

Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Report

Bureau of Land Management, Grand Junction Field Office



Gunnison River

US Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Grand Junction Field Office
2815 H Road
Grand Junction, CO 81506



Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Report

For

Bureau of Land Management

Grand Junction Field Office

Prepared by:

United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Grand Junction Field Office

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Catherine Robertson
Grand Junction Field Office
Grand Junction, Colorado

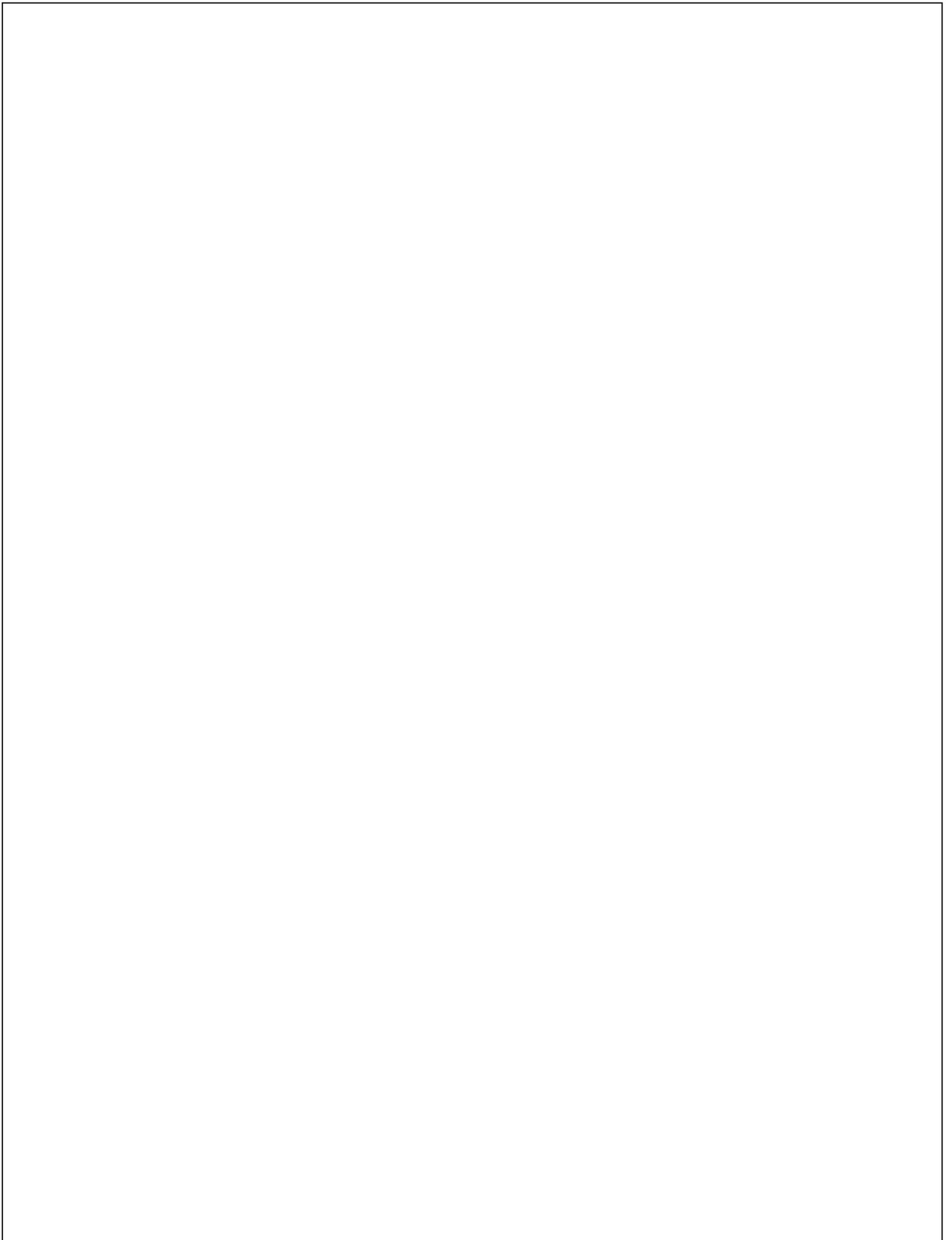


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List of Acronyms

Acronym	Full Phrase
ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
BLM	US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management
CDOW	Colorado Division of Wildlife
CNHP	Colorado National Heritage Program
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
GJFO	Grand Junction Field Office
NCA	National Conservation Area
NPS	National Park Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NWSRS	National Wild and Scenic River System
ORV	Outstandingly Remarkable Value
ROD	Record of Decision
RMP	Resource Management Plan
USFS	US Department of Agriculture, National Forest Service
USFWS	US Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service
WSA	Wilderness Study Area
WSR	Wild and Scenic River
WSR Act	Wild and Scenic Rivers Act

Executive Summary

Introduction

During the Resource Management Plan (RMP) revision being conducted by the US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Grand Junction Field Office (GJFO), an inventory and analysis of BLM rivers and streams within the planning area is required to determine whether rivers or segments of rivers are “eligible” and “suitable” for consideration of inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (NWSRS). The GJFO has completed an inventory and eligibility determination for watercourses under the field office’s jurisdiction.

Statutory Background

Most rivers are added to the NWSRS through federal legislation, after a study of the river’s eligibility and suitability for designation. Under Section 5(d)(1) of the Wild and Scenic River Act (WSR Act), federal agencies are required to consider and evaluate rivers on lands they manage for potential designation in conjunction with the preparation of their RMP. The BLM Manual, 8351, further defines and establishes the policy, program direction and procedural standards for fulfilling the requirements of the WSR Act.

Eligibility Determination

The initial step in the eligibility determination was to create an inventory of all potential rivers and river segments falling on lands administered by the BLM, GJFO. All qualifying land within

the planning area was considered. The USGS National Hydrography Dataset was used as the starting point to select all perennial streams within the field office boundary. Intermittent streams were added to the inventory based on input from BLM, GJFO, and Colorado State Office specialists where potential outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs) may exist. The BLM presented its preliminary eligibility findings during public scoping for the RMP and asked the public to comment and identify other streams that may be eligible for inclusion in the NWSRS. The BLM received 36 discreet comments in seven letters during scoping. See Section 1.9 for comment details.

Per the WSR Act, an eligible segment must be free flowing and possess one or more ORV(s). River values are evaluated within a region of comparison and are identified as outstandingly remarkable if the value is significant on a regional or national scale. Eligibility decisions are based solely off the values of a river. Managerial constraints and other factors are considered during the suitability determination stage of the process. If a river segment is determined eligible, it is then assigned a tentative classification (wild, scenic, recreational) based on the level of human development in the river corridor.

Draft Eligibility Results

In the inventory phase 117 segments were identified for review. After the eligibility study was complete, 15 watercourses, separated into 20 segments, were identified as eligible. Eligible segments of the GJFO include segments from the following areas:

Colorado River (3 Segments)

Dolores River

- Delores River

- North Fork Mesa

- Blue Creek

Dominguez Canyons and Little Dominguez (4 Segments)

Gunnison River (2 Segments)

Little Dolores River

Roan Creek and Carr Creek

Rough Canyon

Unawweep Canyon

- East Creek

- West creek

- North Fork West Creek

- Ute Creek

Next Steps

River segments determined eligible move forward to the suitability phase. These segments are evaluated for their suitability during the development of the Draft RMP and Draft Environmental Impact Statement, and Final RMP and Final Environmental Impact Statement. The final decision on the suitability of a given river segment will be made in the Record of Decision for the Grand Junction RMP.

Chapter 1

Introduction

As part of the current Resource Management Plan (RMP) revision process being conducted by the US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Grand Junction Field Office (GJFO), an inventory and analysis of rivers and streams within the planning area is required to determine whether rivers or segments of rivers are “eligible” and “suitable” for consideration in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (NWSRS). The GJFO has completed the eligibility phase and the results are reported herein.

1.1 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968

The Wild and Scenic River Act (WSR Act) was enacted by Congress in 1968 with the realization that, “the established national policy of dam and other construction at appropriate sections of the rivers of the United States needs to be complemented by a policy that would preserve other selected rivers or sections thereof in their free-flowing condition to protect the water quality of such rivers and to fulfill other vital national conservation purposes.” Rivers that fall under this designation have to meet criteria of being free flowing (WSR Act, Section 16(b) “existing or flowing in natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modification of the waterway”) and possess outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs: scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other). The act provides for protection for included river segments so they are “preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they and their immediate environments shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.”

Rivers and river segments designated under the act are protected and managed to maintain their free flowing character and values that led to designation. Section 10 of the WSR Act mandates, “each component of the national wild and scenic rivers system shall be administered in such manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused it to be included in said system without, insofar as is consistent therewith, limiting other uses that do not substantially interfere with public use and enjoyment of these values.” Protections put in place for designated segments are intended to protect and/or enhance the river from its current state. If a river or segment is added to the NWSRS a specific plan based on the characteristics of an area will be created, tailored to the specific qualities and competing factors of an area.

The act has been amended to add rivers to the NWSRS and to declare additional rivers and river segments needing to be studied for potential inclusion in the system, an authority under Section 5(a). Included in the January 1975 amendment to the WSR Act, sections of the Colorado and Dolores Rivers, parts of which fall within the boundaries of the GJFO (Chapter 4.8), were identified for study under Section 5(a) authority. The US Department of the Interior, National Park Service (NPS) completed an eligibility and suitability report for these segments in 1979, but Congress has not acted on these findings which are described in section 4.8.

1.2 Steps in the Wild and Scenic River Process

The study of and designation of watercourses under the WSR Act follows a multi step process (eligibility → suitability → congressional action). The GJFO is examining the eligibility and suitability of watercourses during its RMP Revision. The eligibility portion initially begins with an inventory of all potential stream segments (Chapter 2), utilizing multiple sources to identify all potential segments (including public input). Then these segments are evaluated to determine if they meet the criteria set forth in the WSR Act. The segments must be free flowing and possess one or more ORV(s) (Chapter 3). Generally the area surveyed for ORVs includes a quarter mile on each side of the river. Segments determined eligible are then classified under three tentative categories (wild, scenic, and recreational) depending on the level of development in the river corridor. This report covers these steps and details the reasoning behind finding a river segment eligible (Chapter 5). The next step will be to examine the suitability (Chapter 6) of segments determined eligible and report these findings in the Draft RMP and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and Final RMP and Final EIS. The final decision on the suitability of a given river segment will be made in the Record of Decision (ROD) for the GJFO RMP.

1.3 Timing of the Eligibility Study

Other than the 1979 report on the Colorado and Lower Dolores Rivers undertaken in conjunction with the NPS, the GJFO has not surveyed and analyzed potential watercourses in its jurisdiction for inclusion in the NWSRS. The WSR Act (Section 5(d)(1)) directs the BLM to survey rivers and river segments during planning efforts: “In all planning for the use and development of water and related land resources, consideration shall be given by all Federal agencies involved to potential national wild, scenic, and recreational river areas.” In 2008 the GJFO began the RMP revision process with the completion of a preparation plan, issuing a notice of intent, and beginning public scoping. The RMP process is expected to take four years. This eligibility

review was conducted during the early part of the process. Suitability determinations will be analyzed during the development of the revised RMP and finalized in the ROD.

1.4 Project Area

The Colorado BLM, GJFO RMP will cover approximately 1.2 million acres of BLM-administered public lands and 1.5 million acres of federal mineral estate in Mesa, Delta, Montrose, and Garfield counties in northwest Colorado (Map 1.1). A separate planning process was conducted for the McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area (NCA) RMP (BLM 2004a) therefore, the GJFO RMP Revision will not consider lands and furthermore, not determine eligibility of watercourses within the NCA boundary. However, the Colorado River is not considered part of the NCA and therefore its segment through the NCA portion of the project area is included in this eligibility report.

