, including over-the-snow vehicles.

Additional seasonal closures would not be applied.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the limiting the degree of activity and use in the ACEC. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC (20 acres in the planning area)

The management objectives and actions would be the same as described for the Preferred Alternative except for the following resources. Some of the actions in these resource management sections may be the same as described in the Preferred Alternative but are repeated here for understanding and clarification.

Lands and Realty Management

Same as stated in the Preferred Alternative.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the ACEC. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the ACEC would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Under this alternative, the following could occur:

Fluid mineral leasing could occur in the ACEC. Upon completion of the JMHCAP, the ACEC would be open to

leasing consideration, with an NSO stipulation. Map 21 shows those portions of the ACEC that would be closed to surface occupancy. See the Fluid Minerals section of the Overall Planning Area for a description of management actions involving fluid mineral leasing exploration and development.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would remain closed to surface disturbing activities that could adversely affect the ACEC (Map 21).

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses.

Red Desert Watershed Area (169,010 acres in the planning area)

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general management actions for the overall planning area and described in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3). About two thirds of the Oregon Buttes ACEC occurs in the Red Desert Watershed Area. A portion of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC, and therefore, the core area, Split Rock, and the connectivity areas also occur in the watershed area. Where the Red Desert Watershed Area overlaps these areas, the management objectives and actions are discussed in those specific areas and not repeated here. In addition:

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Additional withdrawals from those identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3) would not be pursued.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Same as general Livestock Grazing management objective for the overall planning area.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the core area, crucial big game ranges or the connectivity area.

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Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: 1) to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.) while protecting other resource values; 2) to permit in an orderly and timely manner, the development of oil and gas reserves, outside the core area; and 3) to conduct 1 and 2 in a manner that conforms with the management objectives for providing suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protecting other sensitive resources.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Approximately 2,060 acres of federal mineral estate would be closed to fluid mineral leasing (Map 20).

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 56,500 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

Fluid mineral exploration and development activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-10 and Map 22). Surface disturbance conditional requirements would be placed on 114,130 acres.

Crucial habitats and other areas of sensitive resource values would be open to consideration for fluid mineral leasing and development so long as they would be protected from irreversible adverse effects. See the Fluid Minerals section of the overall planning area for a description of management actions involving fluid mineral leasing exploration and development.

As additional areas become available for future leasing consideration, they would be considered on a case-by-case basis to determine if the planning area management objectives could be met, if they were to be leased and developed.

Exploration and development activities related to leases in effect before approval of the CAP would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included (to the extent allowed by regulation) as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in Table 2-10;

transportation planning, prior to implementing any activity;

remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

clustering or centrally locating tank batteries or other ancillary facilities to limit traffic and disturbance;

shrub reclamation to restore and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat; or

application of geotechnical materials for construction.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Areas closed to coal exploration would be the same as established in the Green River RMP. Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required.

Salables (Mineral Materials) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. The areas identified as closed to mineral material sales in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997) would remain closed to mineral material sales.

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area.

Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Most of the Red Desert Watershed area would be open to consideration of geophysical exploration activities (USDI 1997). Based on site specific analysis, geophysical exploration activities would be authorized with appropriate conditional requirements such as limiting the use of vehicles and explosive charges.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area.

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-10 and Map 21). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: Special Status Plant Species Habitat, Tri-Territory Marker, and sites for interpretive signs.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 56,500 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation values, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, and crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas). For more information, see Table 2-10 and Map 22.

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Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses.

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel Management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

General winter vehicular access in the Red Desert Watershed Area, for any purpose, would be limited to specific roads identified for winter use. Access on other roads could be authorized for all types of vehicles, including over-the-snow vehicles. The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat in the core area would apply. Additional seasonal road closures would not be applied.

Specific roads and trails designated as “limited to designated roads and trails” would be identified on a case-by-case basis as time allows. Time of year and site conditions would be taken into consideration. Future site specific activity or implementation planning in the Red Desert would address any needed requirements for motorized vehicular use, nonmotorized vehicular use, and non-motorized mechanical transport.

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Visual Resource management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

The entire watershed area would be managed as a VRM Class III area.

Watershed/Water Quality Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Watershed/Water Quality management actions for the overall planning area.

Wild Horse Management

Same as described in the Preferred Alternative.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the degree of activity and use in the Red Desert Watershed Area. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

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Where the management objectives and actions are the same as described for the Preferred Alternative, they generally are not repeated. Some of the actions in these resource management sections may be the same as described in the Preferred Alternative but are repeated here for understanding and clarification.

An evaluation to acquire additional resource information for evaluating land and resource use proposals would not be conducted prior to leasing portions of the planning area. Monitoring would occur as described in the Monitoring section (Table 2-1) and Appendix 6.

Overall Planning Area Management

Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: NRHP-eligible sites would be avoided by 100 feet.

Expansion Era Roads - Expansion Era Roads would be managed in their historical context. Distance restrictions for surface disturbing activities would be determined on a case-by-case basis (Appendix 3).

Activities would avoid Native American respected places by 1/4 mile. Viewshed (vista) and noise analyses may be conducted to help determine appropriate avoidance distances.

Activities would be excluded within a 1/2-mile viewshed (vista-same as Green River RMP) of the White Mountain Petroglyphs (Appendix 3). Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would avoid all other rock art sites by 100 feet.

Surface disturbing activities would avoid individual sites located within the paleosol deposition area by 100 feet. Exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis if adverse effects could be mitigated. Mitigation could include recovery of scientific data, as well as stabilization of remaining, undisturbed resources. Recovery of scientific data within the paleosol deposition area would be guided by research designs developed by BLM in consultation with the SHPO.

See Recreation Management section for guidance on back country byway interpretive sites, and project planning for Crookston Ranch and the White Mountain Petroglyphs.

Fire Management

Full suppression of the big sagebrush-scurfpea vegetation associations would not occur.

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as Preferred, except:

The public lands within the planning area, with the exception of defined exclusion and avoidance areas, would be open to consideration of granting of rights-of-way, permits, and leases (Map 27, Map 28, and Table 2-11).

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Areas designated as utility windows, ROW concentration areas, and existing communication sites would be preferred locations for future grants. Additional right-of-way windows would not be established. The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would not be an avoidance area and would be open for consideration of rights-of-way.

Oregon Buttes ACEC and Continental Peak would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat and visual values. Communication sites could be considered on Essex Mountain or Pacific Butte. Actions on Pacific Butte would conform to the existing management prescriptions for the South Pass Historic Landscape.

Pursue the withdrawals identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3, and Map 25). Additional withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws would not be pursued.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Same as stated for the Green River RMP.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Authorized grazing use would not exceed the recognized permitted use. For analysis purposes, anticipated actual use would be 26,032 AUMs (22,767 cattle and 3,265 sheep). This grazing level was held constant throughout the planning period.

Standards for Healthy Rangelands and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management (S&Gs) would be implemented, and specific grazing allotment management prescriptions would be developed on a case-by-case basis. Appropriate measures would be taken to meet the standards for healthy rangelands. If standards are not being met, then guidelines would be used and appropriate action would be taken. Actions that would meet the objectives and benefit resources could be considered on a case-by-case basis. For this analysis, the levels of livestock use may be reduced (where appropriate) if this is the only appropriate action that can be taken to meet the Wyoming Standards for Healthy Rangelands.

Livestock turnout dates and established seasons of use would continue; however, modifications could be considered, including earlier seasons of use.

Applications for changes in class of livestock would be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Livestock grazing suitability reviews would be conducted on a case-by-case basis. Livestock forage use would not be allocated for unsuitable areas and would be removed from the forage base.

Plowing of roads in winter for livestock accessibility and feeding would be considered on a case-by-case basis. Any such activity would conform with transportation planning (see the Transportation Planning Section).

Livestock grazing use on upland key grass species would be limited to 1) no more than 50 percent of the current annual growth; and 2) minimum heights at the end of the growing season (to be determined for individual key species), whichever is reached first.

Livestock grazing management plans that address riparian and upland areas could be required. New riparian pastures could be established to enhance livestock grazing management.

Livestock grazing use in riparian areas would be limited to 1) no more than 50 percent of the stems browsed on key riparian shrub species or 2) for herbaceous plants, minimum heights of 6 inches at the end of the growing season or 50 percent utilization. Key species and plant height monitoring would be conducted at the end of the grazing season.

Livestock salt licks would be located no closer than 500 feet to water and no closer than 500 feet to sensitive plant species locations.

New range improvements could be authorized and existing improvements reconstructed as appropriate. Livestock water developments could be allowed in the planning area. Springs and seeps would be protected from excessive use. Vegetation treatments could be authorized. Livestock water developments would be prohibited within 1/4 mile of sage grouse leks.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals

Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: 1) to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.) while protecting other resource values; 2) to permit in an orderly and timely manner, the development of oil and gas reserves, inside and outside the core area; and 3) to conduct 1 and 2 in a manner that conforms with the management objectives for providing suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protecting sensitive resources.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: All BLM-administered lands would be open to leasing consideration. Table 2-12 lists public lands and federal minerals in the planning area with fluid mineral lease requirements that are necessary to protect other resource values.

The remainder of the federal fluid mineral estate in the planning area would be open to consideration for leasing with conditional requirements that would apply to certain areas. A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-12 and Map 21). About 30,580 acres would be open to leasing with a no surface occupancy requirement.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 347,250 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, raptor habitat, and game fish spawning areas (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

Fluid mineral exploration and development activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-12 and Map 22). Surface disturbance conditional requirements would be placed on 320,580 acres.

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Crucial habitats and other areas of sensitive resource values would be open to further consideration for fluid mineral leasing and development so long as crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values would be protected from irreversible adverse effects (Figure 1). This would be accomplished in part through applying appropriate requirements to mitigate surface disturbing and disruptive activities. Under this alternative, the following could occur:

Fluid mineral leasing could occur throughout the planning area including portions of the core and connectivity area. Upon completion of the JMHCAP, these areas would be open to leasing consideration, with necessary mitigation, which could include CSU, NSO, and other stipulations or conditional requirements.

As additional areas become available for future leasing consideration, they would be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Exploration and development activities related to leases in effect before approval of the JMHCAP would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in the Green River RMP (see Table 2-12);

transportation planning, prior to implementing any new activity;

remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

clustering or centrally locating tank batteries to limit traffic and disturbance;

standard reclamation practices to restore and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat; or

application of geotechnical materials for construction.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Areas closed to coal exploration would be the same as those established in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997) (Map 29) with the exception of the Steamboat ACEC. Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required. The core area (including Steamboat Mountain ACEC) would be open to coal exploration activities. Exploration activities could occur on existing roads and trails in the core area.

Solid Leasables (Sodium/Trona) MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Same as Green River RMP (see Appendix 3).

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Areas closed to sodium exploration would be the same as those established in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997) with the exception of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC which would be open to exploration activities. Exploration and development proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, and appropriate mitigation

would be applied. The core area would be open to sodium exploration and development activities. Exploration activities could occur on existing roads and trails in the core area.

Should trona water development occur, waste water ponds would not be allowed in the planning area. Well locations could be allowed in the planning area and would be determined on a case-by-case basis.

Salables (Mineral Materials)

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: The areas identified as closed to mineral material sales in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997) would remain closed to mineral material sales with the exception that a portion of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be open to mineral material sales (Map 30).

The remainder of the planning area would be open to consideration of mineral material sales on a case-by-case basis. Sale areas and community pits would be established in conformance with other resource objectives. Adequate mine and reclamation plans for use areas would be required.

Locatable Minerals

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Pursue the withdrawals identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3). Additional withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws would not be pursued.

Geophysical

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Most of the planning area would be open to consideration of geophysical exploration activities (USDI 1997). Based on site specific analysis, geophysical exploration activities would be authorized with appropriate conditional requirements such as limiting the use of vehicles and explosive charges.

An interdisciplinary team review would be initiated for all geophysical proposals within the planning area. Exploration activities in sensitive areas would be limited and mitigation measures would be applied to protect sensitive resources (timing limitations, avoidance, restrictions on vehicle use and explosive charges, etc.) (Figure 1).

Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring

Satisfactory abandonment of oil and gas wells or surface disturbance reclamation would not be required before additional mineral leasing and development could occur in big game crucial ranges, migration routes, and birthing areas.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-12 and Map 21). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: Boars Tusk, White Mountain Petroglyphs, Crookston Ranch, developed recreation sites and the ORV parking lot in the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, raptor nesting sites, South Pass Historic Landscape

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(area visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail), Native American respected places, special status plant species habitat, Tri-Territory Marker, and sites for interpretive signs.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 347,250 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, raptor habitat, and game fish spawning areas (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation values, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas), stabilized and unstabilized sand dunes, and big sagebrush habitat. For more information, see Table 2-12 and Map 22).

Based on site-specific analyses, surface-disturbing activities would be limited during wet weather, on frozen soils, and on slopes greater than 25 percent.

NRHP-eligible sites would be avoided by 100 feet.

Activities would avoid Native American respected places by 1/4 mile. A vista and noise analysis may be conducted for each site.

Activities would be excluded within a 1/2-mile viewshed (vista-same as GRRMP) of the White Mountain Petroglyphs (Appendix 3). All other rock art sites would be avoided by 100 feet. A vista and noise analysis may be conducted for each site.

Surface disturbing activities would avoid sites located in the paleosol deposition area by 100 feet. Exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis if adverse effects could be mitigated. Mitigation could include recovery of scientific data, as well as stabilization of remaining, undisturbed resources. Recovery of scientific data within the paleosol deposition area would be guided by research designs developed by BLM in consultation with the SHPO.

Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses. Activity in the South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC, Oregon Buttes ACEC, and White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC would follow the prescriptions in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3).

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: General winter vehicular access in the planning area, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. Access on other roads could be considered on a case-by-case basis and authorized for all types of vehicles including over-the-snow vehicles.

Specific roads and trails designated as “limited to designated roads and trails” would be identified on a case-by-case basis as time allows. The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat would not apply. New seasonal closures would not be applied.

Road and trail construction or upgrading would be allowed through woodland habitat (i.e., juniper, limber pine, aspen) or springs and seeps (pre-existing improved roads may be used).

Transportation planning would identify appropriate access routes. Future site specific activity or implementation planning would also address any needed requirements for motorized vehicular use, non-motorized vehicular use, or non-motorized mechanical transport and also address requirements for transportation planning.

Factors to be considered in development of transportation plans include:

Historic use levels of roads and trails.

Use of required construction specifications.

Rehabilitating, obliterating, or barricading unused roads and trails, and closure or maintenance of those causing resource damage.

Grouping and offsite location of ancillary facilities away from crucial habitats and sensitive areas.

Posting speed limits, as necessary, to protect wildlife and public health and safety, and to meet planning area management objectives.

Vegetation Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Desired Plant Community objectives would be established to enhance livestock grazing, watershed, and biodiversity values. Maintaining or enhancing important wildlife (elk, sage grouse, mountain plover, fisheries) habitat may not be addressed.

Vegetation treatments would be designed to protect water quality and to dissipate erosion.

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: VRM classes would be managed according to the classifications shown in Table 2-8).

Watershed/Water Quality Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Limiting the number of well pads, roads, and other rights-of-way (and overall surface disturbance) would not be required in sensitive areas (see the surface disturbance management section).

Wild Horse Management

Same as described in the Preferred Alternative.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors,

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birthing areas, and winter ranges would not be addressed by limiting the degree of activity and use in portions of the planning area. See Transportation Management and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections.

The pond (flockets) areas in the sand dunes would be managed for maintenance of wildlife habitat and vegetation communities. Surface uses would be restricted in these areas. Interpretive signs would be used to direct ORV use around the ponds to prevent resource damage.

Priority would be given to maintaining mountain plover and sage grouse habitat. Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect these habitats (see Vegetation Management and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management Sections).

In and around the “hay meadow exclosures” (currently 4) on Pacific Creek, riparian and fish habitat would be managed for all wildlife species

Riparian and upland vegetation types would be managed with emphasis on resource values other than wildlife habitat.

See the Travel Management and Reclamation sections for other requirements concerning wildlife habitats.

Core Area (Steamboat Mountain ACEC, Eastern portion of the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, and adjacent overlapping crucial big game habitat)

Management objectives and management actions for these resource and land use programs are the same as described in the Green River RMP and for the general JMHCAP area. The following management objectives and management actions are either specifically important to the core area and are repeated, or are different from those for the general JMHCAP area.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES: to 1) maintain water quality, vegetative composition, soil condition, and wildlife and wildlife habitat; 2) ensure biological diversity and a healthy ecosystem in the area; 3) maintain unique and diverse habitat components; 4) provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd, other big game populations, and other important and sensitive wildlife species; and 5) provide for mineral exploration and development activity, livestock grazing, recreation, and other uses, while meeting the above and other resource management objectives for the core area.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: An evaluation to acquire additional resource information for evaluating land and resource use proposals would not be conducted.

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Rights-of-way would avoid the portions of the core area, including the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC (Table 2-11).

The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be open to consideration for location of communication sites.

Communication sites could be considered on Essex Mountain.

Pursue the withdrawals identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3). Additional withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws would not be pursued.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments and range improvements could be allowed in the core area. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the core area would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals

Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: 1) to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.) while protecting other resource values; 2) to permit in an orderly and timely manner, the development of oil and gas reserves, inside the core area; and 3) to conduct 1 and 2 in a manner that conforms, where possible, with the management objectives for the planning area (to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protecting other sensitive resources).

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals Management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The core area would be open to fluid mineral leasing consideration. Fluid mineral exploration and development activities could occur in the core area.

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-12 and Map 21). About 30,580 acres would be open to leasing with a no surface occupancy requirement.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 80,410 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

Fluid mineral exploration and development activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-12 and Map 22). Surface disturbance conditional requirements would be placed on 320,580 acres.

Existing leases would be developed under their existing lease stipulations. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any

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additional mitigation needs would be included as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

- surface disturbance conditional requirements (see Table 2-12);

- transportation planning, prior to implementing any new activity;

- remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

- multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

- clustering or centrally locating tank batteries to limit traffic and disturbance;

- standard reclamation practices (to restore and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat; or

- application of geotechnical materials for construction.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

About 10,390 acres would remain closed to coal exploration. Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required.

Solid Leasables (Sodium/Trona) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The Boars Tusk, Crookston Ranch, and the Tri-Territory Marker would remain closed to sodium exploration and development activities.

Salables (Mineral Materials)

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

A portion of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be open to mineral material sales (Map 30).

Locatable Minerals

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Additional withdrawals would not be pursued.

Geophysical

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

In the core area, exploration activities, with the use of explosive charges, could occur throughout the area with the exception of the areas identified in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997).

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-12 and Map 21). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: Boars Tusk, cultural site, Crookston Ranch, developed recreation sites and the ORV parking lot in the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, raptor nesting sites, special status plant species habitat, Tri-Territory Marker, and sites for interpretive signs.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 80,410 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned on about 37,840 acres to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation values, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features; crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas), stabilized and unstabilized sand dunes. For more information, see Table 2-12 and Map 22.

Areas closed to oil and gas leasing and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses.

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel Management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

General winter vehicular access in the core area, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. Access on other roads could be authorized for all types of vehicles, including over-the-snow vehicles.

The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat in the core area would not apply. Additional seasonal closures would not be applied.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the degree of activity and use in portions of the core area. See Reclamation and

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Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

The pond (flockets) areas in the sand dunes would be managed for maintenance of wildlife habitat and vegetation communities. Surface uses would be restricted in these areas. Interpretive signs would be used to direct ORV use around the ponds to prevent resource damage.

Greater Sand Dunes ACEC (38,650 acres in the planning area)

The western portion of the ACEC is within the Buffalo Hump and Sand Dunes WSAs and lies outside the core area. The western portion would be managed under the "Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review" (USDI 1995). The eastern portion of the ACEC is inside the core area and for consistency in management of the ACEC, the following discussion presents the actions for both the eastern and western portions of the ACEC. Some of the general JMHCAP proposed decisions are repeated, where they apply to the entire ACEC or where they are needed to complement understanding of the discussion. Actions that apply solely to either the eastern or western portion are so noted.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as stated in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3).

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Within the eastern portion of the ACEC (inside the core area), both stabilized and active sand dunes would be closed to construction and development types of activities and related surface disturbance, unless analysis indicates that the management objectives for the area could be met. Surface pipelines would be monitored by the operators to identify potential hazards to public health and safety, particularly in the open ORV area. Identified hazards would be marked to improve visibility. A recreation user map would be developed in cooperation with oil and gas operators to show the location of above ground facilities (e.g., pipelines, well production facilities, snow fences, etc.).

The western portion of the ACEC would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat, visual values and geologic features.

Pursue the withdrawals identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3). Additional withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws would not be pursued.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments could be allowed in the ACEC. Functional, pre-existing water developments could

be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the core area would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE (within the eastern portion of the ACEC): 1) to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.) while protecting other resource values; 2) to permit in an orderly and timely manner, the development of oil and gas reserves inside the core area; and 3) to conduct 1 and 2 in a manner that conforms, where possible, with the management objectives for the planning area (to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protect other sensitive resources, and to provide for public health and safety.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The eastern portion of the ACEC would be open to fluid mineral leasing consideration. Approximately 14,780 acres of federal mineral estate would be open to fluid mineral leasing.

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-12 and Map 21).

Seasonal conditional requirements for surface disturbing activities would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

Surface disturbing activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values in the ACEC (see Table 2-12, Figure 1, and Map 22).

Exploration and development activities related to leases in the ACEC that existed before approval of the JMHCAP could occur. Conditions of Approval could be applied as described in the fluids management section for the core area.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

About 23,980 acres remain closed to coal exploration (USDI 1997). Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required.

Solid Leasables (Sodium/Trona) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Should trona water development occur, well locations and waste water ponds would not be allowed in the ACEC. Boars Tusk and Crookston Ranch would remain closed to sodium exploration and development activities.

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Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Additional withdrawals from those identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3) would not be pursued.

Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

In the eastern portion of the ACEC, exploration activities could occur providing resource damage would not occur.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-12 and Map 21). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: Boars Tusk, Crookston Ranch site, developed recreation sites, the ORV parking lot, raptor nesting sites, special status plant species habitat, sites for interpretive signs, and important cultural sites.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation values, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas), stabilized and unstabilized sand dunes. For more information, see Table 2-12 and Map 22.

In the eastern portion, areas closed to oil and gas leasing and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses.

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel Management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

In the eastern portion, general winter vehicular access in the ACEC, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. Access on other roads could be authorized for all types of vehicles, including over-the-snow vehicles.

The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat in the ACEC would not apply. Additional seasonal closures would not apply.

Vegetation Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Vegetation management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Native vegetation would be maintained and protected on the BLM-administered public lands to allow natural plant succession to continue. Revegetation of disturbed areas with big sagebrush and other adaptable shrubs would be required to maintain or improve big game habitat.

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Visual Resource management actions for overall planning area.

The ACEC would be managed as a Class II VRM area (Map 31).

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the degree of activity and use in the ACEC. The integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas and winter ranges would be maintained. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

The pond (flockets) areas in the sand dunes would be managed for maintenance of wildlife habitat and vegetation communities. Surface uses would be restricted in these areas. Interpretive signs would be used to direct ORV use around the ponds to prevent resource damage in the eastern portion.

The relatively pristine portion of the eastern area that has no developments (approximately 8,800 acres), including the base of Steamboat Rim, would be managed to protect big game habitat, vegetation communities, and visual and recreation resources.

To support and improve the diversity of wildlife species within the area, wildlife habitat on the BLM-administered public lands would be protected, maintained, or enhanced. Crucial elk winter range in the area would be maintained as an essential component of the elk habitat.

Projects to improve the interdunal ponds for bird, amphibian, and mammal habitat would be considered and evaluated for development on the BLM-administered public lands. The ponds would not be used as water sources for development activities.

Steamboat Mountain ACEC (43,310 acres in the planning area)

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as stated in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3). In addition:

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

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The ACEC would not be an avoidance area for rights-of-way. The ACEC would be open to consideration for the location of communication sites.

Additional withdrawals from those identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3) would not be pursued.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments could be allowed in the ACEC. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the ACEC would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: 1) to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.) while protecting other resource values; 2) to permit in an orderly and timely manner, the development of oil and gas reserves in the ACEC, inside the core area; and 3) to conduct 1 and 2 in a manner that conforms, where possible, with the management objectives for the planning area (to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protect other sensitive resources).

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would be open to fluid mineral leasing consideration (approximately 43,310 acres of federal mineral estate).

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-12 and Map 21).

Seasonal conditional requirements for surface disturbing activities would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat within the ACEC (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

Surface disturbing activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values in the ACEC (see Table 2-12 and Map 22).

As additional areas become available for future leasing consideration, they would be considered on a case-by-case basis to determine if the ACEC management objectives could be met, if they were to be leased and developed.

Exploration and development activities related to leases in the ACEC that existed before approval of the JMHCAP could occur. Conditions of Approval could be applied as described in the fluids management section for the core area.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be open to coal exploration with the exception of about 3,380 acres which would remain closed to protect sage grouse leks, raptor nests, and floodplains (USDI 1997). Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required.

Solid Leasables (Sodium/Trona) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be open to sodium exploration with the exception of about 3,380 acres which would remain closed to protect sage grouse leks, raptor nests, and floodplains (USDI 1997).

Salables (Mineral Materials) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

A portion of the ACEC would be open to mineral material sales (Map 30). A portion of the lava material on Steamboat Mountain proper (in SE1/4 of sec. 10; W1/2W1/2 of sec. 11; N1/2N1/2 of sec. 15; T. 23 N., R. 102 W.) would be available for mineral material sale. The remainder of the ACEC would be closed to mineral material sales. Sale proposals in the area open to mineral material sales would be considered on a case-by-case basis, and appropriate mitigation would be required.

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Additional withdrawals from those identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3) would not be pursued.

Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Exploration activities could occur in most of the ACEC, with appropriate mitigation.

Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring actions for the overall planning area.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-12 and Map 21). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: raptor nesting sites, special status plant species habitat, Tri-Territory Marker, and locations for interpretive signs.

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Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation values public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, and crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas). For more information, see Table 2-12 and Map 22.

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel Management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

General winter vehicular access in the ACEC, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. Access on other roads could be authorized for all types of vehicles, including over-the-snow vehicles.

The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat in the ACEC would not apply. Additional seasonal closures would not apply.

Road construction and new access may not be feasible for much of the ACEC. To prevent conflicts with big game and big game habitat, recreation users, and other resource and land use activities, alternative access methods may be needed (use of existing or designated roads or pads, seasonal travel requirements or restrictions, use of helicopters, etc.).

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Visual Resource management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Part of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be managed as a Class II VRM area and part would be managed as a Class III VRM area (Map 31 and Table 2-8).

Watershed/Water Quality Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Watershed/Water Quality management actions for overall planning area.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the degree of activity and use in the ACEC. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

All activities would be designed to place priority consideration on elk habitat over conflicting land uses to ensure continued elk use in the ACEC. Steamboat Rim and the base of the rim would be managed to protect big game habitat, vegetation communities, and visual and recreation resources.

Other Special Management Areas

Oregon Buttes ACEC (3,450 acres in the planning area)

The ACEC is within the Oregon Buttes, White Horse Creek, and Honeycomb Buttes WSAs and lies outside the core area. The ACEC would be managed under the “Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review” (USDI 1995). The management objectives and actions would be the same as described for the Preferred Alternative except as discussed for the following resources. Some of the actions in these resource management sections may be the same as described in the Preferred Alternative but are repeated here for understanding and clarification.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as stated in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3). In addition:

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat, historic, geological, and visual values (Table 2-11). The ACEC would remain closed to surface disturbing activities.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water development could not be constructed in the ACEC.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: The ACEC would remain closed to fluid mineral leasing (Nondiscretionary closure - approximately 3,450 acres of federal mineral estate).

Salables (Mineral Materials) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would remain closed to mineral material sales.

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Additional withdrawals from those identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3) would not be pursued.

Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

In the ACEC, exploration activities, without use of explosive charges or motorized vehicles, could occur in conformance with ACEC objectives.

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Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the degree of activity and use in the ACEC.