1.5 Protection of Eligible Segments

Segments determined eligible in this report are subject to protection until the suitability stage is completed. Following suitability determinations, river segments determined non-suitable return to the underlying management prescribed in the effective RMP, while suitable rivers are managed to maintain their free flowing character and ORVs as per the alternative selected in the Final RMP. During the period between issuing the final eligibility report and the ROD, eligible segments identified during a planning process (Section 5(d)(1) of the WSR Act) are offered a different level of protection than river identified for study by Congress (Section 5(a) of the WSR Act). While congressionally authorized study rivers receive protection under the WSR Act, protection of the free-flowing characteristics and ORVs of agency-identified study rivers occurs through other authorities including the National Environmental Policy Act, the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Endangered Species Act. For example, a federal or federally permitted action subject to the National Environmental Policy Act process would have to consider the effects on the free-flowing and ORVs of any affected eligible stream segments. For a more detailed representation of the standards for protection afforded to segments identified as eligible in an agency planning process see Table 1.1.

Map 1.1: Location of the Bureau of Land Management, Grand Junction Field Office

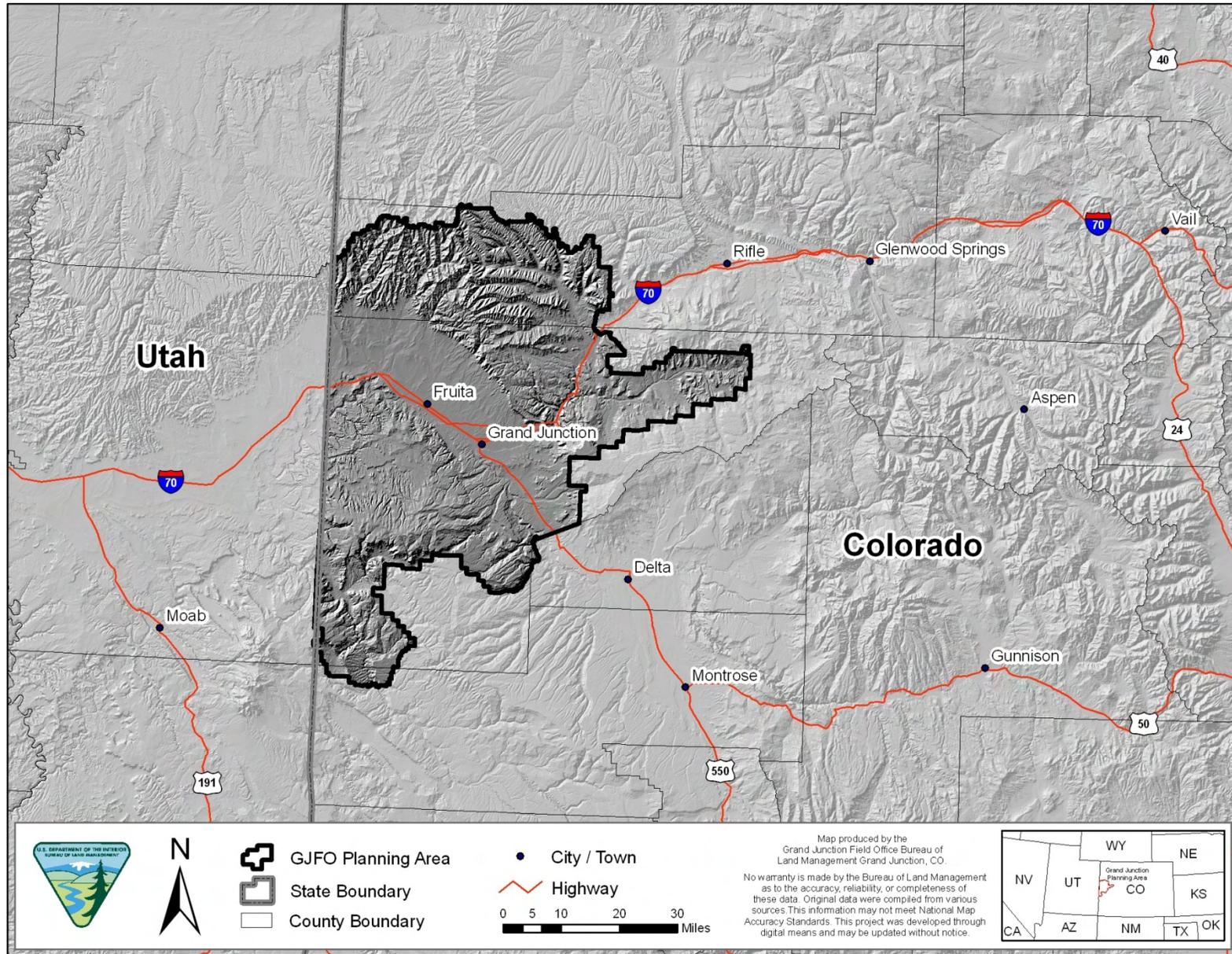


Table 1.1: Interim Protection of Agency-Identified Wild and Scenic River Act Eligible Segments*

Issue	Protection under Eligible Designation
Study Boundary	Minimum of 1/4 mile from the ordinary high water mark (boundary may include adjacent areas needed to protect identified values)
Preliminary Classification	Wild, scenic, recreational classes as defined by statute; manage segment at tentative classification
Private Land: • Administration • Acquisition	Affect private land uses through voluntary partnership with state/local governments and landowners • no regulatory authority • no ability to acquire interest in land under the Act’s authority prior to designation
Water Resources Project	River’s free-flowing condition protected to the extent of other agency authorities
Land Disposition	Agency discretion to retain lands within river corridor in federal ownership
Mining and Mineral Leasing	Protect free flow, water quality, and ORVs through other agency authorities
Actions of Other Agencies	Affect actions of other agencies through voluntary partnership
Protect Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs)	No regulatory authority conferred by Act; agency protects through other authorities Section 11(b)(1): • limited financial or other assistance to encourage participation in the acquisition, protection, and management of river resources
*Taken from the Interagency Wild and Scenic River Coordinating Council, <i>Wild and Scenic River Study Process</i>	

1.6 Inventory Determination and Results

The initial step in the eligibility determination process for Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSR) was to create an inventory of all potential rivers and river segments falling next to or between lands administered by the BLM, GJFO. A combination of cartographic information, agency and entity databases, and local knowledge was used to create a comprehensive list of segments to be surveyed. A detailed description of the methods used for identification can be found in BLM Manual 8351, *Wild and Scenic Rivers - Policy and Program Direction for Identification, Evaluation, and Management* (BLM 1992). The results of the GJFO inventory, showing all surveyed streams, can be found in Appendix A.

1.7 GIS and Other Data Sources

The USGS National Hydrography Dataset was used to select all perennial rivers and streams (hereafter streams) within the field office boundary to initially populate the inventory. Streams and stream sections were removed that did not fall within GJFO jurisdiction. Intermittent streams were added to the inventory based on input from BLM, GJFO, and Colorado State Office specialists where potential ORVs may exist. Any intermittent streams identified by other interested parties were also added to the inventory and visited during the field component of the WSR eligibility evaluation. During the inventory phase the following sources were also consulted to identify potential stream segments:

- Nationwide Rivers Inventory (maintained by the NPS)
- Local and Regional Guidebooks (fishing, floating, recreational opportunities, etc.)
- Cooperating Entities input during the scoping phase

1.8 Grand Junction Interdisciplinary Team

The GJFO Interdisciplinary Team is made up of specialists covering resources and programs under the field office jurisdiction. This team reviewed the initial inventory list and added segments potentially containing ORVs. The interdisciplinary team reviewed the data collected and determinations made during field visits to each segment to provide a final determination on eligibility for each segment. Determinations of free-flowing and ORVs rely on professional judgment making the collective knowledge and experience of this team critical to the eligibility determination process.

1.9 Other Agency and Public Input

During the public scoping and cooperating agency meetings (group composed of US Department of Agriculture, National Forest Service (USFS), US Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), State of Colorado Division of Natural Resources, Mesa County, Cities of Grand Junction and Fruita, and Towns of Palisade, Collbran, and DeBeque) for the BLM GJFO RMP revision, the river inventory list and initial eligibility determinations were presented. Scoping meetings were held in communities within the Grand Valley and Moab, UT (see Table 2.1).

The BLM received 36 discreet comments in seven letters during scoping. Most of the comments (52.8%) related to either general background information, management of eligible or suitable segments, or suitability. Six comments (16.7%) provided additional information pertaining to ORVs that support eligibility. This information was included in the report as appropriate. Three comments (8.3%) expressed opposition to eligibility findings. Another nine comments (25%) expressed general support for an eligibility finding for segments identified in this report. Finally, one comment questioned the study process.

Table 1.2: Public Scoping Meeting Locations

Date	Location	Venue	Attendees
December 2, 2008	Grand Junction, CO	Two Rivers Convention Center	102
December 3, 2008	Moab, UT	Grand Center	2
December 4, 2008	Collbran, CO	Collbran Auditorium	13

Chapter 2

Eligibility Criteria

The BLM Manual 8351, *Wild and Scenic Rivers - Policy and Program Direction for Identification, Evaluation, and Management* (BLM 1992) provides guidance for determining the eligibility of river segments identified in the inventory and identification phase. Per the WSR Act, an eligible segment must be free flowing and possess one or more ORVs. If a river segment is determined eligible, it is then assigned a tentative classification. Eligibility determinations are based off of the values of a river, meaning “jurisdictional and management constraints are not a consideration in determination of a river’s eligibility for designation as WSRs” (BLM 2004b). This phase does not take into account land ownership constraints, potential competing uses of land and water, cost of acquiring lands, water rights, local and state plans, etc. The suitability stage of the assessment (Chapter 6) considers a variety of factors beyond resource values in determining the segments inclusion in the ROD and of segments for designation.

2.1 Determination of Free-Flowing

The WSR Act defines free-flowing in Section 16(b) as, “existing or flowing in natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modification of the waterway.” In BLM Manual 8351 this is defined as:

Existing or flowing in a natural condition without:

- Impoundment, with exceptions (low dams, diversion works, and other minor structures)
- Diversion
- Straightening
- Rip-rapping, or
- Other major modification of the waterway (channelization)

And can:

- Be any size/length
- Lie between impoundments or major dams
- Be nonfloatable/nonboatable
- Be intermittent/nonperennial

A segment does not need to be perennial to be qualified as free-flowing. Intermittent watercourses with regular and predictable flows, enough to maintain the segment's ORVs, can qualify, provided the flow comes from a natural source. Watercourses that only flow from unpredictable events such as flash floods are generally not free flowing. In determining if a segment is free-flowing, "evaluation should focus on normal water years, with consideration of drought or wet years during the inventory." Free flowing does not necessarily connote natural hydrology; existence of small dams, diversion works, or other minor structures at the time the river segment is being considered shall not automatically disqualify it.

In the surveys undertaken in this report, the presence of riparian vegetation (in conjunction with local knowledge) was used as a major indicator of whether or not a watercourse was free-flowing when questions arose as to the determination of free-flowing segments. The presence of riparian vegetation typically requires a stream flow regime that is at least intermittent and in most cases is at least seasonal. Streams lacking riparian vegetation are usually ephemeral streams, flowing only in response to storm events.

2.2 Outstandingly Remarkable Values and their Region of Comparison

A variety of values were evaluated for each segment to determine if they are Outstandingly Remarkable. The WSR Act stipulates that ORVs of a river segment will be in their immediate environments, and need to be river related. This means in the vicinity of the river (with a 0.25-mile preliminary boundary per BLM Manual 8351) or created by or exists because of the river. Potential ORVs include scenic, recreational, fish, wildlife, cultural, and historic values, and other similar values. Determination of ORVs relies on a professional assessment of the values associated with a river based on objective, scientific reasoning. An ORV, "would be one that is a conspicuous example from among a number of similar values that are themselves uncommon or extraordinary" (USFS and NPS 1999). This report documents the reasoning and justification for declaring segments eligible.

The guidelines for evaluating ORVs are described in BLM Manual 8351. Each value was evaluated over a region of comparison appropriate for the value.

Scenic - The landscape elements of landform, vegetation, water, color, and related factors must result in notable or exemplary visual features and/or attractions within the geographic region.

Region of Comparison: Scenic values were evaluated based on the ecoregion the river segment is located within. GJFO has two ecoregions: Colorado Plateau and Southern Rockies. (see Map 2.1: Omernick 1987).

Recreational - Recreational opportunities are or have the potential to be unusual enough to attract visitors to the geographic region. Visitors are willing to travel long distances to use the river resources for recreational purposes.

Region of Comparison: Recreational values were evaluated based on the distances visitors were willing to travel on a regional or national basis. The region has been determined to be Colorado Plateau and Southern Rockies.

Geologic - The river or the area within the river corridor contains example(s) of a geologic feature, process, or phenomenon that is rare, unusual, or unique to the geographic region. The feature(s) may be in an unusually active stage of development, represent a textbook example and/or represent a unique or rare combination of geologic features (erosional, volcanic, glacial, and other geologic structures).

Region of Comparison: Geologic values were evaluated based on the ecoregion the river segment is located within. GJFO has two ecoregions: Colorado Plateau and Southern Rockies. (see Map 2.1: Omernick 1987).

Fish - Fish values may be judged on the relative merits of either fish populations or habitat, or a combination of these river related conditions:

- a. Populations. The river is nationally or regionally one of the top producers of resident, indigenous, and/or anadromous fish species. Of particular significance may be the presence of wild or unique stocks, or populations of State or federally listed threatened and endangered species.
- b. Habitat. The river provides exceptionally high quality habitat for fish species indigenous to the region. Of particular significance is habitat for State or federally listed threatened and endangered species.

Region of Comparison: Fish values in a segment were compared within the entire range of that species, especially threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. The range of some of the species evaluated extends outside of the Colorado Plateau and Southern Rockies ecoregions.

Wildlife - Wildlife values may be judged on the relative merits of either wildlife populations or habitat, or a combination of these conditions.

- a. Populations. The river or area within the river corridor contains nationally or regionally important populations of resident or indigenous wildlife species dependent on the river environment. Of particular significance may be species considered to be unique or populations of State or federally listed threatened and endangered species.
- b. Habitat. The river or area within the river corridor provides exceptionally high quality habitat for wildlife of national or regional significance, or may provide unique habitat or a critical link in habitat conditions for State or federally listed threatened and endangered

species. Contiguous habitat conditions are such that the biological needs of the species are met.

Region of Comparison: Wildlife values in a segment were compared within the entire range of that species, especially threatened, endangered, and sensitive species. The range of some of the species evaluated extends outside of the Colorado Plateau and Southern Rockies ecoregions.

Cultural - The river or area within the river corridor contains a site(s) where there is evidence of occupation or use by Native Americans. Sites must be rare, have unusual characteristics, or exceptional human-interest value(s).

Region of Comparison: Cultural values were evaluated on a national scale since the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) applies criteria nationwide to determine if a site is eligible.

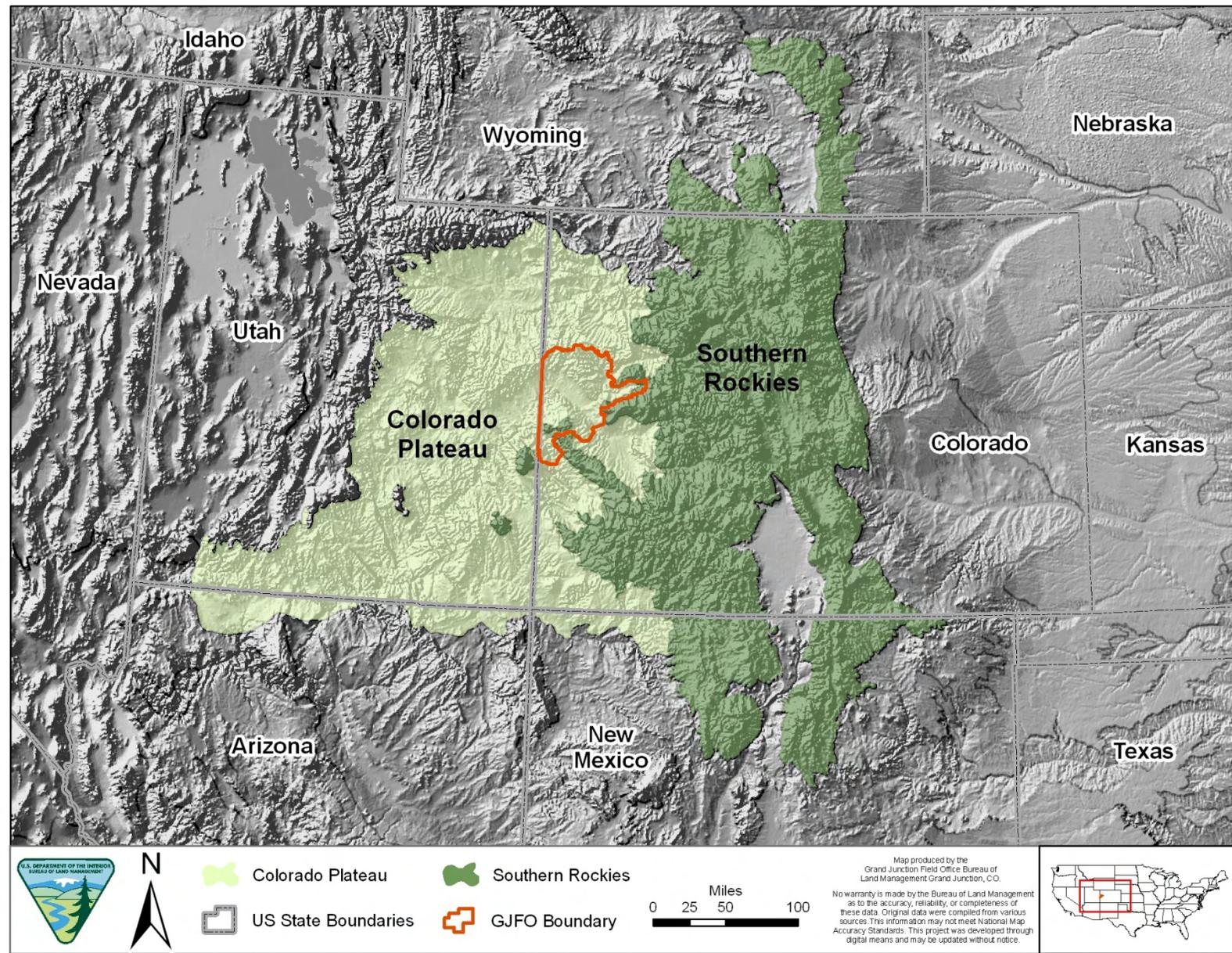
Historic - The river or area within the corridor contains a site(s) or feature(s) associated with a significant event, an important person, or a cultural activity of the past that was rare, or unusual in the region.

Region of Comparison: Historic values were evaluated on a national scale since the NRHP applies criteria nationwide to determine if a site is eligible.

Other Similar Values - While no specific evaluation guidelines have been developed for the "other similar values" category, additional values deemed relevant to the eligibility of the river segment should be considered in a manner consistent with the foregoing guidance. Other similar values may include but not limited to, hydrologic, ecologic/biologic diversity, paleontologic, botanic, and scientific study opportunities.

Region of Comparison: Varied depending on the factor considered.

Map 2.1: Ecoregions Considered when Evaluating ORVs



2.3 Potential Classifications for Eligible Segments

River and stream segments determined to be free-flowing and possessing at least one ORV were assigned a tentative classification. There are three possible classifications based on the amount of development, accessibility, and water quality along the watercourse or shoreline. There is some flexibility in this determination, and the final decision relies on professional judgment (see Table 2.1).

Table 2.1: Attributes Leading to Tentative Classification of Eligible River Segment under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968

I. Attributes	II. Classification		
	Wild	Scenic	Recreational
Water Resources Development (impoundments, diversions, etc.)	Free of impoundment	Free of impoundment	Some existing impoundment or diversion. The existence of low dams, diversions, riprap, or other modifications of the waterway is acceptable, provided the waterway remains generally natural and riverine in appearance.
Shoreline Development	Essentially primitive. Little or no evidence of human activity. The presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value, is acceptable. A limited amount of domestic livestock grazing or hay production is acceptable. Little or no evidence of past timber harvest. No ongoing timber harvest.	Largely primitive and undeveloped. No substantial evidence of human activity. The presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures is acceptable. The presence of grazing, hay production, or row crops is acceptable. Evidence of past or ongoing timber harvest is acceptable, provided the forest appears natural from the riverbank.	Some development. Substantial evidence of human activity. The presence of extensive residential development and a few commercial structures is acceptable. Lands may have been developed for the full range of agricultural and forestry uses. May show evidence of past and ongoing timber harvest.
Accessibility	Generally inaccessible except by trail. No roads, railroads, or other provision for vehicular travel within the river area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the river area is acceptable.	Accessible in places by road. Roads may occasionally reach or bridge the river. The existence of short stretches of conspicuous or longer stretches of inconspicuous roads or railroads is acceptable.	Readily accessible by road or railroad. The existence of parallel roads or railroads on one or both banks, as well as bridge crossings and other river access points, including fords, is acceptable.

Table 2.1: Attributes Leading to Tentative Classification of Eligible River Segment under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 *(continued)*

I. Attributes	II. Classification		
	Wild	Scenic	Recreational
Water Quality	Meets or exceeds Federal criteria or Federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming), except where exceeded by natural conditions.	No criteria prescribed by the WSR Act. The Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 have made it a national goal that all waters of the US be made fishable and swimmable. Therefore, rivers will not be precluded from scenic or recreational classification because of poor water quality at the time of their study, provided a water quality improvement plan exists or is being developed in compliance with applicable federal and state laws.	

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Chapter 3

Determinations of Agencies with Neighboring Boundaries

3.1 White River Field Office

The BLM White River Field Office completed its Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Report in December 1990 and June 2003. Of the 13 river and stream corridors inventoried for WSR characteristics, eight were found eligible for consideration. None of the eight eligible river and stream segments has been recommended as suitable for designation.

3.2 Glenwood Springs Field Office and Kremmling Field Office

The BLM Glenwood Springs and Kremmling Field Offices completed their Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Report in March 2007. Of the 244 river and stream segments evaluated, 27 were found to be eligible, including seven segments of the Colorado River. They are continuing work on the suitability determination and the final decision on suitability will be made in the ROD. No segments were determined eligible that cross the boundary of the two field offices but segments of watercourses determined eligible that flow through both field office jurisdictions are shown below.

Segment	Outstandingly Remarkable Values	Tentative Classification	Segment River Miles
Colorado River 6 - State Bridge to Dotsero	Scenery, recreation, geology, wildlife, historic, botany	Recreational	18.02
Colorado River 7 - Glenwood Canyon to approximately 1-mile east of No Name Creek	Scenery, recreation, geology	Recreational	15.78

3.3 White River National Forest

The White River National Forest issued their Revised Land and Resource Management Plan and Final EIS in 2002. Included are five rivers determined eligible. A suitability study for the eligible Colorado River segments is being conducted in conjunction with the BLM Glenwood Springs and Kremmling RMP revision and WSR Suitability study. Of the two segments of watercourses determined eligible that flow through both field office jurisdictions are shown below.