South Pass Historic Landscape (45,830 acres in the planning area)

The management objectives and actions would be the same as described for the Preferred Alternative except as discussed for the following resources. Some of the actions in these resource management sections may be the same as described in the Preferred Alternative but are repeated here for understanding and clarification.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as stated in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3). In addition:

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Communication sites could be considered on Pacific Butte with restrictions on the height (no strobe light necessary), visual intrusion, road access, etc. Actions on Pacific Butte would conform to the existing management prescriptions for the South Pass Historic Landscape (Appendix 3).

Additional withdrawals from those identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3) would not be pursued.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments could be allowed in the ACEC in accordance with ACEC objectives and surface disturbance requirements. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the ACEC would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat within the ACEC (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

The historic values in the landscape, crucial habitats, and other areas of sensitive resource values would be open to

consideration for fluid mineral leasing and development so long as they would be protected from irreversible adverse effects. Fluid mineral exploration and development activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values in the ACEC (see Table 2-12, Figure 1, Map 21, Map 22).

Under this alternative, the following could occur:

Fluid mineral leasing could occur in portions of the ACEC, including connectivity areas. Upon completion of the JMHCAP, these areas would be open to leasing consideration, with necessary mitigation, which could include CSU, NSO, and other stipulations or conditional requirements. See the Fluid Minerals section of the overall planning area for a description of management actions involving fluid mineral leasing exploration and development.

As additional areas become available for future leasing consideration, they would be considered on a case-by-case basis to determine if the ACEC management objectives could be met, if they were to be leased and developed.

Exploration and development activities related to leases in the ACEC that existed before approval of the JMHCAP would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included (to the extent allowed by regulation) as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

- surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in Table 2-12);

- transportation planning, prior to implementing any activity;

- remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

- multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

- clustering or centrally locating tank batteries or other ancillary facilities to limit traffic and disturbance;

- standard reclamation practices to restore habitat and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat; or

- application of geotechnical materials for construction.

Salables (Mineral Materials) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would remain closed to mineral material sales in the vista.

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Additional withdrawals from those identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3) would not be pursued.

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Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect Historic resources and certain important resource values (see Table 2-12 and Map 21). Other resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: raptor nesting sites, special status plant species habitat, and locations for interpretive signs.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation values, public health and safety, cultural and historic values, geologic features, and crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas). For more information, see Table 2-12 and Map 22.

Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural and historic resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses.

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel Management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

General winter vehicular access in the ACEC, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. Access on other roads could be authorized for all types of vehicles, including over-the-snow vehicles.

Seasonal closures would not be applied for protection of other resource values.

Wild Horse Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wild Horse management actions for overall planning area.

The wild horse herd management area would not be expanded.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the degree of activity

and use in the ACEC. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC (20 acres in the planning area)

The management objectives and actions would be the same as described for the Preferred Alternative except as discussed for the following resources. Some of the actions in these resource management sections may be the same as described in the Preferred Alternative but are repeated here for understanding and clarification.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as stated in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3). In addition:

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the ACEC. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the ACEC would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Under this alternative, the following could occur:

Fluid mineral leasing could occur in the ACEC. Upon completion of the JMHCAP, the ACEC would be open to leasing consideration, with an NSO stipulation, and other stipulations or conditional requirements. The ACEC would remain closed to surface disturbance activities associated with fluid mineral development. Map 21 and Map 11 show those portions of the ACEC that would be closed to surface occupancy, and that would be seasonally conditioned.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would remain closed to surface disturbing activities that could adversely affect the ACEC values (Map 21).

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public

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health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the number of roads and access, and limiting the degree of activity and use in the ACEC. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

Red Desert Watershed Area (169,010 acres in the planning area)

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general management actions for the overall planning area and described in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3). About two thirds of the Oregon Buttes ACEC occurs in the Red Desert Watershed Area. A portion of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC, and therefore, the core area, Split Rock, and the connectivity areas also occur in the watershed area. Where the Red Desert Watershed Area overlaps these areas, the management objectives and actions are discussed in those specific areas and not repeated here. In addition:

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Additional withdrawals from those identified in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3) would not be pursued.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments could be allowed in the core area, crucial big game ranges or the connectivity area. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: 1) to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.) while protecting other resource values; 2) to permit in an orderly and timely manner, the development of oil and gas reserves, inside and outside the core area; and 3) to conduct 1 and 2 in a manner that conforms, where possible, with the management objectives for providing suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and

other big game populations, and protecting other sensitive resources.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The entire area would be open to fluid mineral leasing. Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 56,500 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

Fluid mineral exploration and development activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-12, Map 21, and Map 22). Surface disturbance conditional requirements would be placed on 114,130 acres.

Crucial habitats and other areas of sensitive resource values would be open to consideration for fluid mineral leasing and development so long as they would be protected from irreversible adverse effects. See the Fluid Minerals section of the overall planning area for a description of management actions involving fluid mineral leasing exploration and development.

Exploration and development activities related to leases in effect before approval of the JMHCAP would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included (to the extent allowed by regulation) as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

- surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in (see Table 2-12);

- transportation planning, prior to implementing any activity;

- remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

- multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

- clustering or centrally locating tank batteries or other ancillary facilities to limit traffic and disturbance;

- shrub reclamation to restore and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat; or

- application of geotechnical materials for construction.

Salables (Mineral Materials) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area.

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area.

Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

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Most of the Red Desert Watershed area would be open to consideration of geophysical exploration activities (USDI 1997). Based on site specific analysis, geophysical exploration activities would be authorized with appropriate conditional requirements such as limiting the use of vehicles and explosive charges.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-12 and Map 21). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: Special Status Plant Species Habitat, Tri-Territory Marker, and sites for interpretive signs.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 56,500 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation values, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, and crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas). For more information, see Table 2-12 and Map 22.

Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses.

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel Management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

General winter vehicular access in the Red Desert Watershed Area, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. Access on other roads could be authorized for all types of vehicles, including over-the-snow vehicles.

The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat in the core area would not apply.

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Visual Resource management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

The entire watershed area would be managed as a VRM Class III area.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the degree of activity and use in the Red Desert Watershed Area. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

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Overall Planning Area Management

Where the management objectives and actions are the same as described for the Preferred Alternative, they generally are not repeated. Some of the actions in these resource management sections may be the same as described in the preferred alternative but are repeated here for understanding and clarification.

An evaluation to acquire additional resource information for evaluating land and resource use proposals would not be conducted prior to leasing portions of the planning area. Monitoring would occur as described in the Monitoring section (Table 2-1 and Appendix 6).

Cultural, Natural History, and Paleontological Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: NRHP-eligible sites would be avoided by 300 feet.

Expansion Era Roads - Expansion Era Roads and the Indian Gap Trail would be preserved for their historic resource values, pursuant to Green River RMP guidance. Surface disturbing activities proposed to affect any segment of an Expansion Era Road or the Indian Gap Trail would be prohibited within 1/4 mile (see Appendix 3).

Activities would avoid Native American respected places by 1 mile. Viewshed (vista) and noise analyses may be conducted to help determine appropriate avoidance distances.

Activities would be excluded within a 1/2-mile viewshed (vista-same as GRRMP) of the White Mountain Petroglyphs (Appendix 3). Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be prohibited within 1/2 mile of all rock art sites. A noise analysis may be conducted for each site.

Surface disturbing activities would be prohibited within the paleosol deposition area. Exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis if adverse effects could be mitigated by authorized users or permittees

See Recreation Management for guidance on back country byway interpretive sites, and project planning for Crookston Ranch and the White Mountain Petroglyphs.

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Fire Management

Same as described in the Preferred Alternative.

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as stated in the Preferred Alternative except:

The public lands within the planning area, with the exception of defined exclusion and avoidance areas, would be open to consideration of granting of rights-of-way, permits, and leases (Map 32, Map 33, and Table 2-13). Location of rights-of-way, permits, and leases would be concentrated in certain areas and avoided or excluded in others, to protect sensitive resources. In particular, these actions would avoid the big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation associations to minimize effects to big game habitat. Portions of Indian Gap and the face of Steamboat Mountain (the steep slopes around the perimeter of Steamboat Mountain) would be closed (exclusion areas) to these actions.

Major transportation and utility line rights-of-way would be confined to established ROW concentration areas. Areas designated as utility windows, ROW concentration areas, and existing communication sites would be preferred locations for future grants (Map 32 and Map 33). Additional right-of-way windows would be established to limit the areas disturbed by ROW activity, and to concentrate these types of facilities. Rights-of-way would be located in the windows identified. In particular, pipelines and other linear facilities would follow existing roads and pipelines, and offsite facilities (tank batteries, etc.) would be clustered or located in the same geographic areas. The placement of the offsite facilities may be concentrated in different areas than the linear facilities if area objectives can be met.

In addition to existing guidance from the Green River RMP, transportation planning would include the locations of rights-of-way. Linear rights-of-way would follow existing roads and trails in accordance with transportation planning. Areas closed to oil and gas leasing and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to rights-of-way for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. Small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas would be prohibited, unless they: 1) follow existing improved roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet area objectives; and 3) do not create safety hazards. Activity in the South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC, Oregon Buttes ACEC, and White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC would follow the prescriptions in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3).

Steamboat Mountain ACEC, Oregon Buttes ACEC, Essex Mountain, Pacific Buttes, and Continental Peak would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat and visual values.

The proposed withdrawals in Table 2-14 would be pursued. Withdrawals would be pursued for the core, connectivity area, elk calving areas (all elk calving areas), the Steamboat Mountain ACEC, the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, cultural site, and portions of White Mountain (the Native Ameri-

can Respected Places) (about 267,590 acres) (Map 34). Future withdrawals would also be pursued to protect important resource values as needs are identified.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Same as stated in the Preferred Alternative.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Authorized grazing use would not exceed the recognized permitted use. For analysis purposes, anticipated actual use would be based on the 5-year average actual use of 9,851 AUMs (8,861 cattle and 990 sheep). This grazing level was held constant throughout the planning period.

Standards for Healthy Rangelands and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management (S&Gs) would be implemented, and specific grazing allotment management prescriptions would be developed on a case-by-case basis. Appropriate measures would be taken to meet the standards for healthy rangelands. If standards are not being met, then guidelines would be used and appropriate action would be taken. Actions that would meet the objectives and benefit resources could be considered on a case-by-case basis. For this analysis, the levels of livestock use may be reduced (where appropriate) as one of the appropriate actions taken to meet the Wyoming Standards for Healthy Rangelands.

Livestock turnout dates would be delayed to provide for more growing season rest (i.e., mid to late June); season-long use would not occur. Livestock grazing plans would be required.

Applications for changes in class of livestock to sheep use would be considered on a case-by-case basis. Changes to cattle use would not be considered.

Livestock grazing suitability reviews would be conducted on a case-by-case basis. Livestock forage use would not be allocated for unsuitable areas and would be removed from the forage base.

Plowing of roads in winter for livestock accessibility and feeding would not be allowed except in emergency situations. Any such activity would conform with transportation planning (see the Transportation Planning section).

Livestock grazing use on upland key grass species would be limited to 1) no more than 40 percent of the current growth (seasonal utilization); and 2) minimum heights throughout the growing season (to be determined for individual key species), whichever is reached first. Livestock would be removed when either seasonal utilization or minimum height is reached in a given area/pasture/allotment.

Livestock grazing management plans that address riparian and upland areas would be required. Riparian and upland areas would be managed primarily for wildlife and watershed needs. New riparian pastures would be established only if watershed resources and wildlife habitat would be enhanced.

Livestock grazing use in riparian areas would be limited (1) for key riparian shrub species, to no more than 30 percent of the stems browsed or (2) for herbaceous plants, to a seasonal

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utilization of 40 percent or no less than a 6-inch minimum height, whichever occurs first. Key species and plant height monitoring would be conducted throughout the grazing season.

Livestock salt licks would be located no closer than 1/2 mile to water and no closer than 1/4 mile to sensitive plant species locations.

Range improvements would be considered only when they would benefit wildlife and wildlife habitat.

The connectivity area (migration corridor) is considered big game crucial habitat. Range improvements would be considered in crucial big game habitats only if they would benefit wildlife.

Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the core area or in crucial big game winter ranges, including the connectivity area. Livestock water developments would be fenced and offsite water facilities would be developed (pipelines and troughs). Springs and seeps would be protected from excessive use. Livestock water developments would not be placed within 2 miles of active sage grouse leks.

Vegetation treatments would be considered on a case-by-case basis. A livestock grazing plan would be prepared prior to treatment. Areas proposed for vegetation treatments may be rested one full year prior to treatment and would be rested two full years after treatment.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals

Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: 1) to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.) while protecting other resource values; 2) to permit in an orderly and timely manner, the development of oil and gas reserves, outside the core and connectivity areas; and 3) to conduct 1 and 2 in a manner that conforms with the management objectives for providing suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protecting sensitive resources.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Table 2-15 lists public lands and federal minerals in the planning area with fluid mineral lease requirements that are necessary to protect other resource values.

Areas closed to leasing (discretionary closures) would include the core area and connectivity area, and White Mountain and Split Rock (Map 35). Approximately 220,790 acres of federal mineral estate would be closed to fluid mineral leasing.

The remainder of the federal fluid mineral estate in the planning area would be open to consideration for leasing with conditional requirements would apply to certain areas. A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-15 and Map 21). About 36,010 acres would be open to leasing with a no surface occupancy requirement.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 347,250 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, raptor habitat, and game fish spawning areas (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

Fluid mineral exploration and development activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-15 and Map 36). Surface disturbance conditional requirements would be placed on about 462,560 acres.

Crucial habitats and other areas of sensitive resource values would be open to further consideration for fluid mineral leasing and development so long as crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values would be protected from irreversible adverse effects (Figure 1). This would be accomplished in part through controlled timing and sequencing of federal fluid mineral leasing, exploration, development and reclamation in these areas. For example, satisfactory abandonment of oil and gas wells and surface disturbance reclamation may be required before additional fluid mineral leasing and development could occur in big game crucial ranges, migration routes and birthing areas. Under this alternative, the following could occur:

Fluid mineral leasing could occur in portions of the planning area. Upon completion of the JMHCAP, these areas would be open to leasing consideration, with necessary mitigation, which could include CSU, NSO, and other stipulations or conditional requirements.

Other portions of the planning area would be closed to leasing to provide adequate habitat and use of that habitat (crucial winter range, calving/fawning, migration corridors, etc.) and protection of sensitive resources and public health and safety. The entire planning area would not be leased at the same time. In particular, portions of Steamboat Mountain ACEC, Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, White Mountain, Split Rock area, and the core and connectivity areas would not be leased.

As additional areas (outside the core, connectivity, White Mountain and Split Rock areas) become available for future leasing consideration, they would be considered on a case-by-case basis to determine if the planning area management objectives could be met, if they were to be leased and developed.

Exploration and development activities related to leases in effect before approval of the JMHCAP would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in the Green River RMP (see Table 2-15);

transportation planning, prior to implementing any activity, and road densities may be established with an objective of no more than 0.5 to 1 mile of all-weather (improved) road per section in big game crucial habitat;

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remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

limiting the number of well pads to no more than four per section in sensitive areas;

directional drilling in crucial wildlife habitats and other sensitive areas (Table 2-15 and Figure 1), where access and surface disturbance or disruptive activity would create irreversible adverse effects;

clustering or centrally locating tank batteries to limit traffic and disturbance;

shrub reclamation (containerized stock, transplanting, etc.) where necessary to restore and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat;

application of geotechnical materials for construction;

unitization of potential oil and gas field areas prior to exploration and development.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Areas closed to coal exploration would remain the same as those established in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997) (Map 23). Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be applied. Exploration activities would avoid sensitive areas (Figure 1). Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to exploration activities; however, exploration activities could occur on existing roads and trails in accordance with transportation planning.

Solid Leasables (Sodium/Trona) MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES: to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: The entire planning area would be closed to sodium exploration activities.

The planning area would be closed to trona water development activities.

Salables (Mineral Materials)

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: The areas identified as closed to mineral material sales in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997) would remain closed to mineral material sales (Table 2-16 and Map 37).

The core and connectivity areas, White Mountain, and the Split Rock area would be closed to mineral material sale activity. Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities, elk calving areas, mountain shrub communities, including big sagebrush/scurfpea communities and special status species habitats would be closed to mineral material sales. Activities would avoid sensitive areas (Figure 1). Sale proposals would be considered on a case-by-case basis, and appropriate mitigation would be applied. Road construction and upgrading of roads for mineral material extraction would only be allowed if in accordance with transportation planning.

The remainder of the planning area would be open to consideration of mineral material sales on a case-by-case basis. Sale areas and community pits would be established in conformance with other resource objectives. Adequate mine and reclamation plans for use areas would be required.

Locatable Minerals

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: The proposed withdrawals in Table 2-14 would be pursued. Withdrawals would be pursued for the core, connectivity area, elk calving areas (all elk calving areas), the Steamboat Mountain ACEC, the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, cultural site, and portions of White Mountain (the Native American Respected Places) (about 267,590 acres) (see Map 34).

Future withdrawals would also be pursued to protect important resource values as needs are identified.

Geophysical

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Most of the planning area would be open to consideration of geophysical exploration activities. Based on site specific analysis, geophysical exploration activities would be authorized with appropriate conditional requirements such as limiting the use of vehicles and explosive charges (Table 2-7).

An interdisciplinary team review would be initiated for all geophysical proposals within the planning area. Exploration activities in sensitive areas would be limited and mitigation measures would be applied to protect sensitive resources (timing limitations, avoidance, restrictions on vehicle use and explosive charges, etc.). Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to vehicle use and explosive charges. In areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities, the core area, and sensitive areas (Figure 1), exploration activities, without use of explosive charges, could occur on existing roads and trails in conformance with transportation planning.

Areas of Native American concern would be closed to geophysical vehicles and explosive charges.

Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Satisfactory reclamation of surface disturbance and abandonment of facilities, such as oil and gas wells, range improvements, roads, trails, etc., that are no longer needed in the core area, may be required before additional facilities or disturbance would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes and birthing areas in the core area.

Recreation Resource Management

Same as described in the Preferred Alternative.

Special Status Species Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: The Special Status Plant ACEC, designated in the Green River RMP, would be expanded to include 2,660 acres of *Lesquerella macrocarpa*

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(Map 38). Known locations of *Lesquerella macrocarpa* would be exclusion areas for rights-of-way (Table 2-13).

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-15). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: Boars Tusk, White Mountain Petroglyphs, Crookston Ranch, developed recreation sites and the ORV parking lot in the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, raptor nesting sites, South Pass Historic Landscape (area visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail), special status plant species habitat, and Tri-Territory Marker. Additionally, surface disturbing activities would not be allowed on federal surface designated as no lease areas for oil and gas activity. Exceptions could be granted for designated right of way concentration areas. An NSO restriction would be applied to activities that may affect these areas.

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: (visual values, recreation opportunities, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, etc.); crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas), stabilized and unstabilized sand dunes, and big sagebrush habitat. On areas where several of these resources overlap, an NSO requirement would be applied (Figure 1). For more information, see Table 2-15, Map 35, Map 21, Map 11, and Map 36.

Based on site-specific analyses, surface-disturbing activities would be limited during wet weather, on frozen soils, and on slopes greater than 20 percent.

NRHP-eligible sites would be avoided by 300 feet.

Native American Respected Places - Activities would avoid Native American respected places by 1 mile. Viewshed (vista) and noise analysis may be conducted to help determine appropriate avoidance distances.

Rock Art Sites - Activities would be excluded within a -mile viewshed (vista-same as GRRMP) of the White Mountain Petroglyphs (Appendix 3). Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be prohibited within mile of all rock art sites.

Surface disturbing activities would be prohibited within the entire paleosol deposition area. The area would be reviewed for consideration for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

Areas closed to oil and gas leasing and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same

resources and uses. Small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas would be prohibited, unless they: 1) follow roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet area objectives; and 3) do not create safety hazards (see the Lands and Realty Management section). Activity in the South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC, Oregon Buttes ACEC, and White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC would follow the prescriptions in the Green River RMP (Appendix 3).

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: General winter vehicular access in the planning area, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. However, access on other roads could be authorized for over-the-snow vehicles only.

Specific roads and trails designated "limited to designated roads and trails" would be identified on a case-by-case basis. The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat would apply. Additional seasonal closures may be applied for protection of other resource values as needed.

Road and trail construction or upgrading would be prohibited through woodland habitat (i.e., juniper, limber pine, aspen) or springs and seeps (pre-existing improved roads may be used).

Transportation planning would identify appropriate access routes and provide maximum protection for crucial habitats and sensitive resources (Appendix 5). Future site specific activity or implementation planning would also address any needed requirements for motorized vehicular use, non-motorized vehicular use, and non-motorized mechanical transport and also address any needed requirement for transportation planning.

Factors to be considered in development of transportation plans include:

Historic use levels of roads and trails.

Use of required construction specifications.

Rehabilitating, obliterating, or barricading unused roads and trails, and closure or maintenance of those causing resource damage. The transportation plan and affected maps would be corrected to reflect closed roads and trails.

Seasonal or administrative road closures/gating in crucial habitats (for single use/well destination roads) to limit traffic and disrupting activities.

Concentrating stream and riparian area crossings to key locations to restrict numbers of crossings and to benefit resource management objectives. New crossings would not be allowed. Exceptions may be granted if proposed crossings would reduce adverse effects, benefit area objectives, and reduce miles of road (and/or frequency of use). Some crossings (2-tracks) would be closed. Commercial and service vehicles would be restricted to identified upgraded crossings. Bridges would be required for all perennial streams.

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Limiting the number and location of access routes that bisect wildlife habitats and migration routes.

Limiting the number and miles of road in crucial habitats.

Limiting the number and miles of all-weather road, and the level of use on these roads during crucial wildlife and watershed periods (November-June).

Grouping and offsite location of ancillary facilities away from crucial habitats and sensitive areas.

Limiting all-season use to primarily identified roads.

Posting speed limits, as necessary, to protect wildlife and public health and safety, and to meet planning area management objectives.

In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile):

- Core and connectivity areas = 0.5 miles or less
- Greater Sand Dunes ACEC and White Mountain area = 1.0 mile or less
- All other areas of crucial elk habitat = more than 1.0 mile.

Vegetation Management

Same as stated in the Preferred Alternative.

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: VRM classes would be managed according to the classifications shown in Table 2-8.

The Steamboat Mountain ACEC, Split Rock, and the Red Desert Watershed would be managed as Class II VRM areas (Map 39).

Portions of White Mountain would be managed as a Class II VRM area (Map 39).

Watershed/Water Quality Management

Same as described in the Preferred Alternative.

Wild Horse Management

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES: Same as stated in the Preferred Alternative.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: The boundary of the Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area would be expanded to include the entire planning area. No more than 100 horses would occupy the expansion area portion of the Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area. The Appropriate Management Level for the expanded Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management (415-600 horses) Area would not change (Map 40).

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by

limiting the number of roads and access, and limiting the degree of activity and use in the planning area. See Transportation Management and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections.

The pond (flockets) areas in the sand dunes would be managed for enhancement of wildlife habitat and vegetation communities. Surface uses would be restricted in these areas. Special consideration would be given to management needs of amphibians. Fences may be constructed to control livestock grazing and movement in these areas. Interpretive signs would be used to direct ORV use around the ponds to prevent resource damage.

Priority would be given to maintaining or enhancing mountain plover and sage grouse habitat. Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect these habitats (see Vegetation Management and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management Sections). Livestock water developments would not be placed within 2 miles of sage grouse leks.

In and around the "hay meadow exclosures" on Pacific Creek, riparian and fish habitat would be managed for trout.

Riparian and upland vegetation types would be managed with emphasis on enhancing wildlife habitat, watershed values, and biodiversity values.

See the Travel Management and Reclamation sections for other requirements concerning wildlife habitats.

Core Area (Steamboat Mountain ACEC, eastern portion of the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, and adjacent overlapping crucial big game habitat)

Management objectives and management actions for these resource and land use programs are the same as described in the Green River RMP and for the General JMHCAP area. The following management objectives and management actions are either specifically important to the core area and are repeated, or are different from those for the General JMHCAP area.

GENERAL MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Same as stated for the Preferred Alternative:

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Rights-of-way would avoid the big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation associations to minimize effects to big game habitat. Portions of Indian Gap and the face of Steamboat Mountain (the steep slopes around the perimeter of Steamboat Mountain) would be closed (exclusion areas) to these actions (Map 32, Map 33, and Table 2-13).

The Steamboat Mountain ACEC and Essex Mountain would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat and visual values.

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The proposed withdrawals in Table 2-14 would be pursued. Withdrawals would be pursued for the core and connectivity areas, elk calving areas, the Steamboat Mountain ACEC, and the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, (about 80,410 acres) (Map 34). Future withdrawals would also be pursued to protect important resource values as needs are identified.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the core, or connectivity areas, or in crucial winter ranges. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the core area would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals

Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: to provide for the maximum protection of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protect other sensitive resources.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The core and connectivity areas would be closed to fluid mineral leasing. Approximately 80,410 acres of federal mineral estate would be closed to fluid mineral leasing (Map 35).

Under this alternative, the following could occur:

Fluid mineral leasing could not occur in core and connectivity areas to provide adequate habitat and use of that habitat (crucial winter range, calving/fawning, migration corridors, etc.) and protection of sensitive resources and public health and safety.

As additional areas become available for future leasing consideration, they would be considered on a case-by-case basis to determine if the core area management objectives could be met, if they were to be leased and developed.

Exploration and development activities related to leases in the core area that existed before approval of the JMHCAP would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included (to the extent allowed by regulation) as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in (see Table 2-15);

transportation planning, prior to implementing any activity, with an objective of no more than mile of all-weather (improved) road per section in big game crucial habitat areas and 1 mile in the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC;

remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

limiting the number of well pads to no more than four per section in sensitive areas;

directional drilling in crucial wildlife habitats and other sensitive areas (Table 2-15 and Figure 1) where access and surface disturbance or disruptive activity would create irreversible adverse effects;

clustering or centrally locating tank batteries or other ancillary facilities to limit traffic and disturbance;

shrub reclamation (containerized stock, transplanting, etc.) where necessary to restore and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat;

application of geotechnical materials for construction; or

unitization of potential oil and gas field areas prior to exploration and development.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Areas closed to coal exploration would remain the same as those established in the Green River RMP (USDI 1997). Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required. Exploration activities would avoid sensitive areas (Figure 1). Activities in the core area would be limited to foot traffic except for on existing roads and trails in conformance with transportation planning. The Steamboat Mountain area (outside area with coal recommendations) would be closed to exploration activities.

Salables (Mineral Materials)

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The areas identified in Table 2-16 would be closed to mineral material sales.

The core area would be closed to mineral material sale.

Locatable Minerals

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Withdrawals would be pursued for the core and connectivity areas, elk calving areas, Steamboat Mountain ACEC, the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, and Native American respected places (about 80,410 acres) (Map 34 and Table 2-14). Future withdrawals from mineral location in the core area would be pursued to protect important resource values, as needs are identified.

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Geophysical

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

In the core area, exploration activities, without use of explosive charges, could occur on existing roads and trails in conformance with transportation planning (Table 2-7).

Areas of Native American concern would be closed to geophysical vehicles and explosive charges.

Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Satisfactory reclamation of surface disturbance and abandonment of facilities, such as oil and gas wells, range improvements, roads, trails, etc., that are no longer needed in the core area, may be required before additional facilities or disturbance would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes and birthing areas in the core area.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-15 and Map 21). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: Boars Tusk, White Mountain Petroglyphs, Crookston Ranch, developed recreation sites and the ORV parking lot in the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, raptor nesting sites, South Pass Historic Landscape (area visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail), special status plant species habitat, and the Tri-Territory Marker.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 80,410 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned on about 80,410 acres to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: (visual values, recreation opportunities, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas), stabilized and unstabilized sand dunes, and big sagebrush habitat. On areas where several of these resources overlap, an NSO requirement would be applied (Figure 1). For more information, see Table 2-15 and Map 36).

Areas closed to oil and gas leasing and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed manage-

ment objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses. Small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas would be prohibited, unless they: 1) follow roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet core area objectives; and 3) do not create safety hazards (see the Lands and Realty Management section).