Segment	Outstandingly Remarkable Values	Tentative Classification	Segment River Miles
Colorado River 1 - Forest boundary on the east end of Glenwood Canyon to the upstream end of the Shoshone Dam	Scenery, recreation, geology	Recreational	3.35
Colorado River 2 - Shoshone power plant to the national forest boundary on the west end of Glenwood Canyon	Scenery, recreation, geology	Recreational	3.13

3.4 Grand Mesa and Uncompahgre National Forest

The Grand Mesa and Uncompahgre National Forest issued a proposed Forest Plan Revision in conjunction with the Gunnison National Forest in March 2007, including an eligibility study for WSRs. They did not find any watercourse segments eligible that flow through both jurisdictions. A determination on West Creek (called Unawep Creek in the USFS report) as it flows through Unawep Canyon was deferred until the BLM completed its eligibility determination.

3.5 Uncompahgre Field Office

The BLM Uncompahgre Field Office is in the early stages of revising their RMP. This process will include a formal eligibility report for WSRs, expected to be released in 2009. The GJFO coordinated with this field office on eligibility determinations for segments crossing field office boundaries and a copy of this eligibility report will be provided to their field office.

3.6 San Juan Public Lands Center

The northern boundary of the San Juan Public Lands Center falls very close to the BLM GJFO in far western Colorado with a small segment of the BLM Uncompahgre Field Office separating the two. The Dolores River flows through these sections, with administration by all three field offices falling in close proximity. The Draft Land Management Plan and Draft EIS for the San Juan Public lands Center identifies preliminary suitability determinations for over 230 miles of the Dolores River and tributaries determined eligible. The final decision on suitability will be made in the ROD. River segments of the Dolores River determined suitable in the Draft Land Management Plan are shown below.

Segment	Outstandingly Remarkable Values	Tentative Classification	Segment River Miles
Dolores River - McPhee To Bedrock	Scenery, recreation, wildlife, fish, geology, ecology, archeology	Wild Scenic Recreational	48.48 23.15 37.04

3.7 Moab Field Office

The BLM Moab Field Office began its Wild and Scenic River Eligibility Study in 2002 and issued a Proposed RMP and Final EIS on August 1, 2008. The final decision on suitability was made in the ROD, issued in October 2008. The segment of the Colorado River (segment 1) from the Colorado/Utah state line to Westwater Canyon was found eligible, but not suitable in the ROD. River segments of watercourses determined suitable that flow through both field office jurisdictions are shown below:

Segment	Outstandingly Remarkable Values	Classification	Segment River Miles
Colorado River 2 - Westwater Canyon, Mile 125, to River Mile 112	Scenery, recreation, wildlife, fish, cultural, geology, ecological	Wild	13
Colorado River 3 - River Mile 112 to confluence with the Dolores River	Recreation, wildlife, fish, cultural, ecological	Scenic Recreational	9.3 1.9
Colorado River 4 - Confluence with the Dolores River to mile 49 near Potash	Scenery, recreation, wildlife, fish, cultural, geology, ecological	Recreational	53.5
Colorado River 5 - River Mile 44.5 to Mile 38.5 State land boundary	Scenery, recreation, wildlife, fish, cultural, ecological	Scenic	6.8
Colorado River 6 - River Mile 37.5 State land to Mile 34 Canyonlands NP	Scenery, recreation, wildlife, fish, cultural, ecological	Scenic	3.8
Dolores River 1 - Colorado-Utah Stateline to Fisher Creek	Scenery, recreation, wildlife, fish, geology, ecological	Recreational	5.9
Dolores River 2 - Fisher Creek to Bridge Canyon	Scenery, recreation, wildlife, fish, geology, ecological	Scenic	6.2
Dolores River 3 - Bridge Canyon to Colorado River	Recreation, wildlife, fish, geology, ecological	Recreational	23.63

3.8 Colorado and Lower Dolores Rivers Study

A 1975 amendment to the WSR Act required that sections of the Colorado River and lower Dolores River in West Colorado and eastern Utah be analyzed as “study rivers.” In 1979, the NPS completed the required study. This study recommended designation of sections of the Colorado and the Dolores Rivers that fall under the jurisdictions of the Moab and GJFO’s of the BLM. River segments determined suitable in the 1979 report are shown below.

Segment	Outstandingly Remarkable Values	Tentative Classification	Segment River Miles
Colorado River A - Loma Launch to Westwater Canyon	Scenery, recreation, geology, fish, wildlife, archeology	Scenic	27.7
Colorado River B - Westwater Canyon, to Rose Ranch	Scenery, recreation, geology, fish, wildlife, archeology	Wild	13
Colorado River C - Rose Ranch to Cisco Wash	Fish, wildlife, archeology	Scenic	11

Colorado River D - Cisco Wash to Dolores River	Fish, wildlife, archeology	Recreational	4
Dolores River A - Gateway, Colorado to Fisher Creek	Scenery, recreation, geology, fish, wildlife	Scenic	14
Dolores River B - Fisher Creek to Bridge Canyon	Scenery, recreation, geology, fish, wildlife	Wild	6
Dolores River C - Bridge Canyon to Colorado River	Recreation, geology, fish, wildlife	Scenic	11

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Chapter 4

Eligible Segments

The eligibility study for the GJFO identified 18 segments that met the criteria of free-flowing and possessed at least one ORV. The locations of inventoried and eligible segments within the GJFO are shown on Map 5.1, Map 5.2, Map 5.3, and Map 5.4, with more detailed maps associated with the individual segments. Determinations were only made on river segments under BLM jurisdiction. On rivers with mixed ownership, other federal entities and neighboring BLM Field Offices will make eligibility determinations on segments under their jurisdiction during their planning efforts. During the suitability phase of the WSR Act process, the support of and coordination with other landowners and users will be analyzed for eligible segments. Segments declared eligible include watercourses from the following areas:

Colorado River (3 Segments)

Dolores River

- Delores River

- North Fork Mesa

- Blue Creek

Dominguez Canyons and Little Dominguez (4 Segments)

Gunnison River (2 Segments)