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel Management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

General winter vehicular access in the core area, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. However, access on other roads could be authorized for over-the-snow vehicles only.

The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat in the core area would apply. Additional seasonal closures may be applied for protection of other resource values as needed.

In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile):

Core and connectivity areas = 0.5 miles or less
Greater Sand Dunes ACEC = 1.0 mile or less.

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Visual Resource management actions for overall planning area.

The Steamboat Mountain ACEC and Split Rock would be managed as a Class II VRM area (Map 39).

Wild Horse Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wild Horse management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

The boundary of the Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area would be expanded. No more than 100 horses would occupy the expansion area portion of the Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area. The Appropriate Management Level for the expanded Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area would not change.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the number of roads and access, and limiting the degree of activity and use in the core area. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

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The pond (flockets) areas in the sand dunes would be managed for enhancement of wildlife habitat and vegetation communities. Surface uses would be restricted in these areas. Special consideration would be given to management needs of amphibians. Fences may be constructed to control livestock grazing and movement in these areas. Interpretive signs would be used to direct ORV use around the ponds to prevent resource damage.

Greater Sand Dunes ACEC (38,650 acres in the planning area)

The western portion of the ACEC is within the Buffalo Hump and Sand Dunes WSAs and lies outside the core area. The western portion would be managed under the "Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review" (USDI 1995). The eastern portion of the ACEC is inside the core area and for consistency in management of the ACEC, the following discussion presents the actions for both the eastern and western portions of the ACEC. Some of the general JMHCAP proposed decisions are repeated, where they apply to the entire ACEC or where they are needed to complement understanding of the discussion. Actions that apply solely to either the eastern or western portion are so noted.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as stated in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3). In addition:

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Rights-of-way would avoid the big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation associations to minimize effects to big game habitat. The base of Steamboat Mountain and the steep slopes around the perimeter of Steamboat Mountain (i.e., those portions which are within the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC) would be closed (exclusion areas) to these actions (Map 32, Map 33, and Table 2-13).

Within the eastern portion of the ACEC (inside the core area), both stabilized and active sand dunes would be closed to construction and development types of activities and related surface disturbance unless analysis indicates that the management objectives for the area could be met. In situations where there are pre-existing authorizations and ongoing development in the area, new linear facilities such as pipelines and phone lines would be laid on the surface, or buried adjacent to access roads, or within existing concentration areas containing such lines, in conformance with transportation planning. Surface pipelines would be monitored by the operators to identify potential hazards to public health and safety, particularly in the open ORV area. Identified hazards would be marked to improve visibility. A recreation user map would be developed in cooperation with oil and gas operators to show the location of above ground facilities (e.g., pipelines, well production facilities, snow fences, etc.).

The entire ACEC would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat, visual values and geologic features.

Areas closed to oil and gas leasing and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to rights-of-way for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. Small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas would be prohibited, unless they: 1) follow existing improved roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet area objectives; and 3) do not create safety hazards.

The proposed withdrawals from mineral location in the ACEC (Table 2-14) would be pursued.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the ACEC. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the core area would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE (within the eastern portion of the ACEC): provide maximum protection to preserve and protect the integrity of the unique values in the ACEC and to provide maximum protection of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protect other sensitive resources.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Under this alternative, in the eastern portion, the following could occur:

The ACEC would be closed to fluid mineral leasing to maximize habitat and use of that habitat (crucial winter range, calving/fawning, migration corridors, etc.) and protection of sensitive resources and public health and safety.

As additional areas become available for future leasing consideration, they would not be leased.

Exploration and development activities related to leases in the ACEC that existed before approval of the JMHCAP, would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included (to the extent allowed by regulation) as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in Table 2-15);

transportation planning, prior to implementing any activity, with an objective of no more than 1 mile of all-weather (improved) road per section in big game crucial habitat areas;

remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

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multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

limiting the number of well pads to no more than four per section in sensitive areas;

directional drilling in crucial wildlife habitats and other sensitive areas (Table 2-15 and Figure 1) where access and surface disturbance or disruptive activity would create irreversible adverse effects;

clustering or centrally locating tank batteries or other ancillary facilities to limit traffic and disturbance;

shrub reclamation (containerized stock, transplanting, etc.) where necessary to restore and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat;

application of geotechnical materials for construction; or

unitization of potential oil and gas field areas prior to exploration and development.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

About 23,980 acres would remain closed to coal exploration (USDI 1997). Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required. Exploration activities would avoid sensitive areas (Figure 1). Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to exploration activities; however, exploration activities could occur on existing roads and trails within these areas in conformance with transportation planning.

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Mineral location withdrawals would be pursued for the entire ACEC including Crookston Ranch and the western portion of the ACEC, for the protection of cultural and historic values, visual resource values, geologic features, pond (flockets) areas, important wildlife habitat, and Native American respected places (about 38,650 acres) (Map 34 and Table 2-14). Future withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws in the ACEC would be pursued to protect important resource values, as needs are identified.

Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

In the eastern portion of the ACEC, exploration activities, without use of explosive charges, could occur on existing roads and trails in conformance with transportation planning (Table 2-7). The ORV parking area would be closed.

Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES: Same as general Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring objectives for the overall planning area.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Satisfactory reclamation of surface disturbance and abandonment of facilities, such as oil and gas wells, range improvements, roads, trails, etc., that are no longer needed in the ACEC, may be required before additional facilities or disturbance would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes and birthing areas, and on stabilized dunes in the ACEC.

Recreation Resource Management

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES: Same as general Recreation Resource management objectives for the overall planning area.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Recreation Resource management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Activities would not be permitted to disrupt access to or use of developed and semi-developed recreation sites. Activities that are incompatible with recreation sites would be managed to avoid these sites.

See the Surface Disturbance section for management prescriptions relating to surface disturbing activities.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management objective for overall planning area.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-15 and Map 21). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: Boars Tusk, Crookston Ranch site, developed recreation sites, the ORV parking lot, raptor nesting sites, special status plant species habitat, big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation communities, and important cultural sites.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation opportunities, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas), stabilized and unstabilized sand dunes, and big sagebrush habitat. On areas where several of these resources overlap, an NSO requirement would be applied (Figure 1). For more information, see Table 2-15 and Map 36.

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In the eastern portion, areas closed to oil and gas leasing and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses. Small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas would be prohibited, unless they: 1) follow roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet core area objectives; and 3) do not create safety hazards (see the Lands and Realty Management section).

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel Management actions for overall planning area. In addition in the eastern portion:

General winter vehicular access in the ACEC, for any purpose, would be limited only specific roads identified for winter use. However, access on other roads could be authorized for over-the-snow vehicles only.

The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat in the ACEC would apply. Additional seasonal closures may be applied for protection of other resource values as needed.

In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile): The ACEC = 1.0 mile or less.

Vegetation Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Vegetation management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Native vegetation would be maintained and protected on the BLM-administered public lands to allow natural plant succession to continue. Revegetation of disturbed areas with big sagebrush and other adaptable shrubs would be required to maintain or improve big game habitat.

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Visual Resource management actions for overall planning area.

The ACEC would be managed as a Class II VRM area (Map 39).

Watershed/Water Quality Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Watershed/Water Quality management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Surface water, soils, and shallow aquifers would be protected from contamination by practices such as closed drilling systems or installation of pit liners. Pit liners would be removed prior to reserve pit reclamation.

Wild Horse Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wild Horse management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

The boundary of the Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area would be expanded. No more than 100 horses would occupy the expansion area portion of the Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area. The Appropriate Management Level for the expanded Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area would not change.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the number of roads and access, and limiting the degree of activity and use in the ACEC. The integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas and winter ranges would be maintained. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

The pond (flockets) areas in the sand dunes would be managed for enhancement of wildlife habitat and vegetation communities. Surface uses would be restricted in these areas. Special consideration would be given to management needs of amphibians. Fences may be constructed to control livestock grazing and movement in these areas. Interpretive signs would be used to direct ORV use around the ponds to prevent resource damage in the eastern portion.

The relatively pristine portion of the eastern area that has no developments (approximately 8,800 acres), including the base of Steamboat Rim, would be managed to protect big game habitat, vegetation communities, and visual and recreation resources.

To support and improve the diversity of wildlife species within the area, wildlife habitat on the BLM-administered public lands would be protected, maintained, or enhanced. Crucial elk winter range in the area would be maintained as an essential component of the elk habitat.

Ponds in the sand dunes (flockets) would be managed for wildlife and vegetation enhancement. Special consideration would be given to amphibians. Surface uses would be restricted in these areas. Fencing may occur for livestock management. Interpretive signs would be considered to direct ORV use around ponds.

Projects to improve the interdunal ponds for bird, amphibian, and mammal habitat would be considered and evaluated for development on the BLM-administered public lands. The ponds would not be used as water sources for development activities.

Steamboat Mountain ACEC (43,310 acres in the planning area)

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as stated in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3). In addition:

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The existing Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be expanded to 65,630 acres (Map 38).

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would be an avoidance area for rights-of-way. In particular, rights-of-way would be required to avoid the big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation associations to minimize effects to big game habitat. Steamboat Rim, portions of Indian Gap and the face of Steamboat Mountain (the steep slopes around the perimeter of Steamboat Mountain), Johnson Gap, and the big sagebrush-scurfpea vegetation type at the base of Steamboat Mountain would be closed (exclusion areas) to all rights-of-way, no exceptions (Map 32, Map 33, and Table 2-13).

Where right-of-way activity cannot avoid the ACEC, transportation planning would be used to determine right-of-way locations. Linear rights-of-way would follow roads and trails in accordance with transportation planning. Existing right-of-way routes would be used whenever possible. Areas closed to mineral leasing and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to the location of additional rights-of-way. Within these areas and in conformance with transportation planning, pre-existing rights-of-way as of the date of approval of the JMHCAP could remain in place and continue to be used. Small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas could be authorized only if they: 1) follow pre-existing improved roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet area objectives; and 3) do not create safety hazards (see the Lands and Realty Management section).

The ACEC would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat and visual values.

Withdrawals would be pursued for all of the existing Steamboat Mountain ACEC (Map 34 and Table 2-14).

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the ACEC. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the ACEC would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVE: to provide for the maximum protection of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and to protect sensitive resources.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Under this alternative, the following could occur:

The ACEC would be closed to leasing to maximize habitat and use of that habitat (crucial winter range, calving/fawning, migration corridors, etc.) and to provide for protection of sensitive resources and public health and safety. The entire ACEC would not be leased (see Table 2-15, Map 35, and Figure 1).

As additional areas become available for future leasing consideration, they would not be leased.

Exploration and development activities related to leases in the ACEC that existed before approval of the JMHCAP would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included (to the extent allowed by regulation) as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in Table 2-15;

transportation planning, prior to implementing any activity, with an objective of no more than 0.5 miles of all-weather (improved) road per section in big game crucial habitat areas;

remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

limiting the number of well pads to no more than four per section in sensitive areas;

directional drilling in crucial wildlife habitats and other sensitive areas (Table 2-15 and Figure 1) where access and surface disturbance or disruptive activity would create irreversible adverse effects;

clustering or centrally locating tank batteries or other ancillary facilities to limit traffic and disturbance;

shrub reclamation (containerized stock, transplanting, etc.) where necessary to restore habitat and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat;

application of geotechnical materials for construction; or

unitization of potential oil and gas field areas prior to exploration and development.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management objectives for the overall planning area.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

About 33,530 acres would remain closed to coal exploration (USDI 1997). Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required. Exploration activities would avoid sensitive areas

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(Figure 1). Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to exploration activities; however, exploration activities could occur on existing roads and trails within these areas in conformance with transportation planning.

Salables (Mineral Materials) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. The areas identified in Table 2-16 would be closed to mineral material sales. In addition:

The ACEC would be closed to mineral material sales.

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Withdrawals would be pursued for the existing Steamboat Mountain ACEC (Map 34 and Table 2-14).

Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would be closed to the use of vehicles and explosive charges. Activity could occur on existing roads and trails in conformance with transportation planning (Table 2-7).

Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Satisfactory reclamation of surface disturbance and abandonment of facilities, such as oil and gas wells, range improvements, roads, trails, etc., that are no longer needed in the ACEC, may be required before additional facilities or disturbance would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes and birthing areas in the ACEC.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-15 and Map 21). Resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: raptor nesting sites, special status plant species habitat, Tri-Territory Marker, and locations for interpretive signs.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation opportunities, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, crucial wildlife habitats

(crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas), and big sagebrush habitat. On areas where several of these resources overlap, an NSO requirement would be applied (Figure 1). For more information, see Table 2-15 and Map 36.

Areas closed to oil and gas leasing (Map 35) and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses. Small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas would be prohibited, unless they: 1) follow roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet ACEC objectives; and 3) do not create safety hazards (see the Lands and Realty Management section).

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel Management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

General winter vehicular access in the ACEC, for any purpose, would be limited only to specific roads identified for winter use. However, access on other roads could be authorized for over-the-snow vehicles only.

The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat in the ACEC would apply. Additional seasonal closures may be applied for protection of other resource values as needed.

In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile): the ACEC and connectivity area = 0.5 miles or less.

Road construction and new access may not be feasible for much of the ACEC. To prevent conflicts with big game and big game habitat, recreation users, and other resource and land use activities, alternative access methods may be needed (use of existing or designated roads or pads, seasonal travel requirements or restrictions, use of helicopters, etc.).

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Visual Resource management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

The Steamboat Mountain ACEC and Split Rock would be managed as Class II VRM areas (Map 39; Table 2-8).

Watershed/Water Quality Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Watershed/Water Quality management actions for overall planning area.

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Wild Horse Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wild Horse management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

The boundary of the Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area would be expanded. No more than 100 horses would occupy the expansion area portion of the Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area. The Appropriate Management Level for the expanded Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area would not change.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the number of roads and access, and limiting the degree of activity and use in the ACEC. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

All activities would be designed to place priority consideration on elk habitat over conflicting land uses to ensure continued elk use in the ACEC. Steamboat Rim and the base of the rim would be managed to protect big game habitat, vegetation communities, and visual and recreation resources.

Other Special Management Areas

Oregon Buttes ACEC (3,450 acres in the planning area)

The ACEC is within the Oregon Buttes, White Horse Creek and Honeycomb Buttes WSAs and lies outside the core area. The ACEC would be managed under the “Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review” (USDI 1995). The management objectives and actions would be the same as described for the Preferred Alternative except as discussed for the following resources. Some of the actions in these resource management sections may be the same as described in the Preferred Alternative but are repeated here for understanding and clarification.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as stated in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3). In addition:

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Future withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws in the ACEC would be pursued to protect important resource values, as needs are identified.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the ACEC.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: The ACEC would remain closed to fluid mineral leasing (nondiscretionary closure-approximately 3,450 acres of federal mineral estate).

Salables (Mineral Materials) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The areas identified in Table 2-16 would be closed to mineral material sales.

The ACEC would remain closed to mineral material sales

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Future withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws in the ACEC would be pursued to protect important resource values, as needs are identified.

Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

In the ACEC, exploration activities, without use of explosive charges or motorized vehicles, could occur in conformance with ACEC objectives (Table 2-7).

Special Status Plant ACEC Expansion

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES: Same as stated in the Green River RMP.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as stated in the general management section of the Preferred Alternative. In addition:

The Special Status Plant ACEC, designated in the Green River RMP, would be expanded to include 2,660 acres of *Lesquerella macrocarpa* (Map 38).

South Pass Historic Landscape (45,830 acres in the planning area)

The management objectives and actions would be the same as described for the Preferred Alternative except as discussed for the following resources. Some of the actions in these resource management sections may be the same as described in the Preferred Alternative but are repeated here for understanding and clarification.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as stated in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3). In addition:

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

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Communication sites could not be considered on Pacific Buttes (Table 2-13). Actions on Pacific Butte would conform to the existing management prescriptions for the South Pass Historic Landscape (Appendix 3).

Withdrawals would be pursued for elk calving areas in addition to those withdrawals listed in the Green River RMP (Map 34 and Appendix 3). Future withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws in the ACEC would be pursued to protect important resource values, as needs are identified.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the ACEC.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat within the ACEC (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

Fluid mineral exploration and development activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values in the ACEC (see Table 2-15, Figure 1, Map 35, Map 21, and Map 36).

The historic values in the landscape, crucial habitats, and other areas of sensitive resource values outside the connectivity area would be open to consideration for fluid mineral leasing and development so long as they would be protected from irreversible adverse effects (Figure 1). See the Fluid Minerals section of the overall planning area for a description of management actions involving fluid mineral leasing exploration and development.

Exploration and development activities related to leases in the ACEC that existed before approval of the JMHCAP would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included (to the extent allowed by regulation) as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in Table 2-15;

transportation planning, prior to implementing any activity, with an objective of no more than 0.5 miles of all-weather (improved) road per section in big game crucial habitat areas;

remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

limiting the number of well pads to no more than four per section in sensitive areas;

directional drilling in crucial wildlife habitats and other sensitive areas (Table 2-15 and Figure 1), where access and surface disturbance or disruptive activity would create irreversible adverse effects;

clustering or centrally locating tank batteries or other ancillary facilities to limit traffic and disturbance;

shrub reclamation (containerized stock, transplanting, etc.) where necessary to restore habitat and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat;

application of geotechnical materials for construction; or

unitization of potential oil and gas field areas prior to exploration and development.

Salables (Mineral Materials) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The areas identified in Table 2-16 would be closed to mineral material sales. The connectivity portion of the ACEC would be closed to mineral material sales. That portion of the ACEC seen from the historic trail (vista) would remain closed to mineral material sales. Other mineral material sale activity would conform with the prescriptions established for the South Pass Historic Landscape in the Green River RMP. This activity would not detract from the relevance and importance values of the ACEC. Sale proposals would be considered on a case-by-case basis, and appropriate mitigation would be required. Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities, elk calving areas, and mountain shrub communities (including big sagebrush/scurfpea communities and special status species habitats) would be closed to mineral material sales. Road construction and upgrading of roads for mineral material extraction would only be allowed in accordance with transportation planning.

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Withdrawals would be pursued for elk calving areas in addition to those withdrawals listed in the Green River RMP (Map 34 and Appendix 3). Future withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws in the ACEC would be pursued to protect important resource values, as needs are identified.

Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Shothole activity would not be allowed along the trails. Other geophysical operations would be allowed within the historic trails corridors if site specific analysis determines that no effects adverse to the visual integrity of the trails would occur.

ALTERNATIVES

Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to vehicle use and explosive charges. In areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities and sensitive areas (Figure 1), exploration activities, without use of explosive charges, could occur on existing roads and trails in conformance with transportation planning.

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect historic resources and certain important resource values (see Table 2-15 and Map 21). Other resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: raptor nesting sites, South Pass Historic Landscape (area visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail, and special status plant species habitat.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation opportunities, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas), , and big sagebrush habitat. On areas where several of these resources overlap, an NSO requirement would be applied (Figure 1). For more information, see Table 2-15 and Map 36.

Areas closed to oil and gas leasing (Map 35) and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural and historic resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses. In areas closed to leasing, outside the vista, small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas would be prohibited, unless they: 1) follow roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet ACEC objectives and management actions; and 3) do not create safety hazards (see the Lands and Realty Management section).

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel Management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

General winter vehicular access in the ACEC, for any purpose, would be limited only to specific roads identified for winter use. However, access on other roads could be authorized for over-the-snow vehicles only.

Seasonal closures may be applied for protection of other resource values as needed.

In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile): the overlapping connectivity area in the ACEC = 0.5 mile or less.

Wild Horse Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wild Horse management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

The boundary of the Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area would be expanded. No more than 100 horses would occupy the expansion area portion of the Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area. The Appropriate Management Level for the expanded Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area would not change.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the number of roads and access, and limiting the degree of activity and use in the ACEC. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC (20 acres in the planning area)

The management objectives and actions would be the same as described for the Preferred Alternative except as discussed for the following resources. Some of the actions in these resource management sections may be the same as described in the Preferred Alternative but are repeated here for understanding and clarification.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as stated in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3). In addition:

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the ACEC. Functional, pre-existing water developments could be maintained and natural water sources (springs and seeps) in the ACEC would be protected.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would remain closed to leasing and surface disturbance activities associated with fluid mineral development (Map 35).

ALTERNATIVES

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

The ACEC would remain closed to surface disturbing activities that could adversely affect the ACEC.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Areas closed to oil and gas leasing (Map 35) and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the number of roads and access, and limiting the degree of activity and use in the ACEC. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

Red Desert Watershed Area (169,010 acres in the planning area)

The management objectives and actions would be the same as described for the Preferred Alternative except as discussed for the following resources. Some of the actions in these resource management sections may be the same as described in the Preferred Alternative but are repeated here for understanding and clarification.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general management actions for the overall planning area and described in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3). About two thirds of the Oregon Buttes ACEC occurs in the Red Desert Watershed Area. A portion of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC, and therefore, the core area, Split Rock, and the connectivity areas also occur in the watershed area. Where the Red Desert Watershed Area overlaps these areas, the management objectives and actions are discussed in those specific areas and not repeated here. In addition:

Lands and Realty Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Lands and Realty management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Rights-of-way would avoid the big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation associations to minimize effects to big game habitat (Map 32, Map 33, and Table 2-13).

The proposed withdrawals in Table 2-14 would be pursued. Future withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws would be pursued to protect important resource values, as needs are identified.

Livestock Grazing Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Livestock Grazing management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the core area, crucial big game ranges, or the connectivity area.

Minerals Management

Leasable Minerals-Fluid Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Fluid Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Approximately 12,950 acres of federal mineral estate would be closed to fluid mineral leasing (Map 35).

A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-15 and Map 21). About 5,200 acres would be open to leasing with a no surface occupancy requirement.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 56,500 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11). Also see Appendix 4 for procedures for processing authorizations in areas with seasonal requirements.

Fluid mineral exploration and development activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-15, Map 36, and Figure 1). Surface disturbance conditional requirements would be placed on 169,010 acres.

Crucial habitats and other areas of sensitive resource values would be open to consideration for fluid mineral leasing and development so long as they would be protected from irreversible adverse effects (Figure 1). This would be accomplished in part through controlled timing and sequencing of federal fluid mineral leasing, exploration, development, and reclamation in these areas. For example, satisfactory abandonment of oil and gas wells or surface disturbance reclamation may be required before additional fluid mineral leasing and development could occur in big game crucial ranges, migration routes, and birthing areas. See the Fluid Minerals section of the overall planning area for a description of management actions involving fluid mineral leasing exploration and development.

Exploration and development activities related to leases in effect before approval of the JMHCAP would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Besides the existing lease stipulations, any additional mitigation needs would be included (to the

ALTERNATIVES

extent allowed by regulation) as conditions of approval for APDs. Conditions of approval may include, but would not be limited to:

surface disturbance conditional requirements identified in (see Table 2-15);

transportation planning, prior to implementing any activity, with an objective of no more than 0.5 miles of all-weather (improved) road per section in big game crucial habitat areas;

remote control of fluid mineral production facilities to limit traffic into the area;

multiple-well pads to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area;

limiting the number of well pads to no more than four per section in sensitive areas;

directional drilling in crucial wildlife habitats and other sensitive areas (Table 2-15 and Figure 1) where access and surface disturbance or disruptive activity would create irreversible adverse effects;

clustering or centrally locating tank batteries or other ancillary facilities to limit traffic and disturbance;

shrub reclamation (containerized stock, transplanting, etc.) where necessary to restore and to reduce the long-term loss of important habitat;

application of geotechnical materials for construction; or

unitization of potential oil and gas field areas prior to exploration and development.

Solid Leasables (Coal) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Solid Leasable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Exploration proposals would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and appropriate mitigation would be required. Exploration activities would avoid sensitive areas (Figure 1). Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to exploration activities; however, exploration activities could occur on existing roads and trails within these areas in conformance with transportation planning.

Salables (Mineral Materials) MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Mineral Materials management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The areas identified in Table 2-16 would be closed to mineral material sales. Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities, elk calving areas, and mountain shrub communities (including big sagebrush/scurfpea communities and special status species habitats) would be closed to mineral material sales. In areas that remain open, sale proposals would be considered on a case-by-case basis, and appropriate mitigation would be required. Road construction and upgrading of roads for mineral material extraction would only be allowed in accordance with transportation planning.

Locatable Minerals MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Locatable Minerals management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

The proposed withdrawals in Table 2-14 would be pursued. Future withdrawals from mineral location and entry under the land laws would be pursued to protect important resource values, as needs are identified.

Geophysical MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Geophysical management actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Most of the planning area would be open to consideration of geophysical exploration activities. Based on site specific analysis, geophysical exploration activities would be authorized with appropriate conditional requirements such as limiting the use of vehicles and explosive charges (Table 2-7). Exploration activities in sensitive areas would be limited and mitigation measures would be applied to protect sensitive resources (timing limitations, avoidance, restrictions on vehicle use and explosive charges, etc.). Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to off-road vehicle use and explosive charges. In areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities, the core area, and sensitive areas, exploration activities, without the use of explosive charges, could occur on existing roads and trails in conformance with transportation planning.

Areas of Native American respected places would be closed to geophysical vehicles and explosive charges.

Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Reclamation and Reclamation Monitoring actions for the overall planning area. In addition:

Satisfactory reclamation of surface disturbance and abandonment of facilities, such as oil and gas wells, range improvements, roads, trails, etc., that are no longer needed in the Red Desert, may be required before additional facilities or disturbance would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes and birthing areas in the Red Desert.

Special Status Plant ACEC Expansion

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES: Same as stated in the Green River RMP.

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as stated in the general management section of the Preferred Alternative. In addition:

The Special Status Plant ACEC designated in the Green River RMP would be expanded to include 2,660 acres of *Lesquerella macrocarpa* (Map 38).

Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Activities Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Surface Disturbing and Disruptive management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

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A no surface occupancy requirement would be used to protect certain important resource values (see Table 2-15 and Map 21). Sensitive resources and areas to be protected include but are not limited to: raptor nesting sites, special status plant species habitat, and Tri-Territory Marker.

Seasonal conditional requirements would be placed on about 56,500 acres of big game winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, and raptor habitat (Table 2-5 and Map 11).

Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be appropriately conditioned to protect certain important resource values. These resources include but are not limited to: visual values, recreation opportunities, public health and safety, cultural values, geologic features, crucial wildlife habitats (crucial winter ranges, migration routes, parturition areas, and nesting and breeding areas), stabilized and unstabilized sand dunes, and big sagebrush habitat. On areas where several of these resources overlap, an NSO requirement would be applied (Figure 1). For more information, see Table 2-15 and Map 36.

Areas closed to oil and gas leasing (Map 35) and to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would also be closed to surface disturbing activities for the protection of wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, watershed management objectives, and for public health and safety. However, exceptions could be considered for such surface disturbing activities as fencing, interpretive signs, or other types of actions that would be conducted for the benefit of these same resources and uses. Small feeder utility lines (4 inch or less) in these areas would be prohibited, unless they 1) follow roads or right-of-way concentration areas in conformance with transportation planning; 2) meet area objectives; and 3) do not create safety hazards (see the Lands and Realty Management section).

Travel Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Travel Management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

General winter vehicular access in the planning area, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified

for winter use. However, access on other roads could be authorized for over-the-snow vehicles only.

The seasonal vehicle closure for protection of elk and deer parturition habitat in the core area would apply. Additional seasonal closures may be applied for protection of other resource values as needed.

In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile): core area and connectivity area = 0.5 miles or less.

Visual Resource Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Visual Resource management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

The entire watershed area would be managed as a Class II VRM area (Map 39).

Wild Horse Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wild Horse management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

The boundary of the Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area would be expanded. No more than 100 horses would occupy the expansion area portion of the Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area. The Appropriate Management Level for the expanded Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area would not change.

Wildlife Management

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS: Same as general Wildlife management actions for overall planning area. In addition:

Avoiding fragmentation of habitat and maintaining the integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be addressed by limiting the number of roads and access, and limiting the degree of activity and use in the Red Desert portion of the planning area. See Reclamation and Surface Disturbing and Disruptive Management sections for related management actions.

**TABLE 2-1
SUMMARY COMPARISON OF ALTERNATIVES**

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
	<p>Upon completion of the JMHCAP, crucial habitats and other areas of sensitive resource values would be open to further consideration for various multiple use activities so long as crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values would be protected from irreversible adverse effects. This would be accomplished in part through controlled timing and sequencing of the various activities and related reclamation in these areas. For example, satisfactory reclamation of surface disturbance may be required before additional surface disturbing activities would be allowed in big game crucial ranges, migration routes, and birthing areas. Under this alternative, the following could occur:</p>	No similar action.	No similar action.	No similar action.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL LAND AND RESOURCE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
	<p>S Subject to future monitoring and evaluation, portions of the JMHCAP planning area would be temporarily closed to mineral leasing, long-term surface disturbing and disruptive activity, rights-of-way, fencing, powerlines, pipelines, long-term and permanent structures or facilities, rangeland improvements, land treatments, mineral leasing, long-term and permanent land and resource use commitments or allocations. This would be done to satisfy immediate needs for adequate wildlife habitat and use of that habitat (crucial winter range, calving/fawning, migration corridors, etc.), protection of other sensitive resources, and for public health and safety.</p>	No similar action.	No similar action.	No similar action.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL LAND AND RESOURCE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
	<p>-In particular, in portions of Steamboat Mountain ACEC, Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, the White Mountain and Split Rock areas, and the core and connectivity areas, these types of actions would not be authorized until monitoring and evaluation of ongoing activity in these areas determine that rates and levels of activities and reclamation would allow further activity, would not cause fragmentation and abandonment of habitat, and would still meet stated management objectives. This determination would be based on the effects on elk and their movement patterns, elk use of habitat, effects on other wildlife species and habitats, and effects on other sensitive resources.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL LAND AND RESOURCE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
	<p>-The evaluation would incorporate information from the elk study initiated in 1999; application of the standards and guidelines for healthy rangelands; proper functioning condition determinations for riparian areas; and other activities and uses. After the initial phase of the evaluation (about four years), a determination would be made on whether or not areas may become available for consideration of future activities. Should these areas become available, appropriate mitigation would be applied to meet planning area management objectives. If the evaluation concludes that planning area management objectives are not being met, these areas would remain unavailable. As areas become available for consideration of future activities, they would be considered on a case-by-case basis to determine if the planning area management objectives could be met.</p>	No similar action.	No similar action.	No similar action.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL LAND AND RESOURCE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
SURFACE DISTURBANCE	Management Objectives: to protect sensitive resources and areas from irreversible adverse effects of surface disturbing activities and disruptive human presence (also see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Management Actions: Sensitive resources and areas to be protected include: Boars Tusk, White Mountain Petroglyphs, Crookston Ranch, crucial habitats, developed recreation sites and the ORV parking lot in the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, Oregon Buttes ACEC, raptor nesting sites, rock art site, South Pass Historic Landscape (area visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail), special status plant species habitat, Native American areas of concern, and the Tri-Territory Marker (see oil and gas section).	Sensitive resources and areas to be protected include: Boars Tusk, White Mountain Petroglyphs, Crookston Ranch, developed recreation sites and the ORV parking lot in the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, Oregon Buttes ACEC, raptor nesting sites, South Pass Historic Landscape (area visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail), special status plant species habitat, Native American areas of concern, and the Tri-Territory Marker (see oil and gas section).	Same as No Action Alternative.	Sensitive resources and areas to be protected include: Boars Tusk, White Mountain Petroglyphs, Crookston Ranch, developed recreation sites and the ORV parking lot in the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, Native American areas of concern, Oregon Buttes ACEC, raptor nesting sites, rock art site, South Pass Historic Landscape (area visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail), special status plant species habitat, and the Tri-Territory Marker (see oil and gas section).

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

	Seasonal conditional requirements would be applied on about 347,250 acres of big game crucial winter ranges, calving or parturition areas, sage grouse nesting areas, raptor nesting habitat, and game fish spawning areas (Table 2-5).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
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TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL LAND AND RESOURCE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
SURFACE DISTURBANCE (continued)	Floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas, highly erodible soils, historic trails (1/4 mile or visual horizon), recreation sites (+1/4 mile buffer), sage grouse leks and 1/4 mile buffer, South Pass Historic Landscape (area not visible within 3 miles of Oregon Trail), special status plant species potential habitat, VRM Class II lands, and areas within 100 feet of the inner gorge of intermittent/ephemeral streams would be avoidance areas for surface disturbing activities.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Surface disturbing activities would be limited during wet weather, on frozen soils, and on slopes greater than 20%.	Surface-disturbing activities would be limited during wet weather, on frozen soils, and on slopes greater than 25%.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Native American respected places (see Cultural section) would be avoidance areas for surface disturbing and disruptive activities. Avoidance distances may vary from 100 feet to 2-1/2 miles.	Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be prohibited within 100 feet of Native American respected places.	Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be prohibited within 1/4 mile of Native American respected places.	Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be prohibited within 1 mile of Native American respected places.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
MANAGEMENT ACTIONS COMMON TO ALL LAND AND RESOURCE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
SURFACE DISTURBANCE (continued)	Areas closed to oil and gas leasing would be open only to those activities that would benefit wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, and watershed values. Consideration would be given to linear facilities that follow existing roads in these areas in conformance with transportation planning.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	No similar action.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
AIR QUALITY	Management Objectives: Same as the GRRMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Management Actions: Special requirements (e.g., use authorization stipulations, mitigation measures, conditions of approval, etc.) to alleviate air quality impacts will be identified on a case-by-case basis and included in use authorizations, leases, and permits.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
CULTURAL, PALEONTOLOGICAL	Management Objectives: Same as the GRRMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Management Actions: Congressionally designated National Historic Trails would be managed as described in the Green River RMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	The most historic examples of each Expansion Era Road would be preserved for their historic resource values. The effects to a portion of the road would need to be evaluated against the integrity (according to NRHP guidelines) of the entirety of the road.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CULTURAL, PALEONTOLOGICAL (continued)	For Expansion Era roads, distance restrictions for surface disturbing activities and visual intrusions would be determined on a case-by-case basis.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Surface disturbing activities would be prohibited within 1/4 mile of any Expansion Era Road segment determined to possess qualities making that portion of the road eligible for inclusion within the NRHP.
	Special requirements (e.g., use authorization stipulations, mitigation measures, conditions of approval, etc.) to alleviate cultural resource impacts would be identified on a case-by-case basis and included in use authorizations, leases, and permits.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be prohibited on a 320-acre cultural site.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	NRHP-eligible sites and a 100-foot buffer would be avoidance areas.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	NRHP-eligible sites and a 300-foot buffer would be avoidance areas.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CULTURAL, PALEONTOLOGICAL (continued)	Native American respected places would be avoidance areas for surface disturbing and disruptive activities. Traditional elders would be consulted regarding the importance of specific features identified, and for their recommendations of appropriate avoidance distances. Avoidance distances may range from 100 feet to 2½ miles depending on the importance of the features involved and their topographic setting. Viewshed (vista) and noise analysis may be conducted to help determine appropriate avoidance distances.	Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be excluded within 100 feet of Native American respected places.	Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be excluded within ¼ mile of Native American respected places.	Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be excluded within 1 mile of Native American respected places.
	Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be excluded within a ½-mile viewshed (vista) of the White Mountain Petroglyphs.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	For all other rock art sites, activities would be excluded within a ½-mile viewshed. A vista and noise analysis would be done for each site.	All other rock art sites would be addressed on a case-by-case basis. A vista and noise analysis would be done for each site.	All other rock art sites would be avoided by 100 feet. A vista and noise analysis would not be done for each site.	All other rock art sites would be avoided by ½ mile. A vista and noise analysis would not be done for each site.
	The paleosol deposition area would be reviewed for consideration for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CULTURAL, PALEONTOLOGICAL (continued)	The paleosol deposition area would be an avoidance area surface disturbing and disruptive activities. Exceptions may be considered on a case-by-case basis if adverse effects could be mitigated.	Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would avoid sites located in the paleosol deposition area by 100 feet.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be prohibited within the entire paleosol deposition area.
	Site-specific surveys for fossil resources would be conducted as necessary, before any surface-disturbing activities would be approved. Mitigation would be applied on a case-by-case basis.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
FIRE	Management Objectives: Same as the GRRMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Management Actions: Fire prescriptions identified in the “Fire Management Implementation Plan for the BLM-Administered Public Lands in the State of Wyoming” (BLM 1998) would be implemented.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Additional fire prescriptions including full suppression for big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation associations would be applied on a case-by-case basis.	Additional fire prescriptions including full suppression for big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation associations would not be applied on a case-by-case basis.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
	Prescribed fires would be considered on a case-by-case basis.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS	Management Objectives: Same as the GRRMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Management Actions: Site specific management prescriptions would be developed on a case-by-case basis as necessary.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
HEALTHY RANGELANDS	Management Objectives: to provide for the health, productivity, and sustainability of BLM-administered rangelands; to achieve the four fundamentals of rangeland health.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Management Actions: The Wyoming Standards for Healthy Rangelands would apply to all resource use activities on public lands. Special requirements to meet the Standards for Healthy Rangelands would be identified on a case-by-case basis. Methods and/or practices would be put in place to implement plan objectives and to describe site specific conditions desired.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
LANDS AND REALTY MANAGEMENT	Management Objectives: Same as the GRRMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
LANDS AND REALTY MANAGEMENT <i>Land Ownership Adjustment</i>	Management Actions: Land disposal and acquisition proposals would be considered on a case-by-case basis.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Consideration would be given to exchanges for state lands in Wilderness Study Areas and special management areas such as ACECs. Exchanges would conform with the JMHCAP objectives and actions.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
LANDS AND REALTY MANAGEMENT <i>Exchanges</i>	The proposed exchanges identified in the Green River RMP would be pursued.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
LANDS AND REALTY MANAGEMENT <i>Utility/Transportation Systems</i>	With the exception of defined exclusion and avoidance areas, public lands in the planning area would be open to consideration of granting of rights-of-way, permits, and leases.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Right-of-way activities would be concentrated in certain areas and avoided or excluded in others, to protect sensitive resources (Table 2-2).	Right-of-way activities would not be concentrated in certain areas and avoided or excluded in others, to protect sensitive resources (Table 2-9).	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
LANDS AND REALTY MANAGEMENT <i>Utility/Transportation Systems</i> (continued)	Rights-of-way windows would be established to concentrate the placement of right-of-way facilities and limit the areas disturbed. All rights-of-way would be placed in the windows identified. Exceptions may be considered if mitigation can be developed to meet area objectives and to alleviate impacts to the sensitive resources in the area.	Rights-of-way windows areas would not be established to concentrate facilities.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Rights-of-way windows would be established to concentrate the placement of right-of-way facilities and limit the areas disturbed. All rights-of-way would be placed in the windows identified. Exceptions would not be considered.
	Areas closed to surface occupancy and closed to fluid mineral leasing would be closed to rights-of-way. An exception could be considered for small feeder lines if they follow existing roads (in accordance with transportation planning), or follow existing right-of-way concentration areas, do not create a safety hazard, and meet area objectives.	No similar action.	No similar action.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
LANDS AND REALTY MANAGEMENT <i>Communication Sites</i>	Where acceptable, communication sites would be approved on a case-by-case basis. Sharing of sites would be advocated, where possible.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
<p>LANDS AND REALTY MANAGEMENT <i>Communication Sites</i> (continued)</p>	<p>Steamboat Mountain ACEC, Oregon Buttes ACEC, and Continental Peak would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat and visual values. Communication sites could be considered on Essex Mountain or Pacific Butte. Restrictions would be applied on height (no strobe light necessary), road access, and to prevent visual intrusion. Actions on Pacific Butte would conform to the management prescriptions in place for the South Pass Historic Landscape.</p>	<p>Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to communication sites. Sites could be considered on Essex Mountain and Pacific Butte. Oregon Buttes ACEC and Continental Peak would be closed to communication sites.</p>	<p>Steamboat Mountain ACEC, Essex Mountain, and Pacific Butte would be open for consideration of communications sites. Oregon Buttes ACEC and Continental Peak would be closed to communication sites.</p>	<p>Steamboat Mountain ACEC, Essex Mountain, Oregon Buttes ACEC, Continental Peak, and Pacific Buttes would be closed to communication sites to protect wildlife habitat and visual values.</p>
<p>LANDS AND REALTY MANAGEMENT <i>Withdrawals</i></p>	<p>Withdrawals would be pursued to provide protection to important resource values. Withdrawals which no longer serve the purpose for which they were established would be revoked. Prior to revocation, withdrawn lands would be reviewed to determine if any other resource values require withdrawal protection (see Appendix 3).</p>	<p>Same as Preferred Alternative.</p>	<p>Same as Preferred Alternative.</p>	<p>Same as Preferred Alternative.</p>
	<p>Withdrawals would be pursued for sites identified in the GRRMP (see Appendix 3).</p>	<p>Same as Preferred Alternative.</p>	<p>Same as Preferred Alternative.</p>	<p>Same as Preferred Alternative.</p>

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
LANDS AND REALTY MANAGEMENT <i>Withdrawals</i> (continued)	Additional withdrawals would be pursued for two elk calving areas (about 7,440 acres), the top of Steamboat Mountain (about 960 acres), cultural site (about 320 acres), and 3 Native American respected places (about 280 acres) (Map 8, Table 2-3).	Additional withdrawals would not be pursued.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Additional withdrawals would be pursued for the connectivity area (about 140,380 acres), elk calving areas (about 58,890 acres), core area (about 80,410 acres) Steamboat Mountain ACEC (about 43,310 acres), and a cultural site (about 320 acres) (Map 34, Table 2-15).
LANDS AND REALTY MANAGEMENT <i>Access</i>	Access to public lands would be provided throughout the planning area. Access would be closed or restricted where necessary in specific areas to protect public health and safety, and to protect significant resource values in accordance with ORV designations. See Travel Management section.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT	<p>Management Objectives: 1) improve forage production and ecological conditions for the benefit of livestock use, wildlife habitat, watershed, and riparian areas; 2) maintain, improve, or restore riparian habitat to enhance forage conditions, wildlife habitat, and stream quality; and 3) achieve proper functioning condition or better on riparian areas (this is the first priority for vegetation management) (Appendix 3). In addition: Maintain or improve the vegetative resource (particularly mountain shrub communities), and provide for the maintenance or improvement of wildlife habitat, watershed values and riparian habitat using appropriate vegetation and livestock grazing management practices to meet the objectives for the planning area (provide the necessary habitat for big game and other wildlife species).</p>	<p>Management Objectives: 1) improve forage production and ecological conditions for the benefit of livestock use, wildlife habitat, watershed, and riparian areas; 2) maintain, improve, or restore riparian habitat to enhance forage conditions, wildlife habitat, and stream quality; and 3) achieve proper functioning condition or better on riparian areas (this is the first priority for vegetation management) (Appendix 3).</p>	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT (continued)	<p>Management Actions: Authorized grazing use would not exceed the recognized permitted use. For analysis purposes, anticipated actual use would range from approximately 9,851 AUMs (5-year average 1994-1998) to the total permitted use of 26,032 AUMs. The average between the two amounts is 17,941 AUMs (15,814 cattle and 2,127 sheep).</p>	<p>Management Actions: Authorized grazing use would not exceed the recognized permitted use. For analysis purposes, anticipated actual use would range from approximately 13,038 AUMs (1998 base year usage) to the total permitted use of 26,032 AUMs. The average between the two amounts is 19,535 AUMs (17,379 cattle and 2,156 sheep).</p>	<p>Management Actions: Authorized grazing use would not exceed the recognized permitted use. For analysis purposes, anticipated actual use would be 26,032 AUMs (22,767 cattle and 3,265 sheep).</p>	<p>Management Actions: Authorized grazing use would not exceed the recognized permitted use. For analysis purposes, anticipated actual use would be based on the 5-year average actual use (1994-1998) of 9,851 AUMs (8,861 cattle and 990 sheep).</p>
	<p>Methods and/or practices would be put in place to implement plan objectives and to describe site specific conditions desired. Criteria would be established to define significant progress. Significant progress toward meeting the standards would be made within a reasonable time frame (subject to climatic variability).</p>	<p>Same as Preferred Alternative.</p>	<p>Same as Preferred Alternative.</p>	<p>Same as Preferred Alternative.</p>
	<p>Levels of livestock use may be reduced (where appropriate) as one of the appropriate actions taken to meet the Wyoming Standards for Healthy Rangelands.</p>	<p>Levels of livestock use would only be reduced if it is the only appropriate action that would meet the Wyoming Standards for Healthy Rangelands.</p>	<p>Levels of livestock use would not be reduced as the only appropriate action to be taken, to meet the Wyoming Standards for Healthy Rangelands.</p>	<p>Levels of livestock use would be reduced (where appropriate) as the primary appropriate action taken to meet the Wyoming Standards for Healthy Rangelands.</p>

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT (continued)	Livestock turnout dates would be determined on a case-by-case basis to ensure adequate vegetative growing season rest. At a minimum, no livestock use would be allowed before range readiness. Range readiness would be determined on a case-by-case basis.	Established turnout dates would continue; however, modification could be considered on a case-by-case basis. Early turnout would not occur under this alternative.	Established turnout dates could be modified to allow early turnout and growing season-long use.	Turnout dates would be delayed until mid- to late-June, to provide for more growing season rest.
	Applications for changes in class of livestock would be considered on a case-by-case basis and would only be approved where such a conversion would aid in achieving the JMHCAP objectives.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Applications for changes in class of livestock to sheep use would be considered. Changes to cattle use would not be considered.
	Livestock grazing suitability reviews would be applied on a case-by-case basis. Unsuitable areas would be removed from the forage base as appropriate.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Planning area-wide livestock grazing suitability reviews would be conducted to determine areas that do not qualify for the forage base. Unsuitable areas would be removed from the forage base as appropriate.
	Plowing of roads in winter for livestock accessibility and feeding would only be allowed for emergency situations. Any such activity would conform with transportation planning.	Plowing of roads in winter for livestock accessibility and feeding would be considered on a case-by-case basis.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT (continued)	Limit livestock use on upland key grass species to 1) no more than 40% of the current growth (seasonal utilization) and 2) minimum heights throughout the growing season (to be determined for individual key species), whichever is reached first.	Limit livestock use on upland key grass species to 1) no more than 50% of the current annual growth and 2) minimum heights at the end of the growing season (to be determined for individual key species), whichever is reached first.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Riparian areas would be maintained, improved, or restored to enhance forage conditions, provide wildlife habitat, and improve stream and water quality. Where possible, additional riparian area acreage would be acquired to enhance livestock and riparian area management. All grazing management plans would include riparian desired plant community objectives (DPC). A riparian rating of Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) is the minimum level acceptable. Livestock grazing allotments with riparian areas in less than PFC would require a change in management (as determined by an interdisciplinary team) to achieve PFC.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT (continued)	Riparian and upland habitats would be managed primarily for wildlife and watershed needs. A livestock grazing plan that addresses riparian and upland habitats would be required.	Riparian and upland habitats would be managed primarily for livestock grazing and wildlife habitat. A livestock grazing plan may not be required.	Riparian and upland habitat would be primarily managed for livestock grazing. A livestock grazing plan may not be required.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Riparian pastures for livestock grazing would be established only if watershed resources and wildlife habitat would be enhanced.	Riparian pastures for livestock grazing would not be established.	Riparian pastures would be established to enhance livestock grazing management.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Livestock would be removed from an area/pasture/allotment when 30% of the stems are browsed on key riparian shrub species. Livestock would also be removed from an area/pasture/allotment when seasonal utilization of key riparian herbaceous species reaches 40% or utilization reaches no less than a 6-inch height, whichever occurs first. Key species and plant height monitoring would be conducted throughout the grazing season.	Livestock grazing use on riparian areas would be limited to 1) no more than 50% of the stems browsed on key riparian shrub species or 2) for herbaceous plants, minimum heights of 6 inches at the end of the growing season or 50% utilization. Key species and plant height monitoring would be conducted at the end of the grazing season.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Livestock would be removed from an area/pasture/allotment when 30% of the stems are browsed on key riparian shrub species. Livestock would also be removed from an area/pasture/allotment when seasonal utilization of key riparian herbaceous species reaches 35% or utilization reaches no less than an 8-inch height (minimum height), whichever occurs first. Key species and plant height monitoring would be conducted throughout the grazing season.
	Special management exclosures including the “hay meadow exclosures” on Pacific Creek would remain closed to livestock grazing.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT (continued)	Livestock range improvements outside crucial wildlife habitats would be considered. Within crucial wildlife habitats, range improvements would be considered only where they would benefit wildlife and wildlife habitat. The connectivity area would be managed as crucial wildlife habitat.	No new livestock range improvements would be considered.	Livestock range improvements would be considered on a case-by-case basis throughout the planning area.	Livestock range improvements would be considered only where they would benefit wildlife and wildlife habitat. The connectivity area would be managed as crucial wildlife habitat.
	Livestock water developments would be allowed in the core or crucial winter ranges, including the connectivity area (migration corridor) only if JMHCAP objectives can be met.	No livestock water developments would be allowed.	Livestock water developments would be allowed in the core, the connectivity area, and in crucial winter ranges.	Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the core, connectivity area, or crucial winter ranges.
	Livestock water developments would be fenced and offsite water facilities would be developed (pipelines and troughs). Natural water sources (springs and seeps) would be protected from excessive use.	No similar action.	Livestock water developments would not be fenced and offsite water facilities would not be developed.	Livestock water developments would be fenced and offsite water facilities would be developed (pipelines and troughs).
	Livestock water developments would be prohibited within 1.5 miles of active sage grouse leks.	No water developments would be authorized.	Livestock water developments would be prohibited within 1/4 mile of sage grouse leks.	Livestock water developments would be prohibited within 2 miles of sage grouse leks.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT (continued)	Vegetation treatments would be considered on a case-by-case basis. A livestock grazing plan would be prepared prior to treatment. Areas proposed for vegetation treatments would be rested two full years after. Areas proposed for prescribed burning would also be rested one full year prior to treatment unless vegetation cover prior to burning is adequate.	No vegetation treatments would be authorized.	Vegetation treatments would be considered on a case-by-case basis. After vegetation treatments, two growing seasons of rest would be required.	Vegetation treatments would be considered on a case-by-case basis. A livestock grazing plan would be prepared prior to treatment. Areas proposed for vegetation treatments would be rested one full year prior to treatment and two full years after.
	Salt would be placed at least 1/4 mile from historic trails.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Salt placement would be no closer to water than 1/2 mile.	Salt would be placed at least 500 feet from riparian areas.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Salt would be placed at least 1/4 mile from sensitive plant species locations.	Salt would be placed at least 500 feet from sensitive plant species locations.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
MINERALS MANAGEMENT (General)	Management Objectives: Same as stated in the GRRMP (see Appendix 3)	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
MINERALS MANAGEMENT Oil and Gas	Management Objectives: to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals while protecting other resource values (Appendix 3). In addition: to permit the development of oil and gas reserves in an orderly and timely manner, inside and outside the core and connectivity areas, in conformance with the objectives to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other wildlife populations, and to protect other sensitive resources.	Management Objectives: to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals while protecting other resource values (Appendix 3); to continue to permit the development of oil and gas reserves, outside the core area, in conformance with objectives to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other wildlife populations.	Management Objectives: to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals while protecting other resource values (Appendix 3); to permit the development of oil and gas reserves, inside and outside the core area and connectivity area, in conformance with objectives to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other wildlife populations.	Management Objectives: to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals while protecting other resource values (Appendix 3); to continue to permit the development of oil and gas reserves, outside the core and connectivity areas, in conformance with objectives to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other wildlife populations and to protect sensitive resources.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
<p>MINERALS MANAGEMENT <i>Oil and Gas</i> (continued)</p>	<p>Management Actions: Upon completion of the JMHCAP, fluid mineral leasing, exploration and development would be allowed in portions of the planning area, including portions of the core and connectivity areas. These areas would be open to leasing consideration, with necessary mitigation, which could include CSU, NSO, other stipulations or conditional requirements, and temporary lease suspension. Because there are pre-existing leases in some of the crucial big game habitat areas and other sensitive areas, development in these areas could cause other areas to become crucial habitat or sensitive. Thus, some portions of the planning area may remain closed to leasing and development because other portions of the area with crucial habitat and sensitive resources are already leased.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
<p>MINERALS MANAGEMENT <i>Oil and Gas</i> (continued)</p>	<p>Subject to future monitoring and evaluation, portions of the planning area would be temporarily closed to leasing to satisfy immediate needs for adequate habitat and use of that habitat (crucial winter range, calving/fawning, migration corridors, etc.), protection of sensitive resources, and for public health and safety. The entire planning area would not be leased at the same time, and exploration and development activities would not be allowed to occur at the same time over the entire planning area. In particular, unleased portions of Steamboat Mountain ACEC, Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, the White Mountain and Split Rock areas, and the core and connectivity areas would not be leased until monitoring and evaluation of ongoing exploration and development activity in these areas determine that rates and levels of development and reclamation would allow further leasing and development, would not cause fragmentation and abandonment of habitat, and would still meet stated management objectives. This</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
<p>MINERALS MANAGEMENT <i>Oil and Gas</i> (continued)</p>	<p>determination would be based on the effects on elk and their movement patterns, elk use of habitat, effects on other wildlife species and habitats, and effects on other sensitive resources.</p> <p>The evaluation would incorporate information from the elk study initiated in 1999; application of the standards for healthy rangelands, guidelines for livestock grazing, and future guidelines for other resource programs; proper functioning condition determinations for riparian areas; and other activities and uses. After the initial phase of the evaluation (about four years), a determination would be made on whether or not unleased areas, that may become available for future leasing consideration, would be offered for lease. Should these areas be offered for lease, appropriate mitigation would be applied to meet planning area management objectives. If the evaluation concludes that planning area management objectives are not being met, these areas would either remain unleased, or would be leased with an NSO stipulation.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
<p>MINERALS MANAGEMENT <i>Oil and Gas</i> (continued)</p>	<p>As areas become available for future leasing consideration, they would be reviewed to determine if the planning area management objectives could be met, if they were leased and developed. To facilitate this and promote consistency in implementing the JMHCAP management decisions, areas determined suitable for leasing consideration within the core and connectivity areas, White Mountain, and Split Rock areas would only be considered once a year. This would allow consideration of each of these areas in their entirety rather than piecemeal consideration of individual lease applications that may be submitted throughout the year.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
<p>MINERALS MANAGEMENT <i>Oil and Gas</i> (continued)</p>	<p>For oil and gas leases in effect before approval of the JMHCAP, exploration and development proposals would be considered on a case-by-case basis and mitigation requirements (conditions of APD approval) would include but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -surface disturbance prescriptions identified in the GRRMP; -transportation planning prior to any activity with an objective of no more than 2 miles of road per square mile in crucial habitat areas; -remote control of wells to limit traffic into the area; -“pad” drilling (multiple wells per pad) to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area; -limiting the number of pads per section in sensitive areas to a maximum of four per section (based on analysis and current lease stipulations, it may be less in some areas); -directional drilling in crucial habitat areas where access and disturbance would cause irreversible adverse effects; -central placement of tank batteries to limit traffic and disturbance; 	<p>For oil and gas leases in effect before approval of the JMHCAP (outside the core area only), exploration and development activities would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and mitigation requirements (conditions of APD approval) would include but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -surface disturbance prescriptions identified in the GRRMP; -some transportation planning; -prohibiting surface disturbing activities in the core area; -surface disturbance prescriptions for sensitive areas identified in the GRRMP; -central placement of tank batteries where these actions would primarily benefit the extraction of the oil and gas resource; -standard reclamation practices; -application of geotechnical materials for construction. 	<p>For oil and gas leases in effect before approval of the JMHCAP, exploration and development activities would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and mitigation requirements (conditions of APD approval) would include but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -surface disturbance prescriptions identified in the GRRMP; -some transportation planning; -no prescriptions for sensitive areas would be applied; -remote control of wells to limit traffic into the area; -directional drilling, or “pad” drilling to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area, -limiting the number of pads per section on a case-by-case basis; -central placement of tank batteries where these actions would primarily benefit the extraction of the oil and gas resource; -standard reclamation practices; -application of geotechnical materials for construction. 	<p>For oil and gas leases in effect before approval of the JMHCAP, exploration and development activities would be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and mitigation requirements (conditions of APD approval) would include but not be limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -surface disturbance prescriptions identified in the GRRMP; -transportation planning prior to any activity with an objective of no more than 1 mile of road per square mile in crucial habitat areas; -remote control of wells to limit traffic into the area; -“pad” (multiple wells per pad) drilling to limit the amount of use, access, and disturbance in the area; -limiting the number of pads per section in sensitive areas to a maximum of two per section; -directional drilling in crucial habitat areas where access and disturbance would cause irreversible adverse effects; -central placement of tank batteries to limit traffic and disturbance; -shrub reclamation (containerized stock) where necessary to restore habitat to maintain a balance and reduce the long-term loss of needed habitat;