- Little Dolores River

- Roan Creek and Carr Creek

Rough Canyon

Unaweep Canyon

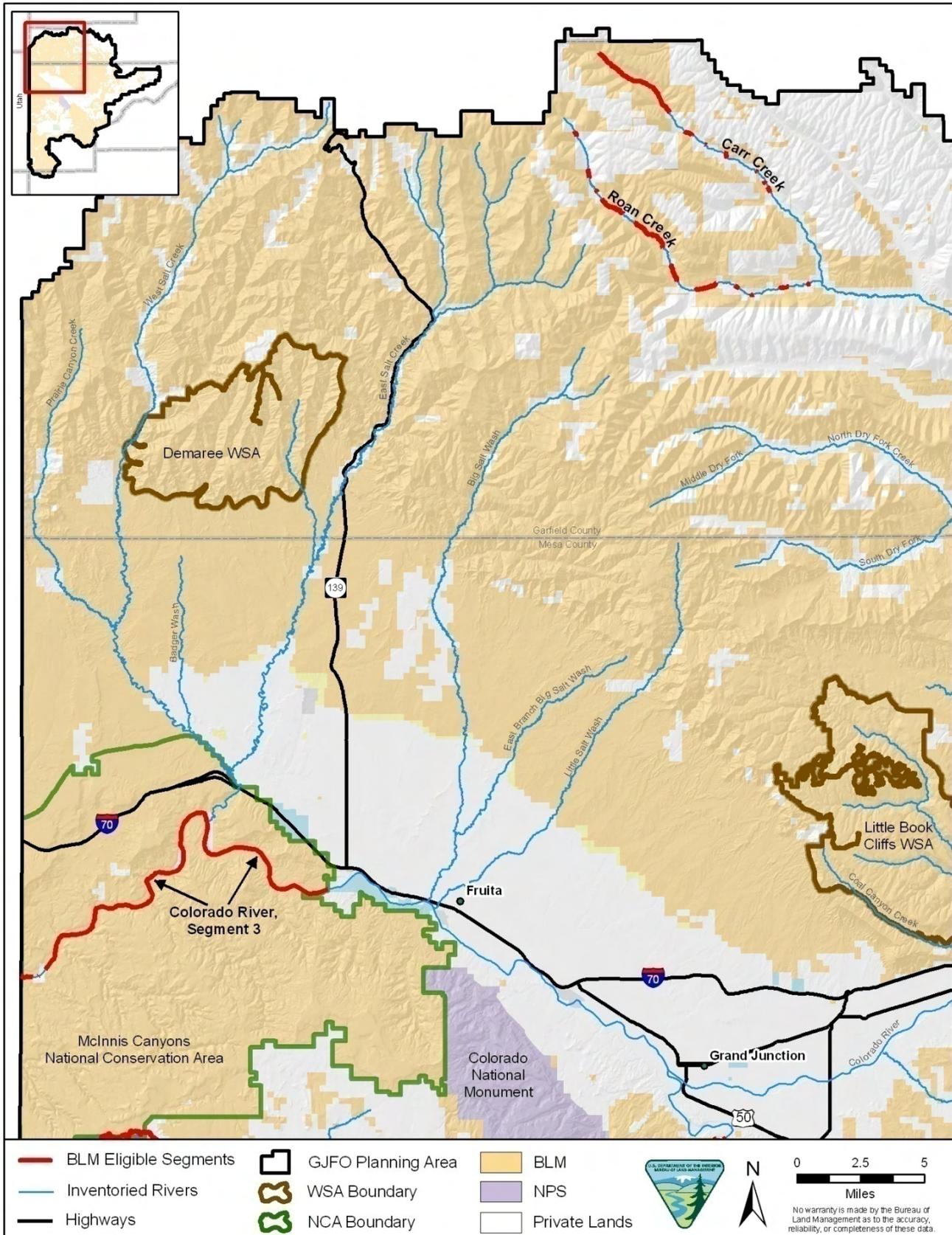
- East Creek

- West creek

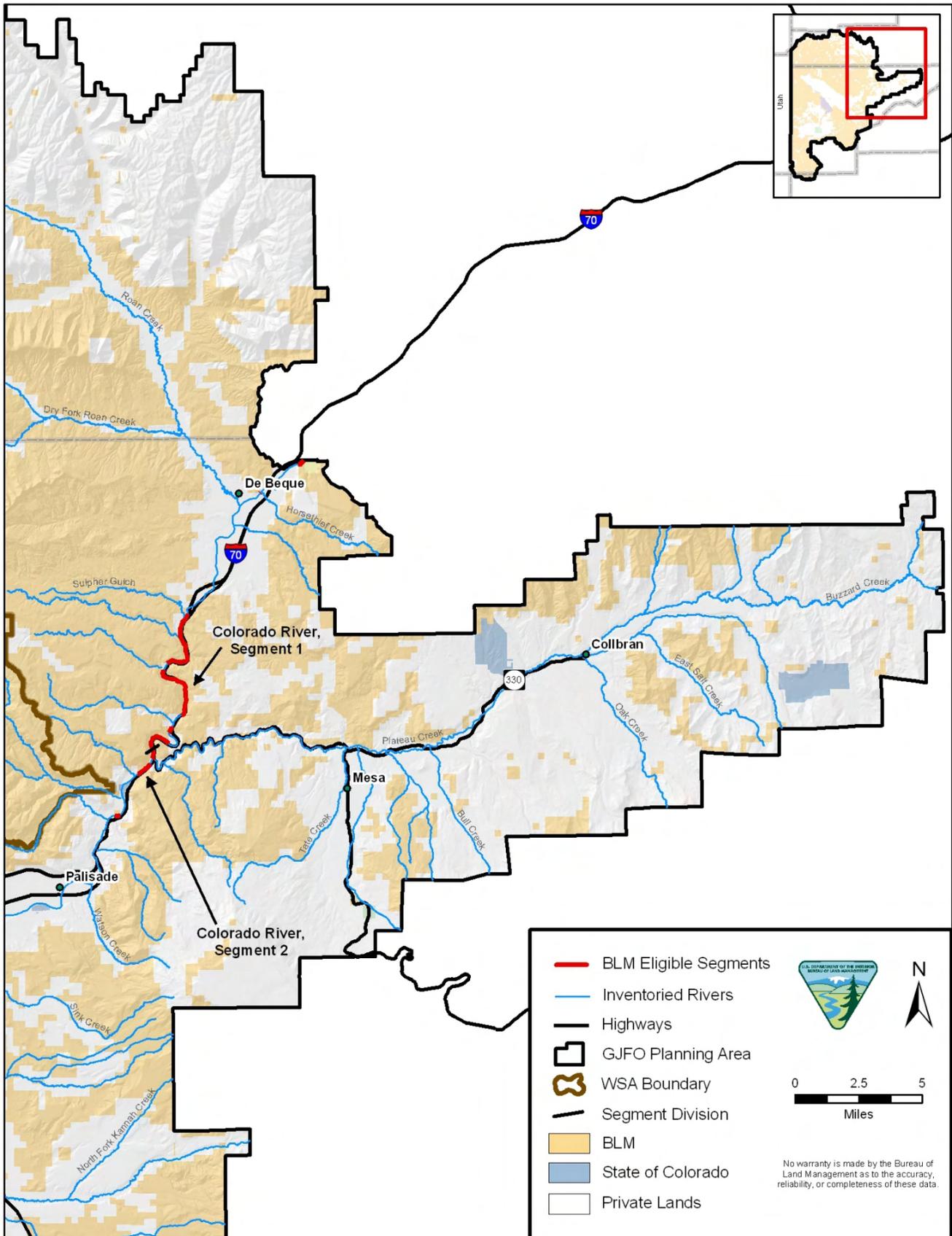
- North Fork West Creek

- Ute Creek

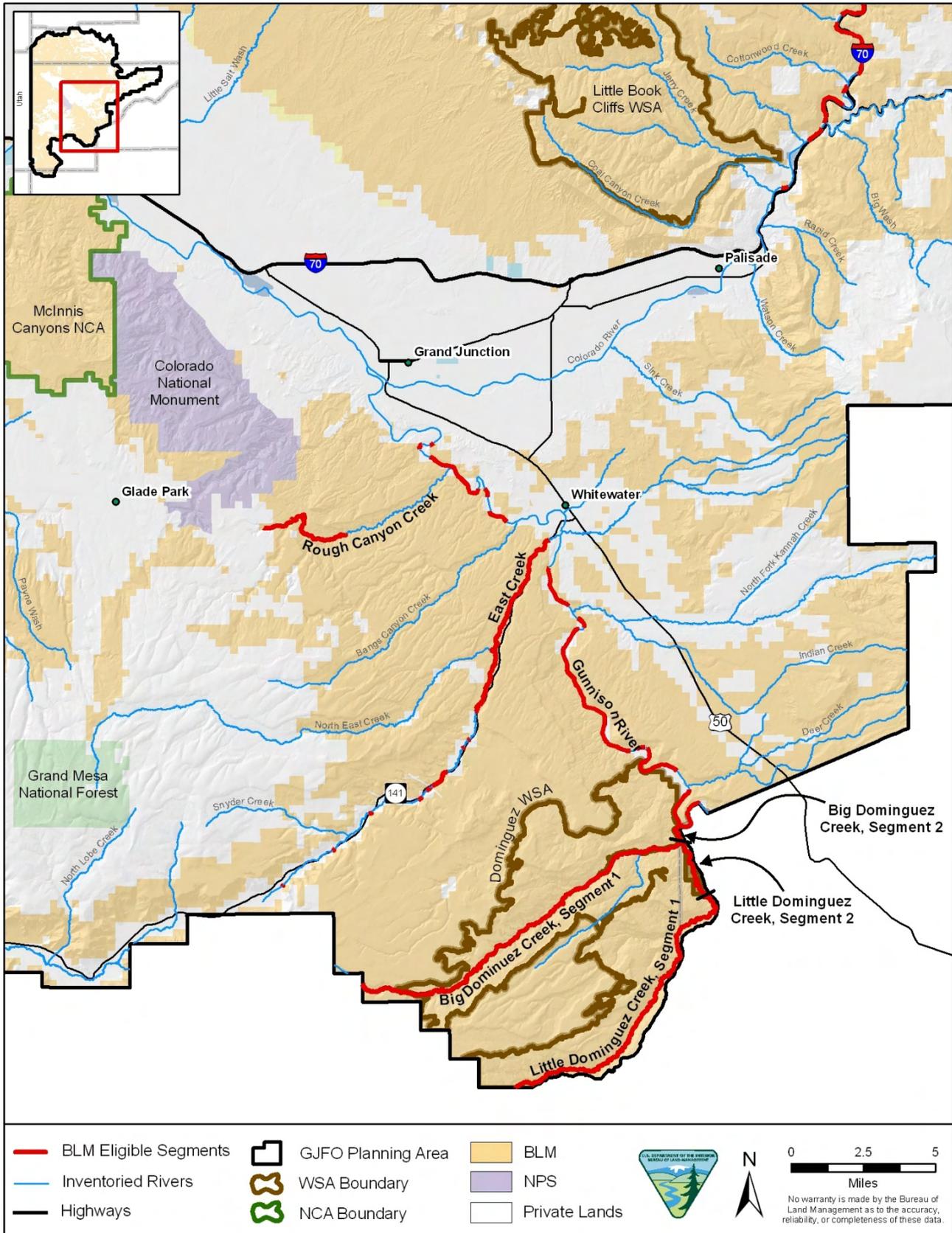
Map 4.1: Inventoried Segments, Grand Junction Field Office Northwest Section



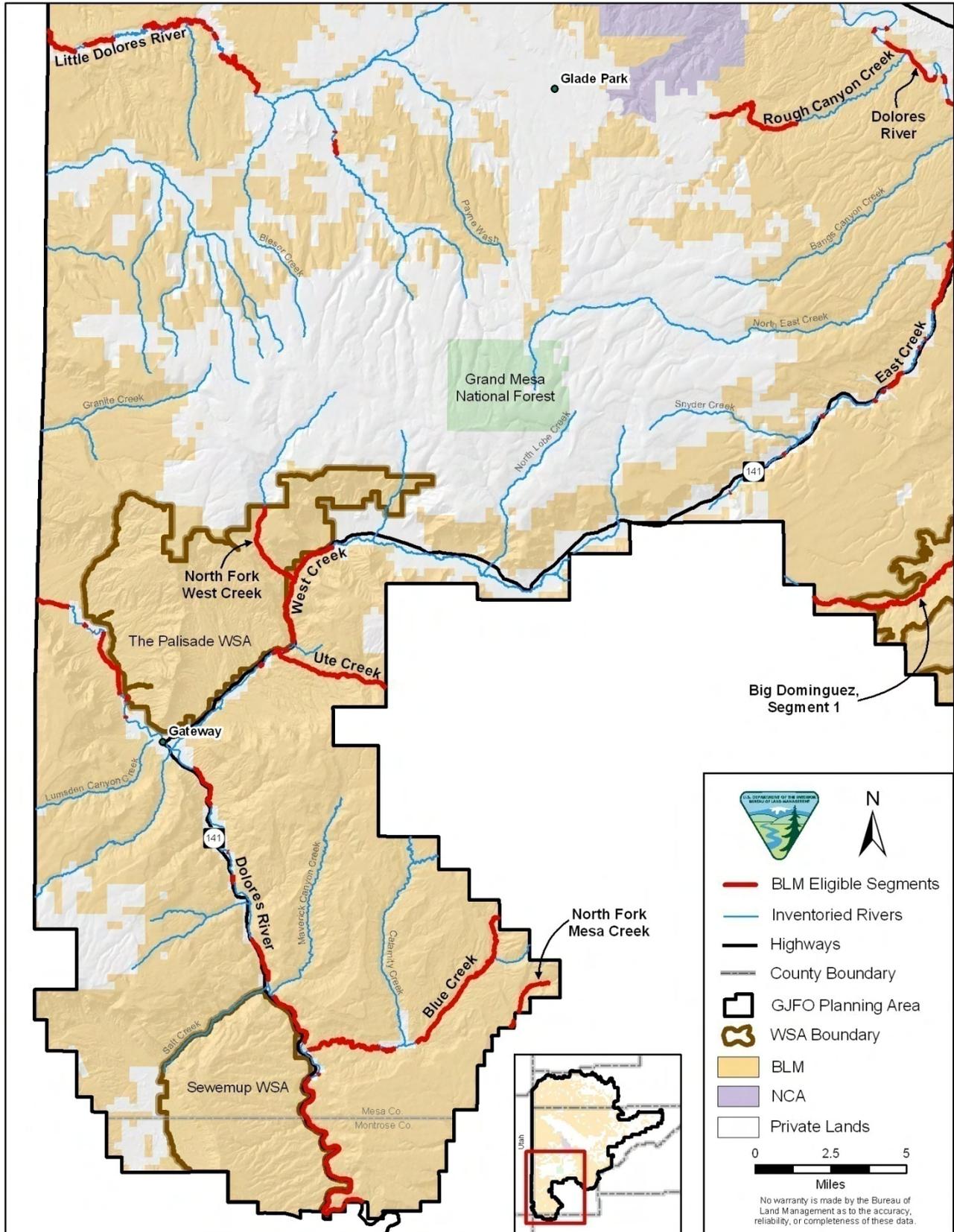
Map 4.2: Inventoried Segments, Grand Junction Field Office, Northeast Section



Map 4.3: Inventoried Segments, Grand Junction Field Office, Southeast Section



Map 4.4: Inventoried Segments, Grand Junction Field Office, Southwest Section



4.1 Colorado River (Map 4.5)

Colorado River, Segment 1

Location/Description: BLM sections of the Colorado River east of Grand Junction. This segment stretches from the eastern boundary of the planning area northeast of DeBeque to the Grand Valley Diversion Dam, northeast of Palisade.

Total Segment Length: 17.76 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 7.32 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Scenic

As DeBeque Canyon was formed by the down cutting of the Colorado River, a wide, relatively gentle sloped canyon through the Mesa Verde Formation was created. It is a very different canyon than the shear walled canyons formed through Wingate and Entrada sandstone, such as those found along the Colorado River, Segment 3 (Horsethief and Ruby Canyons). The majestic views from and along the river are composed of the stair stepped brownish sandstone cliffs intermixed with lightly vegetated slopes of the canyon in sharp contrast to the riparian vegetation and varied colors near the river. Frequent landslides as the Mesa Verde sandstone is undermined lead to jumbles of rock along the river, adding to the variety of features along the segment. The river drops several hundred feet through the canyon, with extensive views at the upper end of the canyon, quickly narrowing to views of the superb landscapes of the canyon before opening up again at the bottom to views of the Grand Valley near Palisade.

Fish

The USFWS designated critical habitat for the federally endangered Colorado pikeminnow (= squawfish; *Ptychocheilus lucius*) and the Razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*) in 1994, which includes this stretch of the Colorado River (59 Fed. Reg. 13,374 (1994-3-21)). These species are part of the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, a partnership of private and public organizations working to conserve a collection of fish species while maintaining water development (FWS 2008).

Wildlife

This segment contains important winter habitat for Bald Eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), a State Threatened Species in Colorado (Colorado Division of Wildlife [CDOW] 2008).

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

The tentative classification for this segment is recreational. Interstate 70 and a railroad run through this canyon and are readily apparent from the river.

Colorado River, Segment 2

Location/Description: BLM sections of the Colorado River east of Grand Junction downstream from the Grand Valley Diversion Dam.

Total Segment Length: 40.24 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 1.31 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Fish

This ORV is the same as for segment 1.

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

The tentative classification for this segment is recreational. Interstate 70 and a railroad run parallel to the river in the river corridor and both are apparent from the river.

Colorado River, Segment 3

Location/Description: BLM sections of the Colorado River west of Grand Junction from the Loma Boat Launch to the Utah/Colorado border.

Total Segment Length: 20.91 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 19.14 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Scenic

The McInnis Canyons NCA, which borders the majority of the this segment of the Colorado River, was designated in 2000 to protect “unique and nationally important values of the public lands in the NCA, including geological, cultural, paleontological, natural, scientific, recreational, environmental, biological, wilderness, wildlife education, and scenic resource.” The Colorado River is the perfect vantage to view the shear walls of Ruby and Horsethief Canyons and the many side canyons, alcoves, pinnacles, amphitheaters, and other unique sandstone formations formed by the erosional forces of the river. The many different exposed layers show a wealth of geologic history and offer a variety of different colors and textures throughout the canyons. These values, in combination with opportunities to view rare species such as Bald Eagles and Bighorn Sheep, examine petroglyphs, and enjoy the contrast of the green vegetation and multiple earth tones of the dessert, make the scenery in this section outstandingly remarkable.

Recreational

The stretch of the Colorado River from Loma to Whitewater, UT provides for excellent overnight flat-water boating and attracts rafters, kayakers, and canoeists from across the state of Colorado and other nearby states. From 1995 - 2002 around 30 percent of the use was from within Mesa County, 50 percent from other areas in Colorado, and 20 percent from outside Colorado. In 2008 almost 30,000 visitors floated this stretch of the river. The Colorado River has sufficient water to permit recreation throughout the year, an uncommonly long season for watercourses in this region.

Near the Loma boat launch is the trailhead for the Kokepelli Trail, a popular mountain bike route that runs to Moab, Utah. This trail runs above the Colorado River along the top of the wall that forms the inner part of Horsethief Canyon. The spectacular views of the river and surrounding areas make this one of the more popular long distance mountain bike trails in the region and lead to its worldwide recognition. In addition, the Mack Ridge mountain bike area contains several loop trails with sections running above the canyon walls and immediately above the river. The vicinity too, and views afforded by these stretches make the Mack Ridge area one of the premier mountain biking destinations in the region.

Fish

As for segments 1 and 2 of the Colorado River this river segment is also designated as critical habitat for the Razorback Sucker and the Colorado Squawfish, species also part of the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program (FWS 2008). In addition, from Black Rocks to the Colorado/Utah border is designated critical habitat for the federally endangered Humpback Chub (*Gila cypha*) and the Bonytail Chub (*Gila elegans*; 59 Fed. Reg. 13,374 (1994-3-21)). The Black Rock section of the river is a spawning ground for both species of chub and is an important study site for the USFWS where both species have been recorded. A site near the Colorado/Utah state line has been identified as a spawning site for the Colorado squawfish.

Wildlife

This ORV is the same as for segment 1, with the addition that several pairs of Bald Eagles nest, in addition to wintering, along this section. Furthermore, river otters (*Lontra canadensis*), a state threatened species in Colorado (CDOW 2008), are observed frequently along this segment.

Geological

The steep and deep canyons along this segment of the Colorado River expose an unusually extensive series of rocks from the recent Mancos Shale to the extremely old Precambrian formations (overlaid by the Chinle formation as an unconformity). At Black Rocks in Ruby Canyon, 1.5 billion year old schist is exposed. This Precambrian rock is the basement rock for the Uncompahgre Plateau. In addition there are several textbook examples of faults, free of

vegetation, through Ruby Canyon that allow visitors to clearly view evidence of geologic processes.

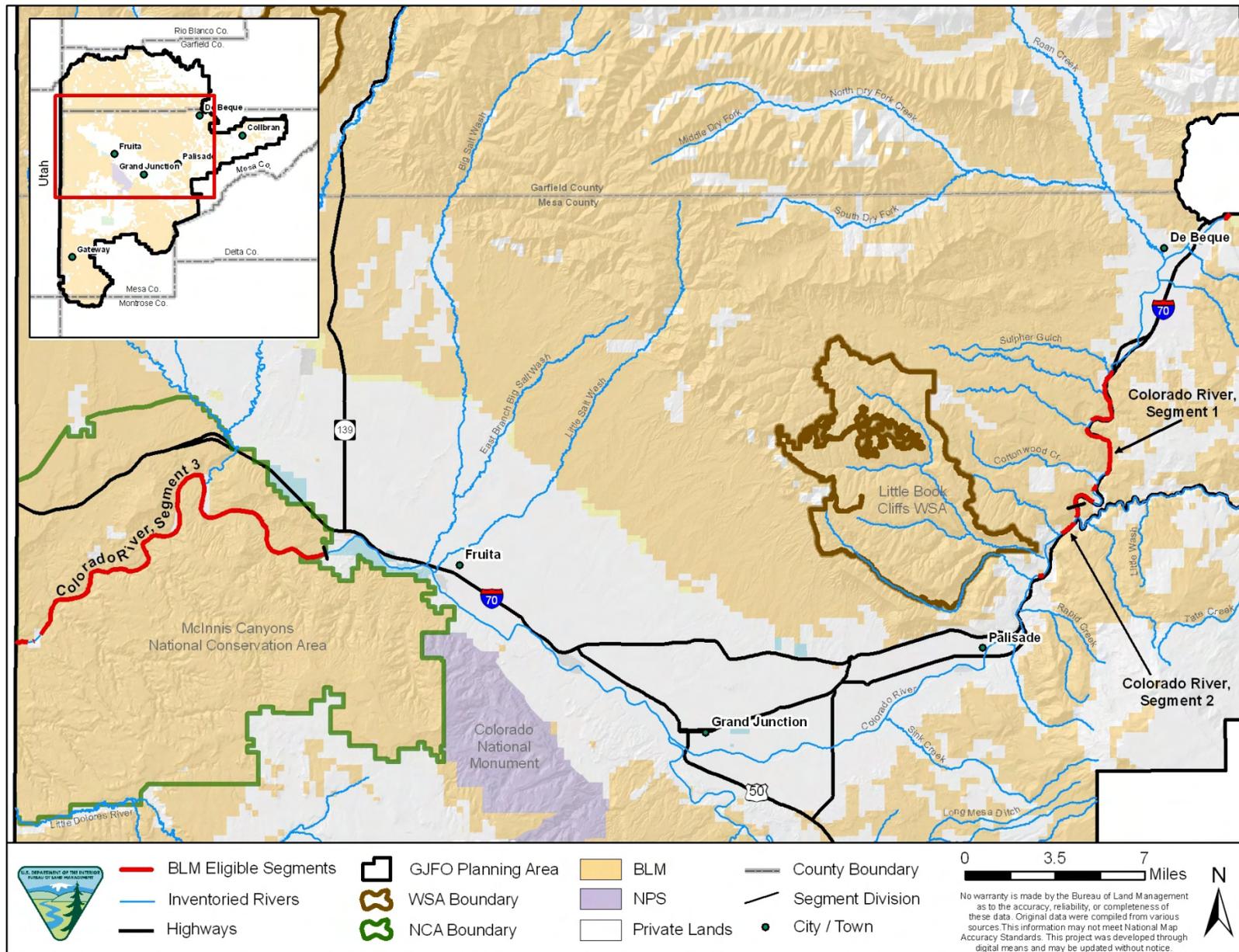
Historical

Following the completion of a Denver to Salt Lake City narrow gauge railroad in 1883, the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad began upgrading its lines to the more common standard gauge. This involved a reroute of the Grand Junction to Salt Lake City line from north of the current I-70 to a route through Ruby Canyon. This route (including the stretch from Leadville to Grand Junction) soon replaced the more southern route of the railroad through Montrose to the current route from Denver to Salt Lake City. This route still sees heavy use today by passenger and freight trains. The importance of the railroad to westward expansion makes this site eligible for inclusion in the NRHP and a site of national, regional, and local significance.

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

The tentative classification of this segment is scenic. Through the river corridor there are a few private in-holdings with developments, several access points to the river via dirt roads, and through Ruby Canyon runs a mostly inconspicuous stretch of railroad.

Map 4.5: Eligible Segments of the Colorado River



4.2 Dolores River Watershed (Map 4.6)

Dolores River

Location/Description: Sections of the Dolores River on BLM land from where the river enters the planning area at the southwest border of the field office and then running parallel to Highway 141, through Gateway, until the river reaches the Colorado/Utah border.

Total Segment Length: 32.01 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 18.62 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Scenic

The Dolores River has formed a spectacular canyon, with cliffs sometimes up to 2000 feet higher than the river, with many separate geologic layers exposed. The variety of different colors including deep reds, purples, and lighter earth tones, are in stark contrast to the green riparian vegetation along the river. The cottonwoods along the river corridor and the river itself change color seasonally adding variety to the scenic beauty.

Recreational

The scenic and geologic values readily visible from the river make this segment of the Dolores a popular boating destination. During the spring runoff and summer the segment is popular with floatboaters including canoeists, kayakers, and rafters. The section offers challenging but not expert whitewater (up to class III, except at high water the Stateline rapids is rated a Class IV or V). *The Floater's Guide to Colorado* says, "Gateway Canyon, the Dolores's final fling, is every bit as beautiful and challenging for river runners as the canyons upriver. In addition it has a longer season, because the free flowing San Miguel contributes to its waters" (Wheat 1995). This segment parallels highway 141, part of the Unaweep - Tabeguache Scenic and Historic Byway offering opportunities for vehicular recreation, picnicking, camping, and viewing of the wildlife and geologic features of the river canyon.

Geological

One of the components of the scenic beauty of the Dolores River Canyon is the many exposed rock layers on the sheer cliff faces. The Dolores River has exposed an extensive sequence of rocks including additional layers not found farther north along the Colorado River. Additional Permian and Triassic layers including the Cutler and Moenkopi formations are found between the Precambrian bedrock (not exposed) and the Chinle formation. This wide range allows one to examine many of the important layers for the Colorado Plateau (NPS 1979).

Paleontological

Along this segment of the Dolores River are rock slabs containing dinosaur and ancient mammal footprints. Although full surveys have not been completed there are hundreds of fossilized footprints and track ways, and may likely be more than 1000 tracks along the river.

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

The tentative classification of this segment is recreational. Highway 141 parallels the river and is fairly obvious along long stretches of the river corridor.

North Fork Mesa Creek

Location/Description: The North Fork Mesa Creek is located in the southwest portion of the field office with this segment covering BLM sections of North Fork Mesa Creek from the planning area boundary with the Uncompahgre National Forest on the east, and flowing southwest to the boundary with the BLM Uncompahgre Field Office.

Total Segment Length: 2.05 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 2.05 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Vegetation

The riparian community contains sections of a type of Narrowleaf Cottonwood Riparian Forest (*Populus angustifolia* / *salix ligulifolia*-*Shepherdia argentea* woodland) that is classified as critically imperiled globally (G1) and vulnerable statewide (S3) by the Colorado Natural Heritage Program (CNHP) (CNHP 2008).

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

The tentative classification of this segment is scenic. There is an inconspicuous dirt road with multiple access points running parallel to the lower sections of the creek.

Blue Creek

Location/Description: Blue Creek is located in the southwest portion of the field office with this segment covering BLM sections of Blue Creek from the planning area boundary with the Uncompahgre National Forest on the east, and flowing west to the confluence with the Dolores River.

Total Segment Length: 11.36 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 10.08 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Scenic

Blue Creek drops steeply off the Uncompahgre Plateau carving a canyon through the deep red sandstone of the area. This spectacular drop has formed a remarkable canyon with spectacular views of the Uncompahgre Plateau and Dolores River Canyon. The canyon as a whole is distinctive and rare in the region.

Fish

Water flow in Blue Creek is sufficient to maintain fish populations such as the Bluehead sucker, a BLM sensitive species, and CDOW species of greatest conservation need (CDOW 2006).