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
MINERALS MANAGEMENT Oil and Gas (continued)	-shrub reclamation (containerized stock) where necessary to restore habitat to maintain a balance and reduce the long-term loss of needed habitat; -application of geotechnical materials for construction; - provide for unitization of areas prior to exploration and development.			-application of geotechnical materials for construction; -provide for unitization of areas prior to exploration and development.
	No leasing on about 37,240 acres.	No leasing on about 80,410 acres.	No leasing on about 0 acres.	No leasing on about 220,790 acres.
	No surface occupancy (NSO) constraints on new oil and gas leasing would apply to about 56,040 acres (Table 2-4).	No surface occupancy (NSO) constraints on new oil and gas leasing would apply to about 30,580 acres (Table 2-10).	Same as No Action.	No surface occupancy (NSO) constraints on new oil and gas leasing would apply to about 36,010 acres (Table 2-16).
	Seasonal restrictions would be applied primarily to protect wildlife resources (347,250 acres) and for watershed protection (avoiding excessive soil movement, runoff, etc.).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Controlled surface use (CSU) constraints would apply to about 416,160 acres.	Controlled surface use (CSU) constraints would apply to about 320,580 acres.	Same as No Action.	Controlled surface use (CSU) constraints would apply to about 462,560 acres.
	Exploration and development activities would be prohibited on slopes of 20% or greater.	Exploration and development activities would be prohibited on slopes of 25% or greater.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
MINERALS MANAGEMENT <i>Oil and Gas</i> (continued)	Transportation planning would be implemented. Road densities would be established, as necessary.	Transportation planning would be implemented. Road densities would not be established.	No transportation planning would be implemented. Road densities would not be established.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	NRHP-eligible sites and a 100-foot buffer would be avoidance areas.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	NRHP-eligible sites and a 300-foot buffer would be avoidance areas.
	As appropriate, mitigation requirements to protect other resources would be included as stipulations on oil and gas leases and as conditions of APD approval for oil and gas exploration and development activities.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
MINERALS MANAGEMENT Coal	Management Objectives: Same as GRRMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Management Actions: Coal exploration activities would be reviewed and needed mitigation would be applied on a case-by-case basis.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to coal exploration activities. However, exploration activities could occur on existing roads and trails in accordance with transportation planning.	No similar action.	No similar action.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
MINERALS MANAGEMENT Sodium	Management Objectives: to provide for both short - and long-range development of federal sodium resources in an orderly and timely manner (see Appendix 3). In addition, to provide for exploration activities outside the core area, in conformance with objectives to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations.	Same as GRRMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as No Action Alternative.	Management Objectives: to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations.
	Management Actions: Areas closed to sodium exploration in the GRRMP would remain closed. Sensitive areas would be avoidance areas for exploration. Areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to exploration activities; however, exploration activities could occur on existing roads and trails in accordance with transportation planning.	Areas closed to sodium exploration in the GRRMP would remain closed. The remainder of the planning area would be open to consideration of exploration on a case-by-case basis.	Same as No Action Alternative.	The entire planning area would be closed to sodium exploration activities.
	The planning area would be closed to surface facilities such as plants, refineries, or waste water ponds. Trona water well locations could be considered on a case-by-case basis.	The planning area would be closed to the placement of waste water ponds.	Same as No Action Alternative.	The planning area would be closed to all sodium exploration and development and all trona water development activities.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
MINERALS MANAGEMENT Salables	Management Objectives: Same as GRRMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Management Actions: With the exception of those areas closed to mineral material sales, the planning area would be open to consideration of mineral material sales on a case-by-case basis.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Within the core, connectivity, White Mountain, and Split Rock areas, the sale of mineral materials would only be allowed when in support of project development within these areas. Road construction and upgrading of existing roads for mineral material extraction would only be allowed if in accordance with transportation planning.	No similar action.	No similar action.	The core, connectivity, White Mountain, and Split Rock areas would be closed to mineral material sales. Road construction and upgrading of existing roads for mineral material extraction would be prohibited.
	Outside the core, connectivity, White Mountain, and Split Rock areas, the sale of mineral materials would be considered case by case.	No similar action.	No similar action.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
MINERALS MANAGEMENT Salables (continued)	The top of Steamboat Mountain proper would be closed to mineral material sales. In the remainder of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC, the sale of mineral materials would only be allowed when in support of project development within the area. Road construction and upgrading of existing roads for mineral material extraction would only be allowed if in accordance with transportation planning.	The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to mineral material sales. The remainder of the core area would be open to consideration of mineral material sales on a case-by-case basis.	A portion of Steamboat Mountain proper (in SE¼ S. 10, W½W½ S. 11, N½N½ S.15 T.23 R.102) would be open to mineral material sales. The remainder of Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to mineral material sales. The remainder of the core area would be open to consideration of mineral material sales on a case-by-case basis.	Same as No Action Alternative.
MINERALS MANAGEMENT Locatable Minerals	Management Objectives: Same as GRRMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Management Actions: With the exception of areas withdrawn from mineral location, the planning area would be open to the staking of mining claims and operations under the mining laws for locatable minerals.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	The proposed withdrawals identified in the GRRMP would be pursued.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
MINERALS MANAGEMENT Locatable Minerals (continued)	Additional withdrawals from mineral location would be pursued for two elk calving areas (about 7,440 acres), the top of Steamboat Mountain (about 960 acres), a cultural site (about 320 acres), and 3 Native American respected places (about 280 acres) (Map 8, Table 2-3).	Additional withdrawals would not be pursued.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Additional withdrawals from mineral location would be pursued for the connectivity and core areas (about 140,380 acres), elk calving areas (about 58,890 acres), Steamboat Mountain ACEC (about 43,310 acres), and a cultural site (about 320 acres) (Map 34, Table 2-15).
	Mining claim activities, other than casual use, would require filing a notice for surface disturbance of 5 acres or less within any calendar year (43 CFR 3809).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Mining claim activities for surface disturbances greater than 5 acres would require a "Plan of Operations" (43 CFR 3809).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	In ACECs, WSAs, and areas closed to ORV use, a plan of operations would be required for any surface disturbance associated with valid mining claim activity, regardless of acreage involved.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	All locatable minerals actions would comply with the BLM bonding policy for surface disturbing activities.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
MINERALS MANAGEMENT Geophysical Exploration	Management Objectives: Same as described in the GRRMP (Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Management Actions: Based on site specific analysis, geophysical exploration could be allowed. Appropriate conditional requirements such as limiting the use of vehicles and explosive charges would be applied on a case-by-case basis.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Geophysical activities would be limited as defined in Table 2-7. Activities in sensitive areas would be limited and measures would be applied to protect sensitive resources. In areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities, the core area, and sensitive areas, geophysical exploration activity could occur on existing roads and trails in conformance with transportation planning.	Geophysical activities would be restricted as defined in Appendix 3.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Geophysical activities would be limited as defined in Table 2-7. Additionally, activities inside the core area would be limited to foot traffic except on existing roads and trails. Outside the core area, geophysical activities would be limited to foot traffic in sensitive areas. In areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities, geophysical exploration activity could occur on existing roads and trails in conformance with transportation planning.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
MONITORING	<p>Management Objectives: to ensure attainment of the construction, operation, maintenance, reclamation, and seasonal condition objectives associated with surface disturbing and disruptive activities; to ensure attainment of the vegetative resource management objectives for watershed, wetland/riparian, wildlife habitat, and livestock grazing; to ensure attainment of nondisruptive requirements; and to conform with the decisions of the Green River RMP.</p>	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	<p>Management Actions: An interdisciplinary monitoring plan would be developed to monitor the effectiveness of planning area decisions. Site specific monitoring plans would be developed for specific projects and proposals.</p>	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
RECLAMATION AND RECLAMATION MONITORING	Management Objectives: to achieve soil stability and to reestablish native vegetative ground cover on reclaimed areas; reduce runoff and erosion; restore plant communities; improve wildlife habitat condition; and restore visual quality to meet established visual resource management objectives on all areas of surface disturbance (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Management Actions: The BLM State Reclamation Plan and the Rock Springs District Reclamation Plan would be implemented.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
RECREATION MANAGEMENT	Management Objectives: Same as the GRRMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
<p>RECREATION MANAGEMENT (continued)</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management of the Tri-Territory Loop and Red Desert back country by-ways would include coordination with state and local governments and other interested parties, and interpretive and directional signing. Example sites for interpretive signs include: Chicken Springs overlook and the dugway onto Steamboat Mountain for a view of the Red Desert. Corridor management plans would be prepared for back country by-ways.</p>	<p>Same as Preferred Alternative.</p>	<p>Same as Preferred Alternative.</p>	<p>Same as Preferred Alternative.</p>
	<p>A recreation and cultural resource project plan would be developed for expansion of the parking/camping area and facilities for the Sand Dunes ORV area. This project plan would also address increased visitor use in the Sand Dunes ORV area, interpretation of the Crookston Ranch historic site, and proposed fencing to protect the Crookston Ranch site and associated riparian area.</p>	<p>Same as Preferred Alternative.</p>	<p>Same as Preferred Alternative.</p>	<p>Same as Preferred Alternative.</p>

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
RECREATION MANAGEMENT (continued)	A recreation and cultural resource project plan would be prepared for the White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC to protect sensitive resources. This project plan would address fencing, access (vehicle and foot traffic) parking, and interpretive facilities.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	A connecting route for the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail (special recreation management area) (i.e., the Continental Peak-South Pass Side Trail) would be managed for hiking, equestrian, and motorized and nonmotorized vehicular use. Use by motorized vehicles would be in conformance with the ORV designations.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Activities would not be permitted to disrupt access to or use of developed and semi-developed recreation sites. Activities that are incompatible with recreation sites would be managed to avoid these sites.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES MANAGEMENT	Management Objectives: Same as the GRRMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
	Management Actions: Same as the GRRMP (see Appendix 3). See also Surface Disturbance management prescriptions and Table 2-4.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES MANAGEMENT (continued)	The Special Status Plant Species ACEC would not be expanded to include <i>Lesquerella macrocarpa</i> . This species would continue to be managed as a special status plant species.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	The Special Status Plant Species ACEC would be expanded to include <i>Lesquerella macrocarpa</i> (2,660 acres).
	Actual plant locations of <i>Lesquerella macrocarpa</i> would be right-of-way avoidance areas.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Actual plant locations of <i>Lesquerella macrocarpa</i> would be right-of-way exclusion areas.
TRAVEL MANAGEMENT	Management Objectives: To provide opportunity for off-road vehicle use in conformance with other resource management objectives (see Appendix 3). In addition, to provide motorized vehicle and non-motorized vehicle use along appropriate routes in conformance with other resource management objectives.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
TRAVEL MANAGEMENT (continued)	Management Actions: Nonmotorized vehicle transport requirements would be the same as the requirements for motorized vehicles, unless otherwise excepted. Exceptions would be evaluated and determined on a case-by-case basis. Examples of possible exceptions could be the use of game carts, wheelchairs, animal-drawn carts or wagons, or other activities that would not create resource damage.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Implement the ORV designations identified in the GRRMP (Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Public lands in the planning area would remain either "open", "limited," or "closed" to vehicular travel as designated in the GRRMP. A few specific roads and trails may be closed to vehicle use.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Over-the-snow vehicles would generally be required to follow the ORV designations for motorized vehicles. Possible exceptions could be considered on a case-by-case basis.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
TRAVEL MANAGEMENT (continued)	Non-motorized vehicle use or non-motorized mechanical transport (e.g., the use of game carts) in areas designated as closed to motor vehicle use would be considered on a case-by-case basis. Any use of non-motorized vehicles allowed in WSAs must meet the non-impairment criteria.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Specific roads and trails, to be designated as “limited to designated roads and trails,” would be identified on a case-by-case basis as time allows. Seasonal closures would be considered for roads in crucial wildlife habitat. Long-standing seasonal closures in crucial wildlife habitat would continue to apply.	Specific roads and trails, to be designated as “limited to designated roads and trails,” would be identified on a case-by-case basis as time allows. Seasonal closures for roads in crucial wildlife habitat would not be considered. Long-standing seasonal closures in crucial wildlife habitat would continue to apply.	Specific roads and trails, to be designated as “limited to designated roads and trails,” would be identified on a case-by-case basis as time allows. Seasonal closures for roads in crucial wildlife habitat would not be considered. Long-standing seasonal closures in crucial wildlife habitat would be eliminated.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Winter access, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. Where access on other roads is necessary, routes would be determined on a case-by-case basis and would be limited to over-the-snow vehicles only.	Winter access, for any purpose, would be limited to only specific roads identified for winter use. Where access on other roads is necessary, routes would be determined on a case-by-case basis and would be open to all types of vehicles.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
TRAVEL MANAGEMENT (continued)	Road and trail construction or upgrading would be prohibited in woodland habitats (i.e., juniper, limber pine, aspen) or through spring sources (pre-existing improved roads may be used).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Road and trail construction or upgrading could be allowed in woodland habitats and through spring sources.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Transportation planning would be implemented to provide for appropriate access routes and to provide maximum protection for crucial habitats and sensitive resources. BLM construction standards would be used and could include consideration of the following:	Transportation planning would be implemented to provide for appropriate access routes. BLM construction standards would be used and could include consideration of the following:	Transportation planning would be initiated to consider appropriate access when benefits to development activities would occur. BLM construction standards would be used and could include consideration of the following:	Transportation planning would be implemented to provide for appropriate access routes and to provide maximum protection for crucial habitats and sensitive resources. BLM construction standards would be used and could include consideration of the following:
	-Closure and rehabilitation of unused roads and trails, and closure or maintenance of those roads causing resource damage. The transportation plan and affected maps would be corrected to reflect closed roads and trails.	-Same as Preferred Alternative.	-Same as Preferred Alternative.	-Same as Preferred Alternative.
	-Road closures/gating in crucial habitats (for all single use destination roads/trails) to limit traffic and disrupting activities.	-Same as Preferred Alternative.	-Road closures/gating in crucial habitats would not be implemented.	-Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
TRAVEL MANAGEMENT (continued)	-Concentrating stream and riparian area crossings in key locations to avoid adverse effects. Exceptions may be granted if crossings would reduce adverse effects, benefit area objectives, and reduce miles of road (and/or frequency of use). Bridges may be required on Pacific, Jack Morrow, Parnell, and Rock Cabin creeks.	-Limiting the number and location of stream and riparian area crossings.	-No similar action.	-Construction of stream or riparian area crossings would not be allowed and some pre-existing crossings may be closed. Exceptions may be granted if crossings would reduce adverse effects, benefit area objectives, and reduce miles of road (and/or frequency of use). Bridges would be required for perennial stream crossings.
	-Limit access routes that bisect crucial habitats and big game migration routes.	-Same as Preferred Alternative.	-Limits would not be placed on the routes that bisect crucial habitats and big game migration routes.	-Same as Preferred Alternative.
	-Application of road base material (gravel).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	-Grouping and location of ancillary facilities away from crucial habitats and sensitive areas.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	-Application of speed limits, as necessary, to protect wildlife and public health and safety, and to meet area objectives.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
TRAVEL MANAGEMENT (continued)	-In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be: (in miles of road per square mile) core and connectivity areas ~2.0 mi; White Mountain area ~ 2.0 miles; all other crucial elk habitat ~2.0 miles.	-Road density guidelines would not be applied.	-Same as No Action Alternative.	-In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be: (in miles of road per square mile) core and connectivity areas ~0.5 mi; Greater Sand Dunes ACEC and White Mountain area – 1.0 mile; all other crucial elk habitat ~1.0 mile.
VEGETATION MANAGEMENT/ WOODLANDS	Management Objectives: Same as the GRRMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Management Actions: Desired plant communities would be achieved through site specific activity or implementation plans such as livestock grazing allotment management plans and watershed management plans. Different plant communities may have different DPC objectives.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Desired plant community objectives would reflect primarily wildlife habitat, watershed, and biodiversity values. Particular emphasis would be placed on maintaining or enhancing sage grouse habitat.	All desired plant community objectives would not necessarily emphasize the habitat objectives in this plan.	All desired plant community objectives would reflect primarily livestock management and commodity uses.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
VEGETATION MANAGEMENT/ WOODLANDS (continued)	Vegetation treatments would be designed to protect water quality and reduce erosion, and to maintain or enhance mountain shrub and woodland communities. Treatments in aspen communities would be fenced.	Vegetation treatments would be designed to protect water quality and dissipate erosion.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	Management Objectives: Same as the GRRMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Management Actions: VRM classes would be managed according to the classifications in Table 2-8.	VRM classes would be managed according to the classifications in Table 2-8.	VRM classes would be managed according to the classifications in Table 2-8.	VRM classes would be managed according to the classifications in Table 2-8.
	The entire Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be managed as a Class II VRM area.	The southern portion of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be managed as a Class II VRM area and the northern portion of the ACEC would be managed as a Class III VRM area.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	The Red Desert Watershed area would be managed as a Class III VRM area.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	The Red Desert Watershed area would be managed as a Class II VRM area.
	Portions of White Mountain would be managed as a Class II VRM area.	Portions of White Mountain would be managed as a Class III VRM area.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Split Rock area would be managed as a Class II VRM area.	Split Rock area would be managed as a Class III VRM area.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (continued)	The Eden Valley area would be managed as a Class III VRM area.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	The Eden Valley area would be managed as a Class IV VRM area.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT	Management Objectives: Same as the GRRMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Management Actions: Same as GRRMP (see Appendix 3). In addition, energy dissipating and flow control structures (e.g., water bars, catchment ponds) would be included in construction project designs to protect steep slopes and highly erosive soils.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Road and well pad densities would be established, where necessary, to protect watershed values, and wildlife and fisheries habitat.	Road and well pad densities would not be established.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	No permanent facilities would be allowed in riparian areas, floodplains, or wetlands. Possible exceptions (e.g., linear rights-of-way) would be considered on a case-by-case basis.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
WILD HORSE MANAGEMENT	Management Objectives: Same as the GRRMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
WILD HORSE MANAGEMENT (continued)	Management Actions: Same as the GRRMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Management Actions: Same as the GRRMP (see Appendix 3), except:
	The Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area and appropriate management level (i.e., 415 to 600 horses) would remain unchanged.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	The Divide Basin wild horse herd management area would be expanded. No more than 100 horses would be allowed in the expansion area. The appropriate management level for the Divide Basin WHHMA (415 to 600 horses) would remain unchanged.
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT	Management Objectives: Same as the GRRMP (see Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT (continued)	<p>Management Actions: Permanent and high profile structures (such as well pads, roads, buildings, storage tanks, overhead powerlines, etc.) would not be allowed within 825 feet of active raptor nests, with the exception of active eagle nests for which the distance would be 1,970 feet. The distance may vary depending upon the species involved, prey availability, natural topographic barriers, line-of-sight distances, and other resources or situations involved such as cultural values, steep slopes, etc. Exceptions could be considered on a case-by-case basis for linear actions such as pipelines, seismic activity, etc.</p>	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Seasonal use requirements for surface disturbing and disruptive activity would be applied in crucial and important habitats as necessary.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	BLM would cooperate with the Wyoming Game and Fish Department in preparation of studies for the introduction and re-introduction of native and non-native wildlife and fish species.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT (continued)	Preventing fragmentation of habitat would be addressed by limiting the number of roads, access, and use throughout the planning area. The integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be maintained.	Preventing fragmentation of habitat would be addressed by limiting use in the core area only.	Preventing fragmentation of habitat would not be addressed.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Ponds (flockets) in the sand dunes would be managed to enhance wildlife habitat and vegetation. Special consideration would be given to habitat for amphibians.	Ponds (flockets) in the sand dunes would be managed to maintain wildlife habitat and vegetation. No special consideration would be given to habitat for amphibians.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Priority would be given to enhancing mountain plover and sage grouse habitat. Conditional requirements, in addition to those on (Table 2-4), may be applied.	Priority would be given to maintaining sage grouse and mountain plover habitat. The conditional requirements on Table 2-10 would be applied.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Riparian and fish habitat in and around “hay meadow exclosures” on Pacific Creek would be managed only for trout.	Riparian and fish habitat in and around “hay meadow exclosures” would be managed for all wildlife species.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Riparian and upland vegetation types would be managed with emphasis on enhancing wildlife habitat, watershed, and biodiversity values.	Riparian and upland vegetation types would be managed with emphasis on maintaining wildlife habitat, watershed, and biodiversity values.	Riparian and upland vegetation types would be managed with emphasis on resource values other than wildlife habitat.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

GENERAL JMHCAP AREA				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAM	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
	Livestock water developments would be prohibited within 1.5 miles of sage grouse leks.	New livestock water developments would be prohibited.	Livestock water developments would be prohibited within 1/4 mile of sage grouse leks.	Livestock water developments would be prohibited within 2 miles of sage grouse leks.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
Air Quality; Cultural/Paleontological; Hazardous Materials; Healthy Rangelands; Reclamation; Special Status Species; and Vegetation	Management objectives and management actions for these resource and land use programs are the same as described in the Green River RMP or for the general JMHCAP area. The following management objectives and management actions are either specifically important to the core area and are repeated, or are different from those for the general JMHCAP area.			
FIRE	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.	Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.	Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.
	Fire prescriptions for full suppression for big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation associations would be applied on a case-by-case basis.	No similar action.	No similar action.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
LANDS AND REALTY MANAGEMENT	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
LANDS AND REALTY MANAGEMENT <i>Utility/Transportation Systems</i>	With the exception of exclusion and avoidance areas, the core area would be open to consideration of rights-of-way. Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be an avoidance area. Portions of Indian Gap and the face of Steamboat Mountain would be closed (exclusion areas) to rights-of-way.	With the exception of exclusion and avoidance areas, the core area would be open to consideration of rights-of-way. The Steamboat Mountain ACEC, including Indian Gap and the face of Steamboat Mountain, would be an avoidance area for rights-of-way.	With the exception of exclusion and avoidance areas, the core area would be open to consideration of rights-of-way. The Steamboat Mountain ACEC, including Indian Gap and the face of Steamboat Mountain, would be open to consideration of rights-of-way.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Withdrawals from mineral location would be pursued for the top of Steamboat Mountain (about 960 acres) and 2 Native American respected places (about 180 acres).	No similar action.	No similar action.	Withdrawals from mineral location would be pursued for the core area, connectivity area, and the Steamboat Mountain ACEC (about 80,410 acres) and elk calving areas (about 27,540 acres).

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
LANDS AND REALTY MANAGEMENT <i>Utility/Transportation Systems</i> (continued)	Transportation planning would include right-of-way locations. Linear rights-of-way would follow existing roads and trails in accordance with the transportation plan. Areas closed to surface occupancy and closed to fluid mineral leasing would be closed to rights-of-way. An exception could be considered for small feeder lines if they follow existing roads (in accordance with transportation planning), or follow existing right-of-way concentration areas, do not create a safety hazard, and meet area objectives.	No similar action.	No similar action.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
LANDS AND REALTY MANAGEMENT <i>Communication Sites</i>	The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to communication sites. Communication sites could be considered on Essex Mountain with restrictions on height (no strobe light necessary), road access, and to prevent visual intrusion.	The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to communication sites. Sites could be considered on Essex Mountain.	The Steamboat Mountain ACEC and Essex Mountain would be open for consideration of communications sites.	The Steamboat Mountain ACEC and Essex Mountain would be closed to communication sites.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>
	Plowing of roads in winter for livestock accessibility and feeding would only be allowed in emergency situations. Any such activity would conform with transportation planning.	Plowing of roads in winter for livestock accessibility and feeding would be considered on a case-by-case basis.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Livestock range improvements outside crucial wildlife habitats would be considered. Within crucial wildlife habitats, range improvements would be considered only where they would benefit wildlife and wildlife habitat.	No new livestock range improvements would be considered.	Livestock range improvements would be considered on a case-by-case basis throughout the planning area.	Livestock range improvements would be considered only where they would benefit wildlife and wildlife habitat.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
LIVESTOCK GRAZING MANAGEMENT (continued)	Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the core or crucial winter ranges, including the connectivity area (migration corridor) unless JMHCAP objectives can be met.	No livestock water developments would be allowed.	Livestock water developments would be allowed in the core, the connectivity area, and in crucial winter ranges.	Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the core, connectivity area, or crucial winter ranges.
	Livestock water developments would be fenced and offsite water facilities would be developed (pipelines and troughs). Natural water sources (springs and seeps) would be protected from excessive use.	No similar action.	Livestock water developments would not be fenced and offsite water facilities would not be developed.	Livestock water developments would be fenced and offsite water facilities would be developed (pipelines and troughs).