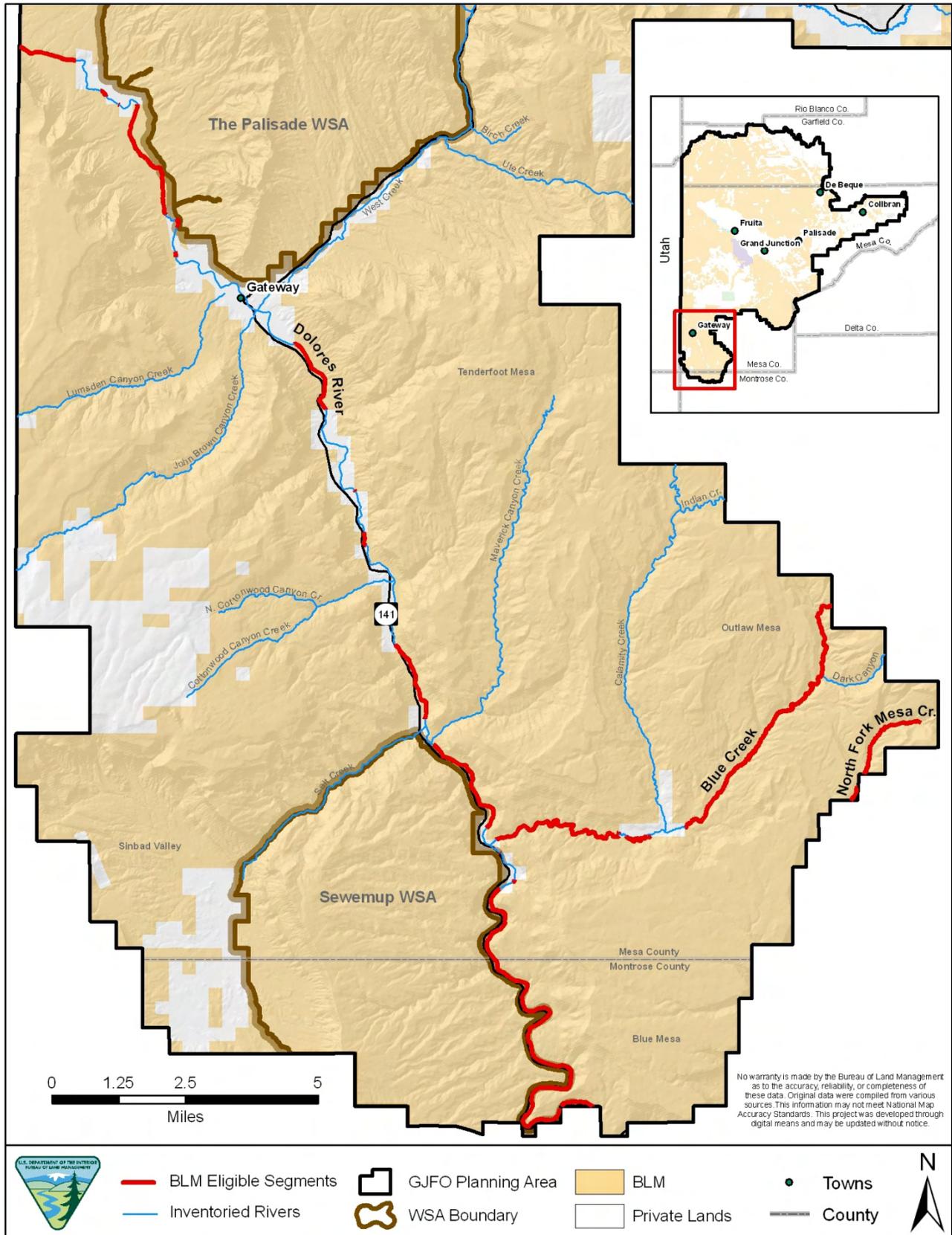
Cultural

Blue Creek contains important Native American sites from the formative period of cultures in this region and has been identified as an area that is important for current Native American concerns. Research from these sites has the potential to yield additional discoveries about the development of agriculture in the area. This creek canyon is a known transportation corridor with game trails used by Ute Tribes, later used as a pack trail to the Uranium mines, and also as an early stock driveway that is still in use today. The ruins of an historic ranch at the south of the area have irrigated fields that are important to grazing and wildlife.

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

The tentative classification of this segment is scenic. There is an inconspicuous dirt road with multiple access points running parallel to the creek, in addition to some development and grazing in the creek corridor.

Map 4.6: Eligible Stream Segments within the Dolores River Watershed



4.3 Dominguez Canyon Complex (Map 4.7)

Big Dominguez Creek, Segment 1

Location/Description: Big Dominguez Creek boundary with the Uncompahgre National Forest in the southern portion of the planning area to the confluence with Little Dominguez Creek (near Bridgeport).

Total Segment Length: 15.86 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 15.86 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Scenic

Big Dominguez Creek runs through a large mesa dissected by deep red slick-rock canyons. This has led to a magnificent contrast between the green vegetation characterizing the immediate areas next to the creek and the steep walled canyon. This contrast is most spectacular in the segments of the creek running through exposed sections of incised, dark colored Precambrian bedrock of the Uncompahgre Plateau that give way to softer benches covered with desert vegetation, before the sheer red sandstone cliffs. While hiking through the canyon, visitors are also exposed to many side canyons, alcoves, pinnacles, amphitheaters, and other unique sandstone formations. This unique and spectacular combination of features in conjunction with the wilderness study area (WSA) allows visitors to experience an outstanding desert stream in a primitive, wild environment. The stream itself is characterized by a wealth of different features including meandering stretches, and steeper drops through unique rock features and waterfalls.

Recreational

Trails along and near the canyon formed by Big Dominguez Creek are used extensively by locals and also have a regional appeal. The scenic quality, geologic interest, and cultural sites along the river corridor attract visitors from around the region and nation. Backpackers frequently camp in the overnight areas near the creek and the waterfall and rock art sites are popular destinations for day trips while enjoying the primitive and scenic environment.

Wildlife

The area around the confluence of Big Dominguez Creek and Little Dominguez Creek is an important Canyon Tree Frog (*Hyla arenicolor*) breeding area with many breeding pools found in surveys of this area. The Canyon Tree Frog is a BLM sensitive species and was identified as a species of greatest conservation need by the State of Colorado (CDOW 2006).

Geological

Throughout the canyon the Great Unconformity, a large gap in rock ages where the Precambrian basement rock is overlaid by the much more recent Chinle formation, is readily accessible and apparent to visitors. The basement rocks of the Uncompahgre Plateau are extremely old and are rarely exposed elsewhere in the world. The forces of erosion that created this canyon have exposed over 600 million years of geologic history in addition to creating sandstone formations that make this area outstandingly remarkable.

Cultural

The canyon bottoms of the Dominguez Canyon area have evidence of human activity dating back thousands of years. There are numerous high quality rock art sites which constitute one of the highest concentrations in the planning area. The known rock art sites cover a long period with some that date from over 2,000 years ago to Ute rock art panels from approximately 100 years ago.

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

The tentative classification for this segment is wild. The segment is wholly contained within a WSA and has little to no evidence of modern human activity within the river corridor.

Big Dominguez Creek, Segment 2

Location/Description: This segment begins at the confluence with Little Dominguez Creek and continues until the confluence with the Gunnison River near Bridgeport.

Total Segment Length: 0.78 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 0.78 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Scenic

This ORV is the same as for segment 1.

Geological

This ORV is the same as for segment 1.

Wildlife

This ORV is the same as for segment 1.

Cultural

This ORV is the same as for segment 1.

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

The tentative classification of this segment is scenic. There is evidence of grazing and an administrative route along this segment.

Little Dominguez Creek, Segment 1

Location/Description: Little Dominguez Creek boundary with the Uncompahgre National Forest in the southern portion of the planning area to the Dominguez WSA boundary approximately two miles from the confluence with Big Dominguez Creek.

Total Segment Length: 13.14 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 13.14 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Scenic

This ORV is the same as for Big Dominguez Creek.

Geological

This ORV is the same as for Big Dominguez Creek.

Wildlife

This ORV is the same as for Big Dominguez Creek.

Cultural

This ORV is the same as for Big Dominguez Creek.

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

The tentative classification for this segment is wild. The segment is wholly contained within a WSA and has little to no evidence of human activity within the river corridor.

Little Dominguez Creek, Segment 2

Location/Description: Boundary of the Dominguez WSA to the confluence with Big Dominguez Creek.

Total Segment Length: 2.45 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 2.45 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Scenic

This ORV is the same as for Big Dominguez Creek.

Geological

This ORV is the same as for Big Dominguez Creek.

Wildlife

This ORV is the same as for Big Dominguez Creek.

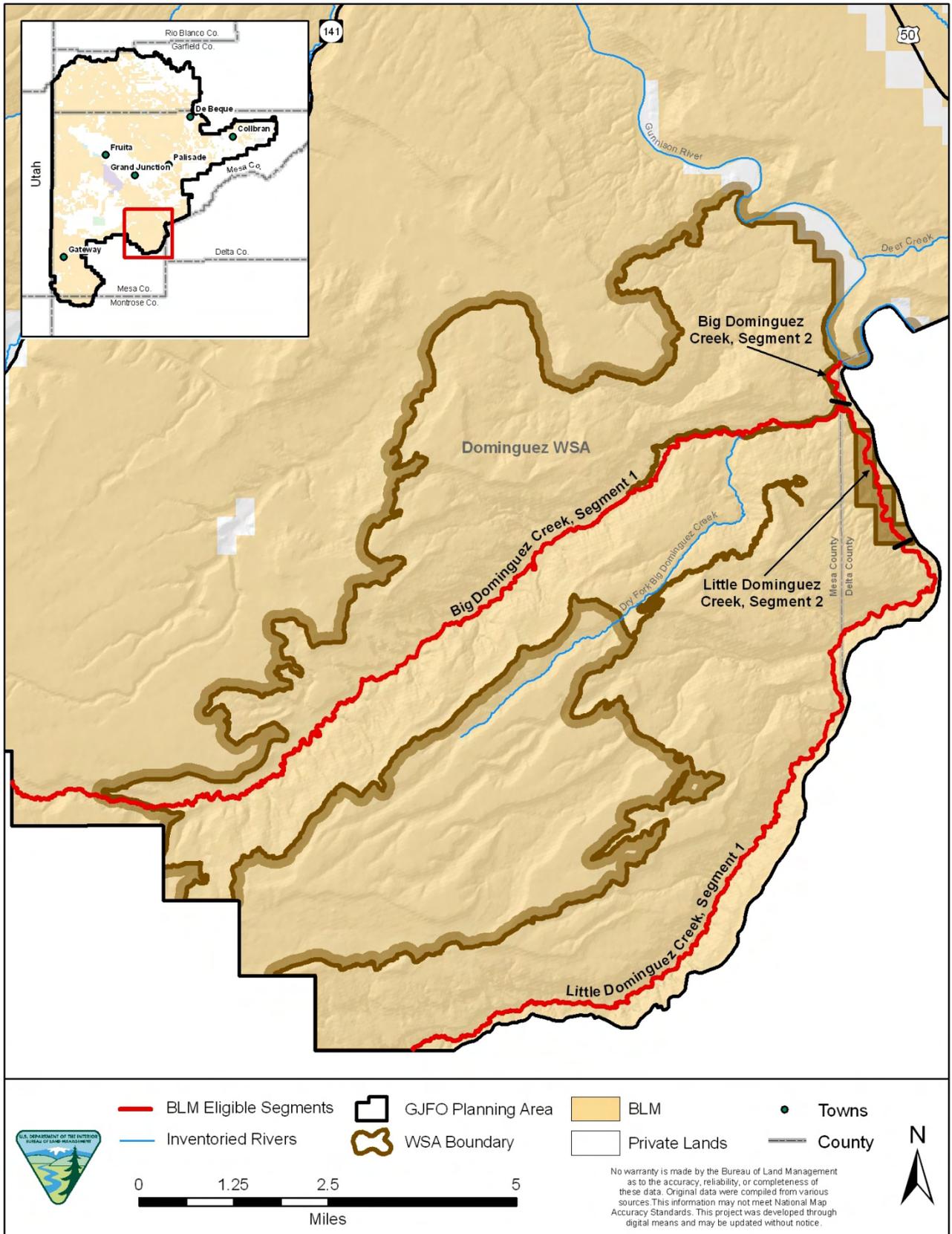
Cultural

This ORV is the same as for Big Dominguez Creek.