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
MINERALS MANAGEMENT <i>Oil and Gas</i>	<p>Management Objective [This management objective is different from that for the GRRMP and the general JMHCAP area for this alternative]: 1) to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.) while protecting other resource values; 2) to permit in an orderly and timely manner, the development of oil and gas reserves in the ACEC; and 3) to conduct 1 and 2 in a manner that conforms with the management objectives for providing suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protecting other sensitive resources.</p>	<p>Management Objective [This management objective is different from that for the GRRMP and the general JMHCAP area for this alternative]: to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protect other sensitive resources.</p>	<p>Management Objective [This management objective is different from that for the GRRMP and the general JMHCAP area for this alternative]: 1) to provide for leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.) while protecting other resource values; 2) to permit in an orderly and timely manner, the development of oil and gas reserves in the ACEC, inside the core area; and 3) to conduct 1 and 2 in a manner that conforms, where possible, with the management objectives for the planning area (to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protect other sensitive resources).</p>	<p>Management Objective [This management objective is different from that for the GRRMP and the general JMHCAP area for this alternative]: to provide for the maximum protection of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and to protect sensitive resources.</p>

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
MINERALS MANAGEMENT Oil and Gas (continued)	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>
MINERALS MANAGEMENT Oil and Gas (continued)	<p>Upon completion of the JMHCAP, portions of the core area would be open to leasing consideration with necessary mitigation, which could include CSU, NSO, other stipulations or conditional requirements, and temporary lease suspension. Because there are pre-existing leases in some of the crucial big game habitat areas and other sensitive areas, development in these areas could cause other areas to become crucial habitat or sensitive. Thus, some portions of the core area may remain closed to leasing and development because other portions of the area with crucial habitat and sensitive resources are already leased.</p>	<p>The core area would be closed to leasing.</p>	<p>The core area would be open to leasing consideration with necessary mitigation.</p>	<p>Same as No Action Alternative.</p>

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
<p>CORE AREA</p> <p>MINERALS MANAGEMENT</p> <p><i>Oil and Gas</i></p> <p>(continued)</p>	<p>Subject to future monitoring and evaluation, portions of the core area would be temporarily closed to leasing to satisfy immediate needs for adequate habitat and use of that habitat (crucial winter range, calving/fawning, migration corridors, etc.), protection of sensitive resources, and for public health and safety. The entire core area would not be leased at the same time, and exploration and development activities would not be allowed to occur at the same time over the entire core area. In particular, unleased portions of Steamboat Mountain ACEC, Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, and the remainder of the core area would not be leased until monitoring and evaluation of ongoing exploration and development activity determine that rates and levels of development and reclamation would allow further leasing and development, would not cause fragmentation and abandonment of habitat, and would still meet stated management objectives. This determination would be based on the effects on elk and their movement patterns, elk use of habitat, effects on other wildlife species and habitats, and effects on other sensitive resources.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>	<p>No similar action.</p>

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
MINERALS MANAGEMENT <i>Oil and Gas</i> (continued)	The evaluation would incorporate information from the elk study initiated in 1999; application of the standards for healthy rangelands, guidelines for livestock grazing, and future guidelines for other resource programs; proper functioning condition determinations for riparian areas; and other activities and uses. After the initial phase of the evaluation (about four years), a determination would be made on whether or not unleased areas, that may become available for future leasing consideration, would be offered for lease. Should these areas be offered for lease, appropriate mitigation would be applied to meet core area management objectives. If the evaluation concludes that core area management objectives are not being met, these areas would either remain unleased, or would be leased with an NSO stipulation.	No similar action.	No similar action.	No similar action.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
MINERALS MANAGEMENT Oil and Gas (continued)	As areas become available for future leasing consideration, they would be reviewed to determine if the core area management objectives could be met, if they were leased and developed. To facilitate this and promote consistency in implementing the JMHCAP management decisions, areas determined suitable for leasing consideration within the core and connectivity areas would only be considered once a year. This would allow consideration of each of these areas in their entirety rather than piecemeal consideration of individual lease applications that may be submitted throughout the year.	No similar action.	No similar action.	No similar action.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
MINERALS MANAGEMENT Oil and Gas (continued)	For oil and gas leases in effect before approval of the JMHCAP, exploration and development proposals would be considered on a case-by-case basis and mitigation requirements (conditions of APD approval) would include but not be limited to: limiting road miles, number of well pads to 4 per section, directional drilling, or offsite facilities.	For oil and gas leases in effect before approval of the JMHCAP, exploration and development activities would not occur. Existing leases would not be developed. It is recognized that development on existing leases can take place, but for purposes of analysis, it is assumed that development in the core area would continue to be deferred.	For oil and gas leases in effect before approval of the JMHCAP, exploration and development proposals would be considered on a case-by-case basis and mitigation requirements (conditions of APD approval) would include but not be limited to: offsite facilities and directional drilling.	For oil and gas leases in effect before approval of the JMHCAP, exploration and development proposals would be considered on a case-by-case basis and mitigation requirements (conditions of APD approval) would include but not be limited to: limiting road miles, limiting the number of well pads to 2 per section, directional drilling, offsite facilities, and unitization of areas prior to exploration and development.
MINERALS MANAGEMENT Coal	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
	Coal exploration proposals in the core area (including Steamboat Mountain ACEC) would be considered on a case-by-case basis; appropriate mitigation would be applied.	The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to coal exploration activities. The remainder of the core area would be open to consideration of coal exploration.	Coal exploration activities in the core area (including the Steamboat Mountain ACEC) would be limited to existing roads and trails.	Same as No Action Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
MINERALS MANAGEMENT <i>Coal</i> (continued)	In the core area, areas closed to surface disturbing and disruptive activities would be closed to coal exploration activities; however, exploration activities could occur on existing roads and trails in accordance with transportation planning.	No similar action.	No similar action.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
MINERALS MANAGEMENT <i>Sodium</i>	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:
	The core area would be closed to surface facilities such as plants, refineries, or waste water ponds. Trona water well locations could be considered on a case-by-case basis.	The core area would be open to surface facilities such as plants and refineries. Trona water well locations could be considered on a case-by-case basis. The core area would be closed to the placement of waste water ponds.	Same as No Action Alternative.	The core area would be closed to all trona water development activities.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
MINERALS MANAGEMENT <i>Salables</i>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>
	<p>The top of Steamboat Mountain proper would be closed to mineral material sales. In the remainder of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC and the remainder of the core area, the sale of mineral materials would only be allowed when in support of project development in the immediate area of the project. Road construction and upgrading of existing roads for mineral material extraction would only be allowed if in accordance with transportation planning.</p>	<p>The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to mineral material sales. The remainder of the core area would be open to consideration of mineral material sales on a case-by-case basis.</p>	<p>A portion of Steamboat Mountain proper (in SE¼ S. 10, W½W½ sec 11, N½N½ sec.15 T. 23 N., R. 102 W.) would be open to mineral material sales. The remainder of Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to mineral material sales. The remainder of the core area would be open to consideration of mineral material sales on a case-by-case basis.</p>	<p>Same as No Action Alternative.</p>

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
RECREATION	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>
	Management of the Tri-Territory Loop back country by-way would include coordination with state and local governments and other interested parties, and interpretive and directional signing. Example sites for interpretive signs include: Chicken Springs overlook and the dugway onto Steamboat Mountain for a view of the Red Desert. A corridor management plan would be prepared for the Tri-Territory Loop back country by-way.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
SURFACE DISTURBING AND DISRUPTIVE ACTIVITIES	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>
	Sensitive resources and areas to be protected include: Special Status Plant Species habitat, Tri-Territory Marker, raptor nesting sites, stabilized and unstabilized sand dunes, ORV parking lot, Boars Tusk, Crookston Ranch, and Greater Sand Dunes ACEC.	Sensitive resources and areas to be protected include: raptor nesting sites, Special Status Plant Species habitat, Tri-Territory Marker, ORV parking lot, Boars Tusk, and Crookston Ranch.	Sensitive resources and areas to be protected include: raptor nesting sites, Special Status Plant Species habitat, Tri-Territory Marker, ORV parking lot, Boars Tusk, and Crookston Ranch.	Sensitive resources and areas to be protected include: Special Status Plant Species habitat, Tri-Territory Marker, raptor nesting sites, stabilized and unstabilized sand dunes, ORV parking lot, Boars Tusk, and Crookston Ranch.
	Surface disturbing activities would be prohibited on about 12,100 acres.	Surface disturbing activities would be prohibited on about 110 acres.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Surface disturbing activities would be prohibited on about 2,910 acres.
	Seasonal conditional requirements would be applied on the entire core area (about 80,410 acres).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Surface disturbing activities would be conditioned on the entire core area(about 80,410 acres).	Surface disturbing activities would be conditioned on about 37,840 acres.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
SURFACE DISTURBING AND DISRUPTIVE ACTIVITIES (continued)	Native American respected places would be avoidance areas for surface disturbing activities. Avoidance distances may range from 100 feet to 2½ miles.	Surface disturbing activities would be prohibited within 100 feet of Native American respected places.	Surface disturbing activities would be prohibited within 1/4 mile of Native American respected places.	Surface disturbing activities would be prohibited within 1 mile of Native American respected places.
	Areas closed to oil and gas leasing would be open to only those activities that would benefit wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, and watershed values. Consideration would be given to linear facilities that follow existing roads in these areas in conformance with transportation planning.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	No similar action.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
TRAVEL MANAGEMENT	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
TRAVEL MANAGEMENT (continued)	Specific roads and trails, to be designated as “limited to designated roads and trails,” would be identified on a case-by-case basis as time allows. Seasonal closures would be considered for roads in crucial wildlife habitat. Long-standing seasonal closures in crucial wildlife habitat would continue to apply.	Specific roads and trails, to be designated as “limited to designated roads and trails,” would be identified on a case-by-case basis as time allows. Seasonal closures for roads in crucial wildlife habitat would not be considered. Long-standing seasonal closures in crucial wildlife habitat would continue to apply.	Specific roads and trails, to be designated as “limited to designated roads and trails,” would be identified on a case-by-case basis as time allows. Seasonal closures for roads in crucial wildlife habitat would not be considered. Long-standing seasonal closures in crucial wildlife habitat would be eliminated.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Transportation planning would be implemented to provide for appropriate access routes and to provide maximum protection for crucial habitats and sensitive resources. BLM construction standards would be used and could include consideration of the following:	Transportation planning would be implemented to provide for appropriate access routes. BLM construction standards would be used and could include consideration of the following:	Transportation planning would be initiated to consider appropriate access when benefits to development activities would occur. BLM construction standards would be used and could include consideration of the following:	Transportation planning would be implemented to provide for appropriate access routes and to provide maximum protection for crucial habitats and sensitive resources. BLM construction standards would be used and could include consideration of the following:

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
TRAVEL MANAGEMENT (continued)	- Closure and rehabilitation of unused roads and trails, and closure or maintenance of those roads causing resource damage. The transportation plan and affected maps would be corrected to reflect closed roads and trails.	- Same as Preferred Alternative.	- Same as Preferred Alternative.	- Same as Preferred Alternative.
	- Road closures/gating in crucial habitats (for all single use destination roads/trails) to limit traffic and disrupting activities.	- Same as Preferred Alternative.	- Road closures/gating in crucial habitats would not be implemented.	- Same as Preferred Alternative.
	- Concentrating stream and riparian area crossings in key locations to avoid adverse effects. Exceptions may be granted if crossings would reduce adverse effects, benefit area objectives, and reduce miles of road (and/or frequency of use). Bridges may be required on Jack Morrow, Parnell, and Rock Cabin creeks.	- Limiting the number and location of stream and riparian area crossings.	- No similar action.	- Construction of stream or riparian area crossings would not be allowed and some pre-existing crossings may be closed. Exceptions may be granted if crossings would reduce adverse effects, benefit area objectives, and reduce miles of road (and/or frequency of use). Bridges would be required for perennial stream crossings.
	- Limit access routes that bisect crucial habitats and big game migration routes.	- Same as Preferred Alternative.	- Limits would not be placed on the routes that bisect crucial habitats and big game migration routes.	- Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
TRAVEL MANAGEMENT (continued)	- Application of road base material (gravel).	- Same as Preferred Alternative.	- Same as Preferred Alternative.	- Same as Preferred Alternative.
	- Grouping and location of ancillary facilities away from crucial habitats and sensitive areas.	- Same as Preferred Alternative.	- Same as Preferred Alternative.	- Same as Preferred Alternative.
	- Application of speed limits, as necessary, to protect wildlife and public health and safety, and to meet area objectives.	- Same as Preferred Alternative.	- Same as Preferred Alternative.	- Same as Preferred Alternative.
	- In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile): core and connectivity areas ~2.0 miles; all other crucial elk habitat ~2.0 miles.	- Road density guidelines would not be applied.	- Same as No Action Alternative.	- In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile): core and connectivity areas ~0.5 mile; all other crucial elk habitat ~1.0 mile.
	Road and trail construction or upgrading would be prohibited in woodland habitats (i.e., juniper, limber pine, aspen) or through spring sources (pre-existing improved roads may be used).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Road and trail construction or upgrading could be allowed in woodland habitats and through spring sources.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>
	The entire Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be managed as a Class II VRM area.	The southern portion of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be managed as a Class II VRM area and the northern portion of the ACEC would be managed as a Class III VRM area.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	The Red Desert Watershed area would be managed as a Class III VRM area.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	The Red Desert Watershed area would be managed as a Class II VRM area.
	The Split Rock area would be managed as a Class II VRM area.	The Split Rock would be managed as a Class III VRM area.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
WATERSHED MANAGEMENT	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>
	Road and well pad densities (and densities for overall surface disturbance) would be established where necessary, to protect watershed values, and wildlife and fisheries habitat.	Road and well pad densities (and densities for overall surface disturbance) would not be established.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	No permanent facilities would be allowed in riparian areas, floodplains, or wetlands. Possible exceptions (e.g., linear rights-of-way) would be considered on a case-by-case basis.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
WILD HORSE MANAGEMENT	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>
	The Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area and the appropriate herd management level would remain unchanged.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	The Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area would be expanded. No more than 100 horses would be allowed in the expansion area. The appropriate herd management level for the Divide Basin WHHMA would remain unchanged.
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the core area, the following is repeated:</p>

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
CORE AREA	Actions that are specific to the core area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT (continued)	Preventing fragmentation of habitat would be addressed by limiting the number of roads, access, and use throughout the area. The integrity of migration corridors, birthing areas, and winter ranges would be maintained.	Preventing fragmentation of habitat would be addressed by limiting the number of roads, access, and use in the core area.	Preventing fragmentation of habitat would not be addressed in the core area.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Priority would be given to enhancing mountain plover and sage grouse habitat. Conditional requirements in addition to those on Table 2-4 may be applied.	Priority would be given to maintaining sage grouse and mountain plover habitat. The conditional requirements on Table 2-10 would be applied.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Ponds (flockets) in the sand dunes would be managed to enhance wildlife habitat and vegetation. Special consideration would be given to habitat for amphibians.	Ponds (flockets) in the sand dunes would be managed to maintain wildlife habitat and vegetation. No special consideration would be given to habitat for amphibians.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Riparian and upland vegetation types would be managed with emphasis on enhancing wildlife habitat, watershed, and biodiversity values.	Riparian and upland vegetation types would be managed with emphasis on maintaining wildlife habitat, watershed, and biodiversity values.	Riparian and upland vegetation types would be managed with emphasis on resource values other than wildlife habitat.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Livestock water developments would be prohibited within 1.5 miles of sage grouse leks.	New livestock water developments would be prohibited.	Livestock water developments would be prohibited within 1/4 mile of sage grouse leks.	Livestock water developments would be prohibited within 2 miles of sage grouse leks.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
GREATER SAND DUNES ACEC	Actions that are specific to the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC or that are different from the general JMHCAP area or the core area			
	Management Objective: Same as GRRMP (Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Air Quality; Cultural/Paleontological; Hazardous Materials; Healthy Rangelands; Reclamation; Special Status Species; and Vegetation	Management objectives and management actions for these resource and land use programs are the same as those for the general JMHCAP area or for the core area. The following management objectives and management actions are either specifically important to the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC and are repeated, or are different from those for the core area. The western portion of the ACEC is within the Buffalo Hump and Sand Dunes WSAs and lies outside the core area. The western portion would be managed under the “Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review” (USDI 1995). The eastern portion of the ACEC is inside the core area. For consistency in management of the ACEC, the following discussion presents the actions for the entire ACEC. Actions that apply solely to either the eastern or western portion are so noted.			
Greater Sand Dunes ACEC	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described in the GRRMP and for the core area. Because of particular importance in the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, the following is repeated:	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described in the GRRMP and for the core area. Because of particular importance in the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, the following is repeated:	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described in the GRRMP and for the core area. Because of particular importance in the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, the following is repeated:	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described in the GRRMP and for the core area. Because of particular importance in the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC, the following is repeated:
Entire Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Lands and Realty Management	Portions of Indian Gap and the face of Steamboat Mountain would be closed (exclusion areas) to rights-of-way.	Indian Gap and the face of Steamboat Mountain would be an avoidance area for rights-of-way.	Indian Gap and the face of Steamboat Mountain would be open to consideration of rights-of-way.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Entire Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/Lands and Realty Management <i>Withdrawals</i>	No similar action.	No similar action.	No similar action.	Withdrawals would be pursued for the entire Greater Sand Dunes ACEC.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
GREATER SAND DUNES ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC or that are different from the general JMHCAP area or the core area			
Entire Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Livestock Grazing	Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the ACEC, unless JMHCAP objectives can be met.	No livestock water developments would be allowed.	Livestock water developments would be allowed in the ACEC.	Same as No Action Alternative.
Eastern Portion Sand Dunes ACEC/ Fluid Minerals	Management Objective (within the eastern portion of the ACEC) [This management objective is different from that for the GRRMP and the general JMHCAP area for this alternative]: 1) to provide maximum protection to the relevant and important ACEC values, provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protect other sensitive resources; and 2) to provide for continued ORV use and public health and safety by closing the eastern portion of the ACEC to leasing, exploration, and development of fluid minerals (oil and gas, coalbed methane, etc.).	Management Objective (within the eastern portion of the ACEC) [This management objective is different from that for the GRRMP and the general JMHCAP area for this alternative]: 1) to provide suitable habitat to maintain the continued existence of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protecting other sensitive resources and 2) to provide for public health and safety.	Management Objective (within the eastern portion of the ACEC). This management objective is the same as stated for the core area for this alternative.	Management Objective (within the eastern portion of the ACEC) [This management objective is different from that for the GRRMP and the general JMHCAP area for this alternative]: to provide maximum protection to preserve and protect the integrity of the unique values in the ACEC and to provide maximum protection of the Steamboat elk herd and other big game populations, and protect other sensitive resources.
Eastern Portion Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Oil and Gas	The eastern portion of the ACEC would be closed to oil and gas leasing.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	The eastern portion of the ACEC would be open to oil and gas leasing consideration.	Same as the Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
GREATER SAND DUNES ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC or that are different from the general JMHCAP area or the core area			
Western Portion Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Oil and Gas	The western portion of the ACEC would be closed to oil and gas leasing (see Map 9).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Entire Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Mineral Materials	The ACEC, including Crookston Ranch and Boars Tusk, would remain closed to mineral material sales.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Eastern Portion Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Geophysical	Boars Tusk and Crookston Ranch would remain closed to the use of geophysical vehicles and explosive charges. The ORV parking area would also be closed.	Boars Tusk and Crookston Ranch would remain closed to the use of geophysical vehicles and explosive charges.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Entire Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Recreation	Recreation management emphasis in the ACEC would include a variety of recreation uses.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
GREATER SAND DUNES ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC or that are different from the general JMHCAP area or the core area			
Entire Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Recreation	A recreation and cultural resource project plan would be developed for expansion of the parking/camping area and facilities for the Sand Dunes ORV area. This project plan would also address increased visitor use in the Sand Dunes ORV area, interpretation of the Crookston Ranch historic site, and proposed fencing to protect the Crookston Ranch site and associated riparian area.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Entire Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Recreation	Activities would not be permitted to disrupt access to or use of developed and semi-developed recreation sites. Activities that are incompatible with recreation sites would avoid these sites.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Eastern Portion Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Surface Disturbance	Surface disturbing activities would be prohibited on about 180 acres to protect Native American respected places.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Eastern Portion Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Surface Disturbance	Seasonal conditional requirements would be applied on about 14,800 acres (Map 11).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
GREATER SAND DUNES ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC or that are different from the general JMHCAP area or the core area			
Eastern Portion Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Surface Disturbance	Surface disturbing activities would be conditioned on about 14,800 acres (see Map 12).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Eastern Portion Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Surface Disturbance	Areas closed to oil and gas leasing would be open to only those activities that would benefit wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, and watershed values. Consideration would be given to linear facilities that follow existing roads in conformance with transportation planning.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	No similar action.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Eastern Portion Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Travel Management	In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile): Greater Sand Dunes ACEC ~ 2.0 miles.	Road density guidelines would not be applied.	Same as No Action Alternative.	In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile): Greater Sand Dunes ACEC – 1.0 mile.
Eastern Portion Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Travel Management	Alternative access methods may be needed in the eastern portion of the ACEC: use of pre-existing or designated roads and trails, seasonal travel requirements or restrictions, use of helicopters.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
GREATER SAND DUNES ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC or that are different from the general JMHCAP area or the core area			
Eastern Portion Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Travel Management	The long standing seasonal vehicle closure would continue to apply in the eastern portion of the ACEC.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	The long standing seasonal vehicle closure would be eliminated, and year-long road access would be allowed in the eastern portion of the ACEC.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Entire Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Watershed	Surface water, soils, and shallow aquifers would be protected from contamination. Practices such as closed drilling systems or installation of pit liners would apply. Pit liners would be removed prior to reserve pit reclamation.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Entire Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Watershed	Road and well pad densities (and densities for overall surface disturbance) would be established where necessary, to protect watershed values and wildlife and fisheries habitat.	Road and well pad densities (and densities for overall surface disturbance) would not be established.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Eastern Portion Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Watershed	Ponds (flockets) in the sand dunes would not be used as water sources for development activities.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
GREATER SAND DUNES ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC or that are different from the general JMHCAP area or the core area			
Entire Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Wildlife Management	Wildlife habitat would continue to be protected and enhanced. Crucial elk winter range would be maintained as an essential component of the Steamboat Mountain-Sands Herd Unit elk habitat.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Eastern Portion Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Wildlife Management	The base of Steamboat Rim would continue to be managed to protect big game habitat, vegetation communities, and visual and recreation resources.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Entire Greater Sand Dunes ACEC/ Wildlife Management	Ponds (flockets) in the sand dunes would be managed to enhance wildlife habitat and vegetation. Special consideration would be given to habitat for amphibians.	Ponds (flockets) in the sand dunes would be managed to maintain wildlife habitat and vegetation. No special consideration would be given to habitat for amphibians.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
STEAMBOAT MOUNTAIN ACEC	Actions that are specific to the Steamboat Mountain ACEC or that are different from the general JMHCAP area or the core area			
	Management Objective: Same as GRRMP (Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Air Quality; Cultural/Paleontological; Hazardous Materials; Healthy Rangelands; Reclamation; Special Status Species; and Vegetation	Management objectives and management actions for these resource and land use programs are the same as those for the general JMHCAP area or for the core area. The following management actions are either specifically important to the Steamboat Mountain ACEC and are repeated, or are different from those for the core area.			
Steamboat Mountain ACEC	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described in the GRRMP and for the core area. Because of particular importance in the Steamboat Mountain ACEC, the following is repeated:	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described in the GRRMP and for the core area. Because of particular importance in the Steamboat Mountain ACEC, the following is repeated:	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described in the GRRMP and for the core area. Because of particular importance in the Steamboat Mountain ACEC, the following is repeated:	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described in the GRRMP and for the core area. Because of particular importance in the Steamboat Mountain ACEC, the following is repeated:
Lands and Realty Management	The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be an avoidance area for rights-of-way.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would not be an avoidance area for rights-of-way.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Where rights-of-way cannot avoid the ACEC, transportation planning would define right-of-way locations.	No similar action.	No similar action.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
STEAMBOAT MOUNTAIN ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Steamboat Mountain ACEC or that are different from the general JMHCAP area or the core area			
Lands and Realty Management (continued)	Portions of Steamboat Rim, the steep slopes of Steamboat Mountain, Johnson Gap, and the sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation at the base of Steamboat Mountain would be closed to rights-of-way.	No similar action.	No similar action.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Lands and Realty Management Communication Sites	The entire Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to communication sites.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	The entire Steamboat Mountain ACEC, would be open for consideration of communications sites.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Lands and Realty Management Withdrawals	Withdrawals from mineral location would be pursued for the top of Steamboat Mountain (about 960 acres) and 2 Native American respected places (about 180 acres).	No similar action.	No similar action.	Withdrawals from mineral location would be pursued for the Steamboat Mountain ACEC (about 43,310 acres).
Livestock Grazing	Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the ACEC, unless JMHCAP objectives can be met.	No livestock water developments would be allowed.	Livestock water developments would be allowed in the ACEC.	Same as No Action Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
STEAMBOAT MOUNTAIN ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Steamboat Mountain ACEC or that are different from the general JMHCAP area or the core area			
Minerals	The top of Steamboat Mountain proper would be closed to mineral material sales. In the remainder of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC, the sale of mineral materials would only be allowed when in support of project development in the immediate area of the project. Road construction and upgrading of existing roads for mineral material extraction would only be allowed if in accordance with transportation planning for the ACEC.	The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to mineral material sales.	A portion of Steamboat Mountain proper (in SE ¹ / ₄ sec. 10, W ¹ / ₂ W ¹ / ₂ sec. 11, N ¹ / ₂ N ¹ / ₂ sec.15 T. 23 N., R.102 W.) would be open to mineral material sales. The remainder of Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to mineral material sales.	Same as No Action Alternative.
Minerals Oil and Gas	Portions of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to oil and gas leasing.	The entire Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be closed to oil and gas leasing.	The entire Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be open for oil and gas leasing consideration.	Same as No Action Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
STEAMBOAT MOUNTAIN ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Steamboat Mountain ACEC or that are different from the general JMHCAP area or the core area			
Minerals Oil and Gas (continued)	Upon completion of the JMHCAP, portions of the core area would be open to leasing consideration with necessary mitigation, which could include CSU, NSO, other stipulations or conditional requirements, and temporary lease suspension. Because there are pre-existing leases in some of the crucial big game habitat areas and other sensitive areas, development in these areas could cause other areas to become crucial habitat or sensitive. Thus, some portions of the core area may remain closed to leasing and development because other portions of the area with crucial habitat and sensitive resources are already leased (see Core area discussion).	No similar action.	No similar action.	No similar action.
Surface Disturbance	Surface disturbing activities would be prohibited on about 7,845 acres to protect various resource values (Table 2-4).	Surface disturbing activities would be prohibited on about 5 acres (Table 2-10).	Same as No Action Alternative.	Surface disturbing activities would be prohibited on about 2,825 acres (Table 2-17).
	Seasonal conditional requirements would be applied on about 43,310 acres (Table 2-4).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
STEAMBOAT MOUNTAIN ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Steamboat Mountain ACEC or that are different from the general JMHCAP area or the core area			
Surface Disturbance (continued)	Surface disturbing activities would be conditioned on about 43,310 acres (Table 2-4).	Surface disturbing activities would be conditioned on about 15,520 acres (Table 2-10).	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Areas closed to oil and gas leasing would be open to only those activities that would benefit wildlife habitat, cultural resources, special status species, and watershed values. Consideration would be given to linear facilities that follow existing roads in these areas in conformance with transportation planning.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	No similar action.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Travel Management	In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile): Steamboat Mountain ACEC ~ 2.0 miles.	Road density guidelines would not be applied.	Same as No Action Alternative.	In all crucial elk habitats, the road density guideline for all-weather (improved) roads would be (in miles of road per square mile): Steamboat Mountain ACEC ~ 0.5 mile.
	Alternative access methods may be needed, including but not limited to the use of existing or designated roads or pads, seasonal travel requirements or restrictions, use of helicopters.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
STEAMBOAT MOUNTAIN ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Steamboat Mountain ACEC or that are different from the general JMHCAP area or the core area			
Visual Resource Management	The entire Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be managed as a Class II VRM area.	The southern portion of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be managed as a Class II VRM area and the northern portion of the ACEC would be managed as a Class III VRM area.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Wild Horses	The Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area and the appropriate herd management level would remain unchanged.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	The Divide Basin Wild Horse Herd Management Area would be expanded. No more than 100 horses would be allowed in the expansion area. The appropriate herd management level for the Divide Basin WHHMA would remain unchanged.
Wildlife Management	Priority would be given to elk habitat over conflicting land uses to ensure continued elk use of the area.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Any additional forage that becomes available in the ACEC would be allocated to wildlife use.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

CORE AREA (JMHCAP)				
RESOURCE OR LAND USE PROGRAMS	PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE	NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B
	The vegetation and habitat management objectives described for the Steamboat Mountain ACEC would apply to the crucial elk winter range and parturition area overlap.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	The vegetation and habitat management objectives for the Steamboat Mountain ACEC would not apply to the crucial elk winter range and parturition area overlap.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
STEAMBOAT MOUNTAIN ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Steamboat Mountain ACEC or that are different from the general JMHCAP area or the core area			
Wildlife Management (continued)	No similar action.	No similar action.	No similar action.	The following management action is different from those for the GRRMP and the general JMHCAP area for this alternative: The Steamboat Mountain ACEC would be expanded (to 65,610 acres) to include the portions of the core area outside the Steamboat and Greater Sand Dunes ACECs (where crucial elk winter range and parturition areas overlap).

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS OUTSIDE THE CORE JMHCAP AREA				
Resource or Land Use Programs	Preferred Alternative	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B
OREGON BUTTES ACEC	Actions that are specific to the Oregon Buttes ACEC or different from the general JMHCAP area			
	Management Objectives: Same as GRRMP (Appendix 3)	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Air Quality; Cultural/Paleontological; Fire; Hazardous Materials; Healthy Rangelands; Livestock Grazing; Reclamation; Recreation; Special Status Species; Surface Disturbing Activities; Travel Management; Vegetation; and Watershed	Management objectives and management actions for these resource and land use programs are the same as described in the Green River RMP or for the general JMHCAP area. The following management actions are specifically important to the Oregon Buttes ACEC and are repeated.			
	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general JMHCAP management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the Oregon Buttes ACEC, the following is repeated:	Management actions would be the same as described for the general JMHCAP management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the Oregon Buttes ACEC, the following is repeated:	Management actions would be the same as described for the general JMHCAP management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the Oregon Buttes ACEC, the following is repeated:	Management actions would be the same as described for the general JMHCAP management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the Oregon Buttes ACEC, the following is repeated:
Lands and Realty Management	The Oregon Buttes ACEC would be closed to communication sites.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS OUTSIDE THE CORE JMHCAP AREA				
Resource or Land Use Programs	Preferred Alternative	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B
OREGON BUTTES ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Oregon Buttes ACEC or different from the general JMHCAP area			
	Additional withdrawals would be pursued, if and as determined necessary	No similar action.	No similar action.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS OUTSIDE THE CORE JMHCAP AREA				
Resource or Land Use Programs	Preferred Alternative	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B
SOUTH PASS HISTORIC LANDSCAPE ACEC	Actions that are specific to the South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC or different from the general JMHCAP area			
	Management Objectives: Same as GRRMP (Appendix 3)	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Air Quality; Cultural/Paleontological; Hazardous Materials; Healthy Rangelands; Reclamation; Special Status Species; and Vegetation	Management objectives and management actions for these resource and land use programs are the same as described in the Green River RMP or for the general JMHCAP area. The following management actions are specifically important to the ACEC and are repeated.			
	<p>Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general JMHCAP management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management actions would be the same as described for the general JMHCAP management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management actions would be the same as described for the general management JMHCAP area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC, the following is repeated:</p>	<p>Management actions would be the same as described for the general JMHCAP management area for this alternative.</p> <p>Because of particular importance in the Oregon Buttes ACEC, the following is repeated:</p>

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS OUTSIDE THE CORE JMHCAP AREA				
Resource or Land Use Programs	Preferred Alternative	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B
Lands and Realty Management	Communication sites could be considered on Pacific Butte with restrictions on the height, visual intrusions, road access, etc. Actions on Pacific Butte would conform to the management prescriptions in place for the South Pass Historic Landscape.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Pacific Buttes would be closed to communication sites.
SOUTH PASS HISTORIC LANDSCAPE ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC or different from the general JMHCAP area			
Lands and Realty Management (continued)	Withdrawals (two elk calving areas) would be pursued for wildlife protection.	No similar action.	No similar action.	Withdrawals (two elk calving areas and the connectivity area) would be pursued for wildlife protection.
Minerals Management <i>Fluid Minerals</i>	Portions of the South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC in the connectivity area would be temporarily closed to satisfy immediate needs for adequate habitat and use of that habitat (crucial winter range, calving/fawning areas, migration corridors, etc.), protection of sensitive resources, and for public health and safety. The entire ACEC would not be leased at the same time, and exploration and development activities would not be allowed to occur over the entire	The portion of the South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC that overlaps the connectivity area would be open to leasing consideration with the prescriptions identified in the Green River RMP for protection of the integrity of the South Pass Historic Landscape.	Same as No Action Alternative.	The portion of the South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC that overlaps the connectivity area would be closed to leasing consideration.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS OUTSIDE THE CORE JMHCAP AREA				
Resource or Land Use Programs	Preferred Alternative	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B
	area at the same time. In particular, the connectivity area in the ACEC would not be leased until monitoring and evaluation of ongoing exploration and development activity determine that rates and levels of development and reclamation would allow further leasing and			
SOUTH PASS HISTORIC LANDSCAPE ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the South Pass Historic Landscape ACEC or different from the general JMHCAP area			
Minerals Management <i>Fluid Minerals</i> (continued)	development, would not cause fragmentation and abandonment of habitat, and would still meet stated management objectives. This determination would be based on the effects on elk and their movement patterns, elk use of habitat, effects on other wildlife species and habitats, and effects on other sensitive resources.			

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS OUTSIDE THE CORE JMHCAP AREA				
Resource or Land Use Programs	Preferred Alternative	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B
	In addition to the fluid mineral leasing restrictions established in the Green River RMP for protection of the integrity of the South Pass Historic Landscape, other leasing restrictions may also be identified through monitoring and evaluation.	No similar action.	No similar action.	No similar action.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS OUTSIDE THE CORE JMHCAP AREA				
Resource or Land Use Programs	Preferred Alternative	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B
SPECIAL STATUS PLANTS ACEC	Actions that are specific to the Special Status Plant Species ACEC or different from the general JMHCAP area			
	Management Objectives: Same as GRRMP (Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Air Quality; Cultural/Paleontological; Fire; Hazardous Materials; Healthy Rangelands; Livestock Grazing; Reclamation; Recreation; Special Status Species; Surface Disturbing Activities; Travel Management; Vegetation; and Watershed	Management objectives and management actions for these resource and land use programs are the same as described in the Green River RMP or for the general JMHCAP area. The following management actions are specifically important to the Special Status Plant Species area and are repeated, or are different from those for the general JMHCAP area.			
	Management Actions: Management Actions for the Special Status Plants ACEC would be the same as described in the GRRMP (Appendix 3). Because of particular importance in the Special Status Plants ACEC, the following is repeated:	Same as Preferred Alternative. Because of particular importance in the Special Status Plants ACEC, the following is repeated:	Same as Preferred Alternative. Because of particular importance in the Special Status Plants ACEC, the following is repeated:	Same as Preferred Alternative. Because of particular importance in the Special Status Plants ACEC, the following is repeated:

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS OUTSIDE THE CORE JMHCAP AREA				
Resource or Land Use Programs	Preferred Alternative	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B
SPECIAL STATUS PLANTS ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Special Status Plant Species ACEC or different from the general JMHCAP area			
	The BLM-administered lands occupied by <u>Lesquerella macrocarpa</u> would be closed to: 1) surface disturbing activities or any disruptive activity that could adversely affect the plants or their habitat; 2) the location of mining claims (withdrawal from mineral location and entry under the land laws would be pursued); 3) mineral material sales; 4) all off-road vehicular use, including those vehicles used for geophysical exploration activities, surveying, etc.; and 5) the use of explosives and blasting (USDI 1997).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS OUTSIDE THE CORE JMHCAP AREA				
Resource or Land Use Programs	Preferred Alternative	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B
SPECIAL STATUS PLANTS ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Special Status Plant Species ACEC or different from the general JMHCAP area			
	The Special Status Plants ACEC would not be expanded to include the BLM-administered land areas occupied by the large-fruited bladderpod (<u>Lesquerella macrocarpa</u>).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	<p>The following management actions are different from those for the GRRMP and the general JMHCAP area for this alternative:</p> <p>The Special Status Plants ACEC would be expanded to include the BLM-administered public land areas occupied by the large-fruited bladderpod (<u>Lesquerella macrocarpa</u>). Approximately 5 sites involving about 2,660 acres could be added to the ACEC. Additional acres may be added to the ACEC, if more of these special status (candidate) plant species or their essential habitat areas are found on BLM-administered public lands.</p>
	BLM-administered lands occupied by <u>Lesquerella macrocarpa</u> would be avoidance areas for rights-of-way (USDI 1997).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	BLM-administered lands occupied by <u>Lesquerella macrocarpa</u> would be exclusion areas for rights-of-way (USDI 1997).

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS OUTSIDE THE CORE JMHCAP AREA				
Resource or Land Use Programs	Preferred Alternative	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B
WHITE MOUNTAIN PETROGLYPHS ACEC	Actions that are specific to the White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC or different from the general JMHCAP area			
	Management Objectives: Same as GRRMP (Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Air Quality; Cultural/Paleontological; Fire; Hazardous Materials; Healthy Rangelands; Livestock Grazing; Reclamation; Recreation; Special Status Species; Surface Disturbing Activities; Travel Management; Vegetation; and Watershed	Management objectives and management actions for these resource and land use programs are the same as described in the Green River RMP or for the general JMHCAP area. The following management objectives and management actions are specifically important to the ACEC and are repeated.			
	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general JMHCAP management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC, the following is repeated:	Management actions would be the same as described for the general JMHCAP management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC, the following is repeated:	Management actions would be the same as described for the general JMHCAP management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC, the following is repeated:	Management actions would be the same as described for the general JMHCAP management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC, the following is repeated:
Fluid Minerals	The White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC would be open to fluid mineral leasing with an NSO requirement.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	The White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC (part of the connectivity area) would be closed to fluid mineral leasing.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS OUTSIDE THE CORE JMHCAP AREA				
Resource or Land Use Programs	Preferred Alternative	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B
WHITE MOUNTAIN PETROGLYPHS ACEC (continued)	Actions that are specific to the White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC or different from the general JMHCAP area			
Recreation	A recreation project and cultural resource plan would be prepared for the White Mountain Petroglyphs ACEC to protect sensitive resources. This plan would address proposed fencing, access (vehicle and foot traffic), parking, and interpretive facilities.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS OUTSIDE THE CORE JMHCAP AREA				
Resource or Land Use Programs	Preferred Alternative	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B
RED DESERT WATERSHED	Actions that are specific to the Red Desert Watershed area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
	Management Objectives: Same as GRRMP (Appendix 3).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Air Quality; Cultural/Paleontological; Fire; Hazardous Materials; Healthy Rangelands; Livestock Grazing; Reclamation; Recreation; Special Status Species; Surface Disturbing Activities; Travel Management; Vegetation; and Watershed	Management objectives and management actions for these resource and land use programs are the same as described in the Green River RMP or for the general JMHCAP area. The following management actions are specifically important to the Red Desert Watershed area and are repeated.			
	Management Actions: Management actions would be the same as described for the general JMHCAP management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the Red Desert Watershed area, the following is repeated:	Management actions would be the same as described for the general JMHCAP management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the Red Desert Watershed area, the following is repeated:	Management actions would be the same as described for the general JMHCAP management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the Red Desert Watershed area, the following is repeated:	Management actions would be the same as described for the general JMHCAP management area for this alternative. Because of particular importance in the Red Desert Watershed area, the following is repeated:

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS OUTSIDE THE CORE JMHCAP AREA				
Resource or Land Use Programs	Preferred Alternative	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B
RED DESERT WATERSHED (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Red Desert Watershed area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
Lands and Realty Management	Rights-of-way would avoid big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation types and the Steamboat Mountain ACEC. The face of Steamboat Mountain would be closed to rights-of-way.	Rights-of-way would avoid the entire Steamboat Mountain ACEC.	Rights-of-way would not avoid the Steamboat Mountain ACEC.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Lands and Realty Management Withdrawals	Withdrawals would be pursued for a portion of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC.	Withdrawals would not be pursued for the Steamboat Mountain ACEC.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Withdrawals would be pursued for all of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC.
Livestock Grazing	Plowing of roads in winter for livestock accessibility and feeding would only be allowed in emergency situations. Any such activity would conform with transportation planning.	Plowing of roads in winter for livestock accessibility and feeding would be considered on a case-by-case basis.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Livestock range improvements outside crucial wildlife habitats would be considered. Within crucial wildlife habitats, range improvements would be considered only where they would benefit wildlife and wildlife habitat.	No new livestock range improvements would be considered.	Livestock range improvements would be considered on a case-by-case basis.	Livestock range improvements throughout the watershed area would be considered only where they would benefit wildlife and wildlife habitat.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS OUTSIDE THE CORE JMHCAP AREA				
Resource or Land Use Programs	Preferred Alternative	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B
RED DESERT WATERSHED (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Red Desert Watershed area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
Livestock Grazing (continued)	Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the core or crucial winter ranges, including the connectivity area (migration corridor) unless JMHCAP objectives can be met.	No livestock water developments would be allowed.	Livestock water developments would be allowed in the core, the connectivity area, and in crucial winter ranges.	Livestock water developments would not be allowed in the core, connectivity area, or crucial winter ranges.
	Livestock water developments would be fenced and offsite water facilities would be developed (pipelines and troughs).	No similar action.	Livestock water developments would not be fenced and offsite water facilities would not be developed.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Livestock Grazing (continued)	Natural water sources (springs and seeps) would be protected. If necessary, they would be fenced and offsite water facilities (pipelines and troughs) could be developed.	Natural water sources (springs and seeps) would be protected. Offsite water facilities (pipelines and troughs) would not be developed.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Fluid Minerals	Portions of the core and portions of the connectivity, Split Rock, and Steamboat Mountain ACEC that overlap the Red Desert Watershed would be closed to fluid mineral leasing consideration (about 3,400 acres).	Portions of the core (and those portions of the connectivity, Split Rock, and Steamboat Mountain ACEC within the core) that overlap the Red Desert Watershed would be closed to fluid mineral leasing consideration (about 2,060 acres).	The entire Red Desert Watershed would be open to fluid leasing consideration.	All portions of the core, connectivity Split Rock, and Steamboat Mountain ACEC areas, that overlap the Red Desert Watershed would be closed to fluid mineral leasing consideration (about 12,950 acres).

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS OUTSIDE THE CORE JMHCAP AREA				
Resource or Land Use Programs	Preferred Alternative	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B
<p>RED DESERT WATERSHED (continued)</p> <p>Fluid Minerals (continued)</p>	<p>Other portions of the connectivity area within the Red Desert Watershed area would be temporarily closed to satisfy immediate needs for adequate habitat and use of that habitat (crucial winter range, calving/fawning, migration corridors, etc.), protection of sensitive resources, and for public health and safety. The entire watershed area would not be leased at the same time, and exploration and development activities would not be allowed to occur over the entire watershed area at the same time. In particular, the connectivity area in the Red Desert Watershed area would not be leased until monitoring and evaluation of ongoing exploration and development activity determine that rates and levels of development and reclamation would allow further leasing and development, would not cause fragmentation and abandonment of habitat, and would still meet stated management objectives. This determination would be based on the effects on elk and their movement patterns, elk use of habitat, effects on other wildlife species and habitats, and effects on other sensitive resources.</p>	<p>The portion of the connectivity area that overlaps the Red Desert watershed area would be open to fluid mineral leasing consideration with the prescriptions identified in the Green River RMP.</p>	<p>Same as No Action Alternative.</p>	<p>The portion of the connectivity area that overlaps the Red Desert watershed area would be closed to leasing consideration.</p>

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS OUTSIDE THE CORE JMHCAP AREA				
Resource or Land Use Programs	Preferred Alternative	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B
RED DESERT WATERSHED (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Red Desert Watershed area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
Mineral Materials	Mineral material sales would not be allowed in big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation communities and portions of the Steamboat Mountain ACEC.	Mineral material sales would not be allowed in the Steamboat Mountain ACEC.	Mineral material sales would be allowed in big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation communities and the Steamboat Mountain ACEC.	Mineral material sales would not be allowed in big sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation communities or in the entire Steamboat Mountain ACEC.
Surface Disturbance	“No surface occupancy” (NSO) constraints would prohibit surface disturbing activities on about 9,040 acres (Table 2-4).	“No surface occupancy” (NSO) constraints would prohibit surface disturbing activities on about 5,200 acres (Table 2-10).	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as No Action Alternative.
	Seasonal restrictions would be applied primarily to protect wildlife (56,500 acres).	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
	Controlled surface use (CSU) constraints would apply to about 122,620 acres.	Controlled surface use (CSU) constraints would apply to about 114,130 acres.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Controlled surface use (CSU) constraints would apply to about 169,010 acres.
Travel Management	Road densities for all weather (improved) roads would be established.	Road densities for all weather (improved) roads would not be established.	Same as No Action Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.
Visual Resource Management	The Red Desert Watershed area would be managed under Class II and Class III VRM classifications.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	The Red Desert Watershed area would be managed under Class II VRM classifications.

TABLE 2-1 (continued)

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS OUTSIDE THE CORE JMHCAP AREA				
Resource or Land Use Programs	Preferred Alternative	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B
RED DESERT WATERSHED (continued)	Actions that are specific to the Red Desert Watershed area or different from the general JMHCAP area			
Wild Horses	The Great Divide Basin wild horse herd management area would not be expanded.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	Same as Preferred Alternative.	The Great Divide Basin wild horse herd management area would be expanded. Herd management levels would not change.

**TABLE 2-2
RIGHTS-OF-WAY AVOIDANCE AND EXCLUSION AREAS
PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE¹**

Right-of-Way Avoidance Areas	Estimated Acres²
Back Country Byway Interpretive Sites	10
Big Sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation associations and mountain shrub communities	21,500
Connectivity Area	140,380
Core Area, including Steamboat Mountain ACEC	80,410
Greater Sand Dunes ACEC (developed recreation sites, ORV parking lot)	50
Native American areas of concern (1 mile to 2.5 miles)	28,470
Paleosol deposition area (individual sites) ³	18,200
Rock Art Sites (1/2 mile) ⁴	280
Estimated Total	289,300
Right-of-Way Exclusion Areas	
Steamboat Mountain ACEC (communication sites)	43,310
Continental Peak (communication sites)	90
Indian Gap	690
Face of Steamboat Mountain	9,400
Estimated Total	53,490

¹ In accordance with transportation planning.

² Actual acreage to be determined.

³ Only those cultural properties discovered within the identified area would be avoided by 100 feet.

⁴ Petroglyphs and vistas total 760 acres.

**TABLE 2-3
WITHDRAWALS TO BE PURSUED
PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE**

Site	Estimated Acres¹	Existing Withdrawal Overlap²
Cultural Site	320	
Elk Calving Areas (2 northern areas)	7,440	Coal
Native American Respected Places (White Mountain and Steamboat)	280	
Steamboat Mountain Area	960	Coal
Estimated Total	9,000	

¹ Actual withdrawal acreage to be determined.

² Data is unavailable at this time to delineate the actual overlap with existing withdrawals identified for revocation in the Green River RMP.

TABLE 2-4
AREAS OF FLUID MINERAL LEASE CONDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS BY HYDROCARBON POTENTIAL
PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE
(approximate acres)¹

Category ²	Federal Surface Acres	Hydrocarbon Potential (Federal Surface and Subsurface Acres)			
		High	Moderate	Low	Total
		General Planning Area:			
No Leasing³					
Crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values	37,240	18,420	3,110	17,190	38,720
TOTAL NO LEASING	37,240	18,420	3,110	17,190	38,720
No Surface Occupancy (NSO)³					
Boars Tusk	90	90	0	0	90
White Mountain Petroglyphs + ½ mile vista	480	0	480	0	480
Crookston Ranch	40	40	0	0	40
Crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values	29,380	18,670	5,850	4,940	29,460
Greater Sand Dunes ACEC (developed recreation sites and ORV parking lot)	50	50	0	0	50
Oregon Buttes ACEC	3,450	0	0	3,450	3,450
Raptor nesting (occupied nests, cliffs, bluffs, roosts, outcrops and pinnacles)	83	17	25	41	83
Rock Art Site + ½ mile vista	280	0	280	0	280
South Pass Historic Landscape (area visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail)	23,640	0	330	24,270	24,600
Special status plant species habitat ⁴	2,680	2,520	0	160	2,680
Tri-Territory Marker	10	10	0	0	10
TOTAL NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY	56,040	21,350	6,950	28,400	56,700
Seasonal Restrictions³					
Crucial Antelope Winter Range	74,970	22,910	51,990	70	74,970
Crucial Deer Winter Range	100,990	95,720	5,270	0	100,990
Crucial Elk Winter Range	172,740	141,230	22,170	9,700	173,100
Elk Calving Areas	58,890	49,470	350	9,790	59,610
Mule Deer Parturition Areas	23,100	23,100	0	0	23,100
Raptor Habitat	43,150	11,800	13,130	18,220	43,150
Sage Grouse Nesting Areas (1 ¾ mile from lek)	114,660	18,360	58,910	38,160	115,430
TOTAL SEASONAL RESTRICTIONS	347,250	187,050	95,800	66,860	349,710
Controlled Surface Use Restrictions³					
Backcountry Byway Interpretive Sites	10	5	5	0	10
Floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas (within 500' of 100-year floodplains and waters) ⁵	41,170	21,270	11,510	9,920	42,700
Historic Trails (1/4 mile or visual horizon) ⁶	8,500	4,430	0	4,290	8,620
Native American areas of concern (2½-mile vista)	8,700	7,140	1,560	0	8,700
Paleosol Deposition Area	18,200	0	18,200	0	18,200
Sage Grouse Leks and 1/4 mile buffer	8,170	1,420	4,410	2,660	8,490
Slopes greater than 20%	70,310	41,700	2,900	26,350	70,950
South Pass Historic Landscape (area not visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail)	22,190	0	890	22,250	23,140
Special status plant species potential habitat ⁷	4,970	0	0	4,970	4,970
Steamboat Mountain Crucial Overlap	37,120	37,510	0	0	37,510
VRM Class II Lands	332,390	145,120	39,720	152,510	337,350
Within 100' of inner gorge of intermittent/ephemeral streams	12,470	5,130	3,810	3,550	12,490
TOTAL CONTROLLED SURFACE USE RESTRICTIONS	416,160	184,440	79,620	158,250	422,310

Category ²	Federal Surface Acres	Hydrocarbon Potential (Federal Surface and Subsurface Acres)			
		High	Moderate	Low	Total
Core Area:					
No Leasing³					
Crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values	13,810	14,130	0	0	14,130
TOTAL NO LEASING	13,810	14,130	0	0	14,130
No Surface Occupancy (NSO)³					
Crookston Ranch	40	40	0	0	40
Crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values	12,010	12,010	0	0	12,010
Greater Sand Dunes ACEC (developed recreation sites and ORV parking lot)	50	50	0	0	50
Raptor nesting (occupied nests, cliffs, bluffs roosts, outcrops and pinnacles)	10	10	0	0	10
Tri-Territory Marker	10	10	0	0	10
TOTAL NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY	12,100	12,100	0	0	12,100
Seasonal Restrictions³					
Crucial Deer Winter Range	71,180	71,820	0	0	71,820
Crucial Elk Winter Range	80,410	82,220	0	0	82,220
Elk Calving Areas	27,540	27,930	0	0	27,930
Mule Deer Parturition Areas	22,520	22,520	0	0	22,520
Raptor Habitat	2,330	2,330	0	0	2,330
Sage Grouse Nesting Areas (1 3/4 mile from lek)	860	860	0	0	860
TOTAL SEASONAL RESTRICTIONS	80,410	82,220	0	0	82,220
Controlled Surface Use Restrictions³					
Backcountry Byway Interpretive Sites	5	5	0	0	5
Floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas (within 500' of 100-year floodplains and waters) ⁵	9,410	9,980	0	0	9,980
Native American areas of concern (2½-mile)	4,150	4,150	0	0	4,150
Slopes greater than 20%	21,370	21,410	0	0	21,410
Special status plant species potential habitat ⁷	90	90	0	0	90
Steamboat Mountain Crucial Overlap	37,120	37,510	0	0	37,510
VRM Class II Lands	63,140	63,630	0	0	63,630
Within 100' of inner gorge of intermittent/ephemeral streams	1,010	1,010	0	0	1,010
TOTAL CONTROLLED SURFACE USE RESTRICTIONS	80,410	82,220	0	0	82,220
Steamboat Mountain ACEC:					
No Leasing³					
Crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values	8,000	8,320	0	0	8,320
TOTAL NO LEASING	8,000	8,320	0	0	8,320
No Surface Occupancy (NSO)³					
Crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values	7,840	7,840	0	0	7,840
Raptor nesting (occupied nests, cliffs, bluffs, roosts, outcrops, and pinnacles)	5	5	0	0	5
TOTAL NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY	7,845	7,845	0	0	7,845
Seasonal Restrictions³					
Crucial Deer Winter Range	43,070	43,710	0	0	43,710
Crucial Elk Winter Range	43,310	43,950	0	0	43,950
Elk Calving Areas	10,260	10,260	0	0	10,260
Mule Deer Parturition Areas	12,030	12,030	0	0	12,030
Raptor Habitat	1,400	1,400	0	0	1,400
TOTAL SEASONAL RESTRICTIONS	43,310	43,950	0	0	43,950

Category ²	Federal Surface Acres	Hydrocarbon Potential (Federal Surface and Subsurface Acres)			
		High	Moderate	Low	Total
Controlled Surface Use Restrictions³					
Backcountry Byway Interpretive Sites	5	5	0	0	5
Floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas (within 500' of 100-year floodplains and waters) ⁵	3,380	3,680	0	0	3,680
Native American areas of concern (2½-mile)	800	800	0	0	800
Slopes greater than 20%	14,940	14,960	0	0	14,960
Special status plant species potential habitat ⁷	50	50	0	0	50
VRM Class II Lands	43,310	43,950	0	0	43,950
Within 100' of inner gorge of intermittent/ ephemeral streams	630	630	0	0	630
TOTAL CONTROLLED SURFACE USE RESTRICTIONS	43,310	43,950	0	0	43,950

¹ Lease parcels are designed on aliquot parts. The actual acreage for the lease may vary.

² All activities would be subject to intensive mitigation including offsite placement of facilities, remote control monitoring, restricted or prohibited surface use including road construction, multiple wells from a single pad, central and batteries/facilities, pipelines and powerlines concentrated in specific areas, etc.

Activity may be restricted or prohibited in crucial wildlife habitats. Seasonal constraints may be placed on all activities (exploration, production, maintenance) and year round access may not be feasible. Actual locations, roads, etc., will be limited and activity will not be allowed throughout the lease. Production facilities may need to be placed offsite.

Although closed to leasing and related oil and gas activity, any other surface disturbing or disrupting use would follow the surface disturbance prescriptions.

Subject to future evaluation, portions of the planning area would be closed to leasing to provide adequate habitat and use of that habitat (crucial winter range, calving/fawning, migration corridors, etc.) and protection of sensitive resources and public health and safety. The entire planning area would not be leased at the same time. In particular, portions of Steamboat Mountain ACEC, White Mountain, Split Rock area, and the core and connectivity areas would not be leased until an evaluation of these areas determines that rates and levels of development and reclamation would allow further leasing and still meet stated management objectives. The evaluation would assess the fluid mineral exploration and development activity and its effects on elk and their movement patterns, elk use of habitat (potential fragmentation), and effects on other wildlife species and habitats, and other sensitive resources. No leasing would occur in the Greater Sand Dunes ACEC.

The evaluation would incorporate information from the elk study initiated in 1999; application of the standards and guidelines for healthy rangelands; proper functioning condition determinations; and other activities and uses. At the end of the evaluation (about three years), a determination would be made on whether currently unleased areas, and currently leased areas that may become available for future leasing consideration, would be offered for fluid mineral leasing. Should these areas be offered for lease, appropriate mitigation would be applied to meet planning area management objectives. If the evaluation concludes that planning area management objectives are not being met, these areas would either not be leased, or would be leased with an NSO stipulation.

³ Refer to Appendix 2. These requirements apply to all surface disturbing activities.

⁴ As new populations are identified, their locations will be added to this total.

⁵ Surface disturbing activities that could adversely affect water quality, and wetland and riparian habitat will avoid the area within 500 feet of or on 100-year floodplains, riparian areas, wetlands, or perennial streams. The 100-year floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas will be closed to any new permanent facilities. Activities could be allowed if a site specific analysis determines that no adverse impacts would occur (see the Watershed Management section).

⁶ All activity will conform with requirements of Class II visual values.

⁷ Acres will change as floristic inventories identify actual areas with potential. Searches will be required prior to surface disturbance activities.

Note: Mountain plover habitat has not been identified. Little is known about their nesting habitat. Conditions of Approval could be applied as appropriate (see Appendix 12).

**TABLE 2-5
SEASONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL SURFACE DISTURBANCE AND DISRUPTIVE ACTIVITIES
ALL ALTERNATIVES**

Affected Areas	Restricted Time Frames	Restricted Area
Big Game Crucial Winter Ranges	Nov. 15 - April 30	Antelope, elk, and mule deer crucial winter ranges
Parturition Areas	May 1 - June 30	Designated parturition areas
Sage Grouse Leks and Nesting Areas	Feb. 1 - July 31	Up to 2-mile radius of lek
Golden Eagle Nest	Feb. 1 - July 31	Within one-half mile radius
Osprey Nest	Feb. 1 - July 31	Within one-half mile radius
Swainson's Hawk Nest	Feb. 1 - July 31	Within one-half mile radius
Ferruginous Hawk Nest	Feb. 1 - July 31	Within one mile radius
Coopers Hawk Nest	Feb. 1 - July 31	Within one-half mile radius
Burrowing Owl Nest	Feb. 1 - July 31	Within one-half mile radius
Merlin Nest	Feb. 1 - July 31	Within one-half mile radius
Other Raptors	Feb. 1 - July 31	Within one-half mile radius
Mountain Plover	April 10 - July 10	Within 656 feet (200 meters)

**TABLE 2-6
AREAS CLOSED TO MINERAL MATERIAL SALES
PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE**

Areas Closed	Estimated Acres
Crucial habitats and other sensitive resource values	29,380
Elk calving areas	58,890
Mountain Sagebrush Communities (including sagebrush/scurfpea communities)	21,500
Steamboat Mountain ACEC ^{1, 2}	1,710
Estimated Acres	235,100

NOTE: Surface collecting (picking materials off the ground by hand) would be considered in these areas on a case-by-case basis.

¹ Top of Steamboat Mountain would be closed (lava material only). No pits would be developed in the Steamboat Mountain ACEC.

² Mineral material disposal would only occur when in support of project development in this area and the core area. Appropriate mitigation would be applied to insure this activity would not detract from the important resource values of the respective areas. New road construction and upgrading of existing roads for mineral material extraction would only be allowed if in accordance with transportation planning.

**TABLE 2-7
AREAS CLOSED TO GEOPHYSICAL VEHICLES & EXPLOSIVE CHARGES
PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE and ALTERNATIVE B**

Areas Closed	Estimated Acres
Core Area ¹	80,410
Cultural Site	320
NSO Areas ¹	56,550
Special Status Plant Species Locations	2,680
Estimated Total²	139,960

¹ Exploration activities without the use of explosive charges could occur on existing roads and trails in conformance with transportation planning.

² Acres are actually less than presented due to overlapping resource concerns.

**TABLE 2-8
VRM CLASSES
(By Alternative - Approximate Acres)**

VRM Class	No Action Alternative	Alternative A	Alternative B	Preferred Alternative
Class I	0	0	0	0
Class II	274,790	274,790	383,850	332,390
Class III	108,680	103,770	8,610	60,070
Class IV	192,680	197,590	183,690	183,690
Rehabilitation Areas ¹	0	0	0	0

¹ By definition, rehabilitation is necessary to bring these areas up to one of the four other classes.

**TABLE 2-9
RIGHTS-OF-WAY AVOIDANCE AND EXCLUSION AREAS
NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE**

Right-of-Way Avoidance Areas	Estimated Acres¹
Native American areas of concern (100 feet)	42
Paleosol deposition area (100 feet of individual sites) ²	18,200
Estimated Total	18,242
Right-of-Way Exclusion Areas	
Steamboat Mountain ACEC (Communication sites)	43,310
Continental Peak (Communication sites)	90
Estimated Total	43,400

¹ Actual acreage to be determined.

² Only those cultural properties discovered within the identified area would be avoided by 100 feet.

TABLE 2-10
AREAS OF FLUID MINERAL LEASE CONDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS BY HYDROCARBON POTENTIAL
NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE
(approximate acres)¹

Category	Federal Surface Acres	Hydrocarbon Potential (Federal Surface and Subsurface Acres)			
		High	Moderate	Low	Total
		General Planning Area:			
No Leasing					
Core Area	80,410	82,220	0	0	82,220
TOTAL NO LEASING	80,410	82,220	0	0	82,220
No Surface Occupancy (NSO)²					
Boars Tusk	90	90	0	0	90
White Mountain Petroglyphs + ½ mile vista	480	0	480	0	480
Crookston Ranch	40	40	0	0	40
Greater Sand Dunes ACEC (developed recreation sites and ORV parking lot)	50	50	0	0	50
Oregon Buttes ACEC	3,450	0	0	3,450	3,450
Raptor nesting (occupied nests, cliffs, bluffs, roosts, outcrops and pinnacles)	83	17	25	41	83
South Pass Historic Landscape (area visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail)	23,640	0	330	24,270	24,600
Special status plant species habitat ³	2,680	2,520	0	160	2,680
Native American areas of concern (100')	40	5	35	0	40
Tri-Territory Marker	10	10	0	0	10
TOTAL NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY	30,580	2,735	865	27,920	31,520
Seasonal Restrictions²					
Crucial Antelope Winter Range	74,970	22,910	51,990	70	74,970
Crucial Deer Winter Range	100,990	95,720	5,270	0	100,990
Crucial Elk Winter Range	172,740	141,230	22,170	9,700	173,100
Elk Calving Areas	58,890	49,470	350	9,790	59,610
Mule Deer Parturition Areas	23,100	23,100	0	0	23,100
Raptor Habitat	43,150	11,800	13,130	18,220	43,150
Sage Grouse Nesting Areas (1 3/4 mile from lek)	114,660	18,360	58,910	38,160	115,430
TOTAL SEASONAL RESTRICTIONS	347,250	187,050	95,800	66,860	349,710
Controlled Surface Use Restrictions²					
Back Country Byway Interpretive Sites	10	5	5	0	10
Floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas (within 500' of 100-year floodplains and waters) ⁴	41,170	21,270	11,510	9,920	42,700
Historic Trails (1/4 mile or visual horizon) ⁵	17,890	4,330	8,940	4,770	18,040
Sage Grouse Lek and 1/4 mile buffer	8,170	1,420	4,410	2,660	8,490
Slopes greater than 25%	27,820	17,130	2,540	8,340	28,010
South Pass Historic Landscape (area not visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail)	22,190	0	890	22,250	23,140
Special status plant species potential habitat ⁶	4,970	0	0	4,970	4,970
Steamboat Mountain Crucial Overlap	37,120	37,510	0	0	37,510
VRM Class II Lands	274,790	96,510	30,730	152,510	279,750
Within 100' of inner gorge of intermittent/ephemeral streams	12,470	5,130	3,810	3,550	12,490
TOTAL CONTROLLED SURFACE USE RESTRICTIONS	320,580	124,530	44,100	157,210	325,840
Core Area:					
No Leasing					
Core Area	80,410	82,220	0	0	82,220
TOTAL NO LEASING	80,410	82,220	0	0	82,220

Category	Federal Surface Acres	Hydrocarbon Potential (Federal Surface and Subsurface Acres)			
		High	Moderate	Low	Total
No Surface Occupancy (NSO)²					
Crookston Ranch	40	40	0	0	40
Greater Sand Dunes ACEC (developed recreation sites and ORV parking lot)	50	50	0	0	50
Tri-Territory Marker	10	10	0	0	10
Raptor nesting (occupied nests, cliffs, bluffs, roosts, outcrops and pinnacles)	10	10	0	0	10
TOTAL NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY	110	110	0	0	110
Seasonal Restrictions²					
Crucial Deer Winter Range	71,180	71,820	0	0	71,820
Crucial Elk Winter Range	80,410	82,220	0	0	82,220
Elk Calving Areas	27,540	27,930	0	0	27,930
Mule Deer Parturition Areas	22,520	22,520	0	0	22,520
Raptor Habitat	2,330	2,330	0	0	2,330
Sage Grouse Nesting Areas (1 3/4 mile from lek)	860	860	0	0	860
TOTAL SEASONAL RESTRICTIONS	80,410	82,220	0	0	82,220
Controlled Surface Use Restrictions²					
Back Country Byway Interpretive Sites	5	5	0	0	5
Floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas (within 500' of 100-year floodplains and waters) ⁴	9,410	9,980	0	0	9,980
Slopes greater than 25%	9,780	9,790	0	0	9,790
Special status plant species potential habitat ⁶	90	90	0	0	90
Steamboat Mountain Crucial Overlap	37,120	37,510	0	0	37,510
VRM Class II Lands	25,250	25,740	0	0	25,740
Within 100' of inner gorge of intermittent/ephemeral streams	1,010	1,010	0	0	1,010
Areas of Native American Concern (100')	5	5	0	0	5
TOTAL CONTROLLED SURFACE USE RESTRICTIONS	37,840	38,540	0	0	38,540
Steamboat Mountain ACEC					
No Leasing					
Steamboat Mountain ACEC	43,310	43,950	0	0	43,950
TOTAL NO LEASING	43,310	43,950	0	0	43,950
No Surface Occupancy (NSO)²					
Raptor nesting (occupied nests, cliffs, bluffs, roosts, outcrops and pinnacles)	5	5	0	0	5
TOTAL NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY	5	5	0	0	5
Seasonal Restrictions²					
Crucial Deer Winter Range	43,070	43,710	0	0	43,710
Crucial Elk Winter Range	43,310	43,950	0	0	43,950
Elk Calving Areas	10,260	10,260	0	0	10,260
Mule Deer Parturition Areas	12,030	12,030	0	0	12,030
Raptor Habitat	1,400	1,400	0	0	1,400
TOTAL SEASONAL RESTRICTIONS	43,310	43,950	0	0	43,950
Controlled Surface Use Restrictions²					
Back Country Byway Interpretive Sites	5	5	0	0	5
Floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas (within 500' of 100-year floodplains and waters) ⁴	3,380	3,680	0	0	3,680
Slopes greater than 25%	7,160	7,160	0	0	7,160
Special status plant species potential habitat ⁶	50	50	0	0	50
VRM Class II Lands	7,090	7,090	0	0	7,090
Within 100' of inner gorge of intermittent/ephemeral streams	630	630	0	0	630

Category	Federal Surface Acres	Hydrocarbon Potential (Federal Surface and Subsurface Acres)			
		High	Moderate	Low	Total
Areas of Native American Concern (100')	5	5	0	0	5
TOTAL CONTROLLED SURFACE USE RESTRICTIONS	15,520	15,830	0	0	15,830

¹ Lease parcels are designed on aliquot parts. The actual acreage for the lease may vary.

² Refer to Appendix 2. These requirements apply to all surface disturbing activities.

³ As new populations are identified, their locations will be added to this total.

⁴ Surface disturbing activities that could adversely affect water quality, and wetland and riparian habitat will avoid the area within 500 feet of or on 100-year floodplains, riparian areas, wetlands, or perennial streams. The 100-year floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas will be closed to any new permanent facilities. Activities could be allowed if a site specific analysis determines that no adverse impacts would occur (see the Watershed Management section).

⁵ All activity will conform with requirements of Class II visual values.

⁶ Acres will change as floristic inventories identify actual areas with potential. Searches will be required prior to surface disturbance activities.

Note: Mountain plover habitat has not been identified. Little is known about their nesting habitat. Conditions of Approval could be applied as appropriate (see Appendix 12).

**TABLE 2-11
RIGHTS-OF-WAY AVOIDANCE AND EXCLUSION AREAS
ALTERNATIVE A**

Right-of-Way Avoidance Areas	Estimated Acres¹
Back Country Byway Interpretive Sites	10
Native American areas of concern (¼ mile)	610
Paleosol deposition area (100 feet of individual sites) ²	18,200
Estimated Total	18,820

Right-of-Way Exclusion Areas	Estimated Acres
Continental Peak (Communication sites)	90
Estimated Total	90

¹ Actual acreage to be determined.

² Only those cultural properties discovered within the identified area would be avoided by 100 feet.

TABLE 2-12
AREAS OF FLUID MINERAL LEASE CONDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS BY HYDROCARBON POTENTIAL
ALTERNATIVE A
(approximate acres)¹

Category	Federal Surface Acres	Hydrocarbon Potential (Federal Surface and Subsurface Acres)			
		High	Moderate	Low	Total
		General Planning Area:			
No Leasing					
TOTAL NO LEASING	0	0	0	0	0
No Surface Occupancy (NSO)²					
Boars Tusk	90	90	0	0	90
White Mountain Petroglyphs + ½ mile vista	480	0	480	0	480
Crookston Ranch	40	40	0	0	40
Greater Sand Dunes ACEC (developed recreation sites and ORV parking lot)	50	50	0	0	50
Oregon Buttes ACEC	3,450	0	0	3,450	3,450
Raptor nesting (occupied nests, cliffs, bluffs, roosts, outcrops and pinnacles)	83	17	25	41	83
South Pass Historic Landscape (area visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail)	23,640	0	330	24,270	24,600
Special status plant species habitat ³	2,680	2,520	0	160	2,680
Native American areas of concern (100')	40	5	35	0	40
Tri-Territory Marker	10	10	0	0	10
TOTAL NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY	30,580	2,735	865	27,920	31,520
Seasonal Restrictions²					
Crucial Antelope Winter Range	74,970	22,910	51,990	70	74,970
Crucial Deer Winter Range	100,990	95,720	5,270	0	100,990
Crucial Elk Winter Range	172,740	141,230	22,170	9,700	173,100
Elk Calving Areas	58,890	49,470	350	9,790	59,610
Mule Deer Parturition Areas	23,100	23,100	0	0	23,100
Raptor Habitat	43,150	11,800	13,130	18,220	43,150
Sage Grouse Nesting Areas (1 3/4 mile from lek)	114,660	18,360	58,910	38,160	115,430
TOTAL SEASONAL RESTRICTIONS	347,250	187,050	95,800	66,860	349,710
Controlled Surface Use Restrictions²					
Backcountry Byway Interpretive Sites	10	5	5	0	10
Floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas (within 500' of 100-year floodplains and waters) ⁴	41,170	21,270	11,510	9,920	42,700
Historic Trails (1/4 mile or visual horizon) ⁵	8,500	4,430	0	4,290	8,620
Sage Grouse Leks and 1/4 mile buffer	8,170	1,420	4,410	2,660	8,490
Slopes greater than 25%	27,820	17,130	2,540	8,340	28,010
South Pass Historic Landscape (area not visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail)	22,190	0	890	22,250	23,140
Special status plant species potential habitat ⁶	4,970	0	0	4,970	4,970
Steamboat Mountain Crucial Overlap	37,120	37,510	0	0	37,510
VRM Class II Lands	274,790	96,510	30,730	152,510	279,750
Within 100' of inner gorge of intermittent/ephemeral streams	12,470	5,130	3,810	3,550	12,490
TOTAL CONTROLLED SURFACE USE RESTRICTIONS	320,580	124,530	44,100	157,210	325,840
Core Area:					
No Surface Occupancy (NSO)²					
Crookston Ranch	40	50	0	0	40
Greater Sand Dunes ACEC (developed recreation sites and ORV parking lot)	50	50	0	0	50

Category	Federal Surface Acres	Hydrocarbon Potential (Federal Surface and Subsurface Acres)			
		High	Moderate	Low	Total
Tri-Territory Marker	10	10	0	0	10
Raptor nesting (occupied nests, cliffs, bluffs, roosts, outcrops and pinnacles)	10	10	0	0	10
TOTAL NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY	110	110	0	0	110
Seasonal Restrictions²					
Crucial Deer Winter Range	71,180	71,220	0	0	82,220
Crucial Elk Winter Range	80,410	82,220	0	0	82,220
Elk Calving Areas	27,540	27,930	0	0	27,930
Mule Deer Parturition Areas	22,520	22,520	0	0	22,520
Raptor Habitat	2,330	2,330	0	0	2,330
Sage Grouse Nesting Areas (1 3/4 mile from lek)	860	860	0	0	860
TOTAL SEASONAL RESTRICTIONS	80,410	82,220	0	0	82,220
Controlled Surface Use Restrictions²					
Backcountry Byway Interpretive Sites	5	5	0	0	5
Floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas (within 500' of 100-year floodplains and waters) ⁴	9,410	9,980	0	0	9,980
Slopes greater than 25%	9,780	9,790	0	0	9,790
Special status plant species potential habitat ⁶	90	90	0	0	90
Steamboat Mountain Crucial Overlap	37,120	37,510	0	0	37,510
VRM Class II Lands	25,250	25,740	0	0	25,740
Within 100' of inner gorge of intermittent/ephemeral streams	1,010	1,010	0	0	1,010
Areas of Native American Concern (100')	5	5	0	0	5
TOTAL CONTROLLED SURFACE USE RESTRICTIONS	37,840	38,540	0	0	38,540

Steamboat Mountain ACEC:

No Surface Occupancy (NSO)²

Raptor nesting (occupied nests, cliffs, bluffs, roosts, and pinnacles)	5	5	0	0	5
TOTAL NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY	5	5	0	0	5

Seasonal Restrictions²

Crucial Deer Winter Range	43,070	43,710	0	0	43,710
Crucial Elk Winter Range	43,310	43,950	0	0	43,950
Elk Calving Areas	10,260	10,260	0	0	10,260
Mule Deer Parturition Areas	12,030	12,030	0	0	12,030
Raptor Habitat	1,400	1,400	0	0	1,400
TOTAL SEASONAL RESTRICTIONS	43,310	43,950	0	0	43,950

Controlled Surface Use Restrictions²

Backcountry byway Interpretive Sites	5	5	0	0	5
Floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas (within 500' of 100-year floodplains and waters) ⁴	3,380	3,680	0	0	3,680
Slopes greater than 25%	7,160	7,160	0	0	7,160
Special status plant species potential habitat ⁶	50	50	0	0	50
VRM Class II Lands	7,090	7,090	0	0	7,090
Within 100' of inner gorge of intermittent/ephemeral streams	630	630	0	0	630
Areas of Native American Concern (100')	5	5	0	0	5
TOTAL CONTROLLED SURFACE USE RESTRICTIONS	15,520	15,830	0	0	15,830

¹ Lease parcels are designed on aliquot parts. The actual acreage for the lease may vary.

² Refer to Appendix 2. These requirements apply to all surface disturbing activities.

³ As new populations are identified, their locations will be added to this total.

⁴ Surface disturbing activities that could adversely affect water quality, and wetland and riparian habitat will avoid the area within 500 feet of or on 100-year floodplains, riparian areas, wetlands, or perennial streams. The 100-year floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas will be closed to any new permanent facilities. Activities could be allowed if a site specific analysis determines that no adverse impacts would occur (see the Watershed Management section).

⁵ All activity will conform with requirements of Class II visual values.

⁶ Acres will change as floristic inventories identify actual areas with potential. Searches will be required prior to surface disturbance activities.

Note: Mountain plover habitat has not been identified. Little is known about their nesting habitat. Conditions of Approval could be applied as appropriate (see Appendix 12).

**TABLE 2-13
RIGHTS-OF-WAY AVOIDANCE AND EXCLUSION AREAS
ALTERNATIVE B¹**

Right-of-Way Avoidance Areas	Estimated Acres²
Back Country Byway Interpretive Sites	10
Big Sagebrush/scurfpea vegetation associations and mountain shrub communities	21,500
Connectivity Area	140,380
Core Area, including Steamboat Mountain ACEC	80,410
Greater Sand Dunes ACEC (developed recreation sites, ORV parking lot)	50
Native American areas of concern (1 mile)	5,490
Paleosol deposition area (entire area)	18,200
Rock Art Sites (½ mile) ³	280
Estimated Total⁴	160,370
Right-of-Way Exclusion Areas	
Special Status Plant (<u>Lesquerella macrocarpa</u>) ⁵	2,660
Steamboat Mountain ACEC (communication sites)	43,310
Essex Mountain (communication sites)	140
Continental Peak (communication sites)	90
Pacific Buttes (communication sites)	1,010
Indian Gap	690
Face of Steamboat Mountain	9,400
Estimated Total⁴	57,300

¹ In accordance with transportation planning.

² Actual acreage to be determined.

³ Petroglyphs and vistas total 760 acres.

⁴ Acres do not add due to overlapping areas.

⁵ The actual plant sites are closed to surface disturbing rights-of-way. The existing two-track roads could be considered for non-surface disturbing uses.

**TABLE 2-14
WITHDRAWALS TO BE PURSUED
ALTERNATIVE B**

Site	Estimated Acres¹	Existing Withdrawal Overlap²
Connectivity Area	140,380	
Core Area	80,410	
Cultural Site	320	
Elk Calving Areas	58,890	
South Pass Historic Landscape	4,790	Coal
Steamboat Mountain ACEC	43,310	Coal
White Mountain (Native American Respected Places)	280	
Estimated Total³	113,550	

¹ Actual withdrawal acreage to be determined.

² Data is unavailable at this time to delineate the actual overlap with existing withdrawals identified for revocation in the Green River RMP.

³ Acres do not add due to overlapping sites.

TABLE 2-15
AREAS OF FLUID MINERAL LEASE CONDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS BY HYDROCARBON POTENTIAL
ALTERNATIVE B
(approximate acres)¹

Category	Federal Surface Acres	Hydrocarbon Potential (Federal Surface and Subsurface Acres)			
		High	Moderate	Low	Total
		General Planning Area:			
No Leasing					
Core Area	80,410	82,220	0	0	82,220
Connectivity Area	140,380	64,280	30,700	47,880	142,860
TOTAL NO LEASING	220,790	146,500	30,700	47,880	225,080
No Surface Occupancy (NSO)²					
Boars Tusk	90	90	0	0	90
White Mountain Petroglyphs + ½ mile vista	480	0	480	0	480
Crookston Ranch	40	40	0	0	40
Greater Sand Dunes ACEC (developed recreation sites and ORV parking lot)	50	50	0	0	50
Native American areas of concern (1 mile)	5,490	2,820	2,670	0	5,490
Oregon Buttes ACEC	3,450	0	0	3,450	3,450
Raptor nesting (occupied nests, cliffs, bluffs, roosts, outcrops and pinnacles)	83	17	25	41	83
Rock Art Site + ½ mile buffer	280	0	280	0	280
South Pass Historic Landscape (area visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail)	23,640	0	330	24,270	24,600
Special status plant species habitat ³	2,680	2,520	0	160	2,680
Tri-Territory Marker	10	10	0	0	10
TOTAL NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY	36,010	5,530	3,510	27,920	36,960
Seasonal Restrictions²					
Crucial Antelope Winter Range	74,970	22,910	51,990	70	74,970
Crucial Deer Winter Range	100,990	95,720	5,270	0	100,990
Crucial Elk Winter Range	172,740	141,230	22,170	9,700	173,100
Elk Calving Areas	58,890	49,470	350	9,790	59,610
Mule Deer Parturition Areas	23,100	23,100	0	0	23,100
Raptor Habitat	43,150	11,800	13,130	18,220	43,150
Sage Grouse Nesting Areas (1 3/4 mile from lek)	14,660	18,360	58,910	38,160	115,430
TOTAL SEASONAL RESTRICTIONS	347,250	187,050	95,800	66,860	349,710
Controlled Surface Use Restrictions²					
Back Country Byway Interpretive Sites	10	5	5	0	10
Floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas (within 500' of 100-year floodplains and waters) ⁴	41,170	21,270	11,510	9,920	42,700
Historic Trails (1/4 mile or visual horizon) ⁵	8,500	4,330	0	4,290	8,620
Paleosol Deposition Area	18,200	0	18,200	0	18,200
Sage Grouse Leaks and 1/4 mile buffer	8,170	1,420	4,410	2,660	8,490
Slopes greater than 20%	70,310	41,700	2,900	26,350	70,950
South Pass Historic Landscape (area not visible within 3-mile buffer of Oregon Trail)	22,190	0	890	22,250	23,140
Special status plant species potential habitat ⁶	4,970	0	0	4,970	4,970
Steamboat Mountain Crucial Overlap	37,120	37,510	0	0	37,510
VRM Class II Lands	383,850	184,140	39,730	164,940	388,810
Within 100' of inner gorge of intermittent/ephemeral streams	12,470	5,130	3,810	3,550	12,490
TOTAL CONTROLLED SURFACE USE RESTRICTIONS	462,560	220,520	79,620	168,560	468,700

Category	Federal Surface Acres	Hydrocarbon Potential (Federal Surface and Subsurface Acres)			
		High	Moderate	Low	Total
Core Area:					
No Leasing					
Core Area	80,410	82,220	0	0	82,220
TOTAL NO LEASING	80,410	82,220	0	0	82,220
No Surface Occupancy (NSO)²					
Crookston Ranch	40	40	0	0	40
Greater Sand Dunes ACEC (developed recreation sites and ORV parking lot)	50	50	0	0	50
Native American areas of concern (1 mile)	2,820	2,820	0	0	2,820
TOTAL NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY	2,910	2,910	0	0	2,910
Seasonal Restrictions²					
Crucial Deer Winter Range	71,180	71,820	0	0	71,820
Crucial Elk Winter Range	80,410	82,220	0	0	82,220
Elk Calving Areas	27,540	27,930	0	0	27,930
Mule Deer Parturition Areas	22,520	22,520	0	0	22,520
Raptor Habitat	2,330	2,330	0	0	2,330
Sage Grouse Nesting Areas (1 3/4 mile from lek)	860	860	0	0	860
TOTAL SEASONAL RESTRICTIONS	80,410	82,220	0	0	82,220
Controlled Surface Use Restrictions²					
Back Country Byway Interpretive Sites	5	5	0	0	5
Floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas (within 500' of 100-year floodplains and waters) ⁴	9,410	9,980	0	0	9,980
Native American areas of concern (1 mile)	2,820	2,820	0	0	2,820
Slopes greater than 20%	21,370	21,410	0	0	21,410
Special status plant species potential habitat ⁶	90	90	0	0	90
Steamboat Mountain Crucial Overlap	37,120	37,510	0	0	37,510
VRM Class II Lands	63,140	63,630	0	0	63,630
Within 100' of inner gorge of intermittent/ephemeral streams	1,010	1,010	0	0	1,010
TOTAL CONTROLLED SURFACE USE RESTRICTIONS	80,410	82,220	0	0	82,220
Steamboat Mountain ACEC:					
No Leasing					
Core Area	43,310	43,950	0	0	43,950
TOTAL NO LEASING	43,310	43,950	0	0	43,950
No Surface Occupancy (NSO)²					
Native American areas of concern (1 mile)	2,820	2,820	0	0	2,820
Raptor nesting (occupied nests, cliffs, bluffs, roosts, outcrops, and pinnacles)	5	5	0	0	5
TOTAL NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY	2,825	2,825	0	0	2,825
Seasonal Restrictions²					
Crucial Deer Winter Range	43,070	43,710	0	0	43,710
Crucial Elk Winter Range	43,310	43,950	0	0	43,950
Elk Calving Areas	10,260	10,260	0	0	10,260
Mule Deer Parturition Areas	12,030	12,030	0	0	12,030
Raptor Habitat	1,400	1,400	0	0	1,400
TOTAL SEASONAL RESTRICTIONS	43,310	43,950	0	0	43,950
Controlled Surface Use Restrictions²					
Backcountry Byway Interpretive Sites	5	5	0	0	5
Floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas (within 500' of 100-year floodplains and waters) ⁴	3,380	3,680	0	0	3,680
Native American areas of concern (1 mile)	2,820	2,820	0	0	2,820
Category	Federal Surface Acres	Hydrocarbon Potential (Federal Surface and Subsurface Acres)			
		High	Moderate	Low	Total
Slopes greater than 20%	14,940	14,960	0	0	14,960
Special status plant species potential habitat ⁶	50	50	0	0	50
VRM Class II Lands	43,310	43,950	0	0	43,950
Within 100' of inner gorge of					

intermittent/ephemeral streams	630	630	0	0	630
TOTAL CONTROLLED SURFACE USE RESTRICTIONS	43,310	43,950	0	0	43,950

¹ Lease parcels are designed on aliquot parts. The actual acreage for the lease may vary.

² Refer to Appendix 2. These requirements apply to all surface disturbing activities.

³ As new populations are identified, their locations will be added to this total.

⁴ Surface disturbing activities that could adversely affect water quality, and wetland and riparian habitat will avoid the area within 500 feet of or on 100-year floodplains, riparian areas, wetlands, or perennial streams. The 100-year floodplains, wetlands, and riparian areas will be closed to any new permanent facilities. Activities could be allowed if a site specific analysis determines that no adverse impacts would occur (see the Watershed Management section).

⁵ All activity will conform with requirements of Class II visual values.

⁶ Acres will change as floristic inventories identify actual areas with potential. Searches will be required prior to surface disturbance activities.

Note: Mountain plover habitat has not been identified. Little is known about their nesting habitat. Conditions of Approval could be applied as appropriate (see Appendix 12).

**TABLE 2-16
AREAS CLOSED TO MINERAL MATERIAL SALES
ALTERNATIVE B**

Areas Closed	Estimated Acres
Core Area	80,410
Connectivity Area	140,380
Elk Calving Areas	58,890
Mountain Sagebrush Communities (including sagebrush/scurfpea communities)	21,500
Split Rock	12,340
Tri-Territory Marker	10
White Mountain	32,890
Estimated Acres ¹	346,420

NOTE: Surface collecting (picking materials off the ground by hand) would be considered in these areas on a case-by-case basis.

¹ Actual acres would be less due to overlapping resource values.