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

The tentative classification of this segment is scenic. There is heavy evidence of grazing, a homestead, and an administrative route along this segment.

Map 4.7: Eligible Segments of Dominguez Canyons



4.4 Gunnison River (Map 4.8)

Gunnison River, Segment 1

Location/Description: Sections of the Gunnison River west of Highway 50 on BLM land from the southern planning area boundary near Bridgeport to Whitewater.

Total Segment Length: 15.73 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 13.45 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Recreational

The segment of the Gunnison River is popular for floatboating mostly for kayaking and canoeing. This stretch is described in *The Floater's Guide to Colorado* as, "one of the few places in the Southern Rockies which offers a lengthy, gentle, out-of-the-way canoe trip" (Wheat 1995). Visitors travel from across the state float through the steep walled slickrock sandstone canyons.

Fish

The USFWS designated critical habitat for the federally endangered Colorado pikeminnow (= squawfish; *Ptychocheilus lucius*) and the Razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*) in 1994, which includes this stretch of the Gunnison River (59 Fed. Reg. 13,374 (1994-3-21)).

Historical

The section of the Denver and Rio Grande Railroad (now part of Union Pacific) running next to the Gunnison River was the first line connecting Denver to Grand Junction, reaching the Grand Valley in 1882. This line was soon connected to Salt Lake City forming a narrow gauge transcontinental railroad link. The line was eventually replaced by a standard gauge track and remains in use through modern day. The importance of the railroad to developing the west makes this site eligible for inclusion in the NRHP.

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

The tentative classification of this segment is scenic due to a mainly inconspicuous railroad line that runs parallel to the river through this segment.

Gunnison River, Segment 2

Location/Description: Sections of the Gunnison River west of Highway 50 on BLM land from Whitewater to the Redlands Dam, south of Grand Junction and the Gunnison Rivers' confluence with the Colorado River.

Total Segment Length: 16.63 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 3.85 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Fish

This ORV is the same as for segment 1.

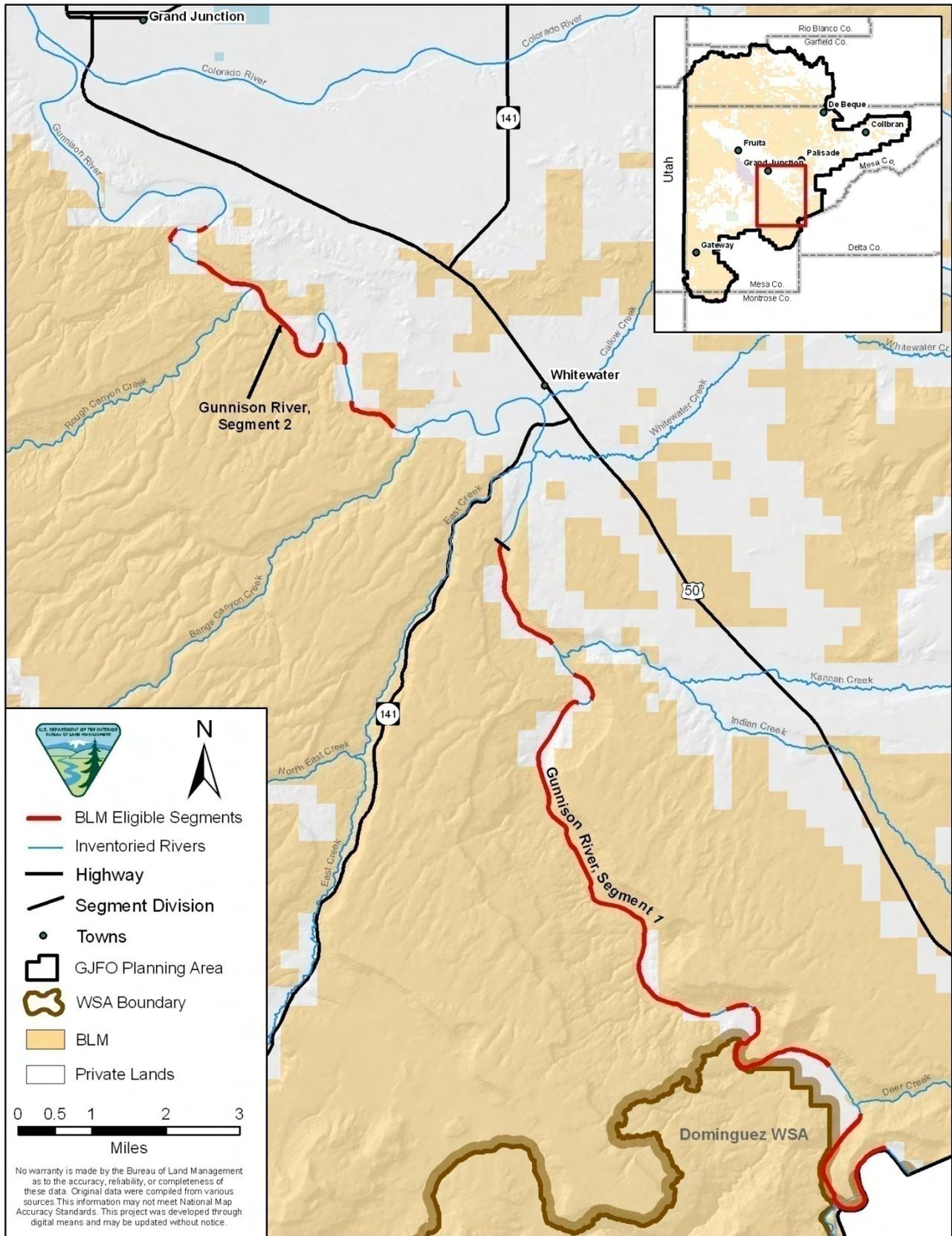
Historical

This ORV is the same as for segment 1.

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

The tentative classification of this segment is recreational. The railroad and development above the canyon walls are readily apparent from the river.

Map 4.8: Eligible Segments of the Gunnison River



4.5 Little Dolores River (Map 4.9)

Location/Description: BLM sections of the Little Dolores River from the potholes to the Utah border just south of the McInnis Canyons NCA.

Total Segment Length: 20.03 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 10.46 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Cultural

The Little Dolores River contains a high concentration of Native American sites from the formative period of cultures in this region. Research from these sites has led to discoveries about the development of agriculture in the area.

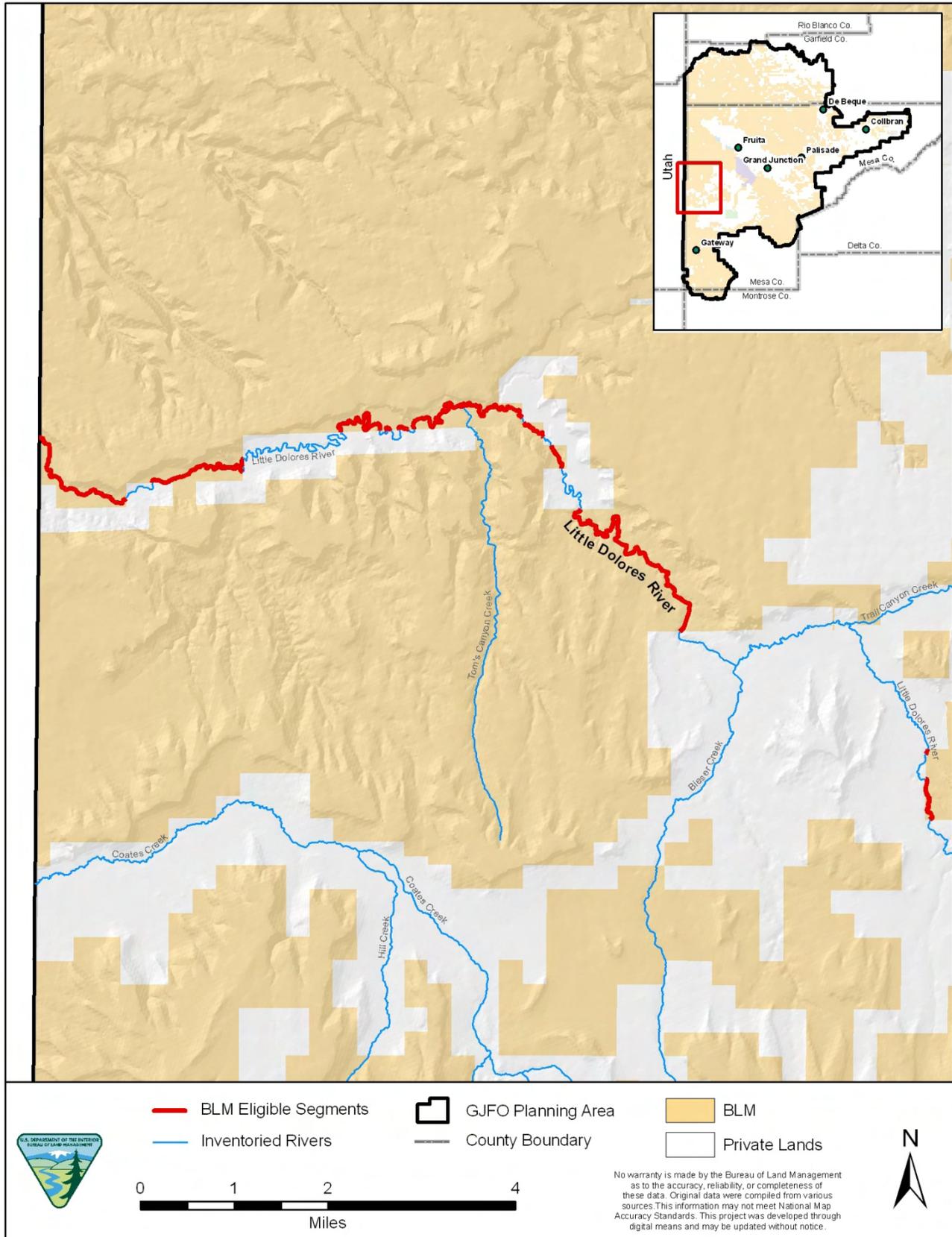
Scientific

This segment of the Little Dolores River has outstanding scientific value. Sedimentation cores have been used for paleo-environmental studies that examined charcoal and evidence of snails to make inferences about climate.

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

This segment is tentatively classified as scenic due to limited access via a dirt road along this segment.

Map 4.9: Eligible Segments of the Little Dolores River



4.6 Roan Creek (Map 4.10)

Location/Description: BLM sections of Roan Creek from the headwaters in the northern part of the field office to the confluence with Carr Creek.

Total Segment Length: 17.04

Segment Length on BLM Land: 6.47

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Fish

This segment of Roan Creek contains a core conservation population for Colorado River cutthroat trout (CRCT Conservation Team 2006). Recent genetic work on this population of fish suggests they may be Greenback Cutthroat trout (CDOW 2008). Colorado River cutthroat trout are listed as a Colorado Species of Special Concern and Greenback Cutthroat Trout are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act.

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

This segment is tentatively classified as scenic due to access via a dirt road along this segment.

4.7 Carr Creek (Map 4.10)

Location/Description: BLM sections of Carr Creek from the headwaters in the northern part of the field office to the confluence with Roan Creek.

Total Segment Length: 15.10

Segment Length on BLM Land: 5.06

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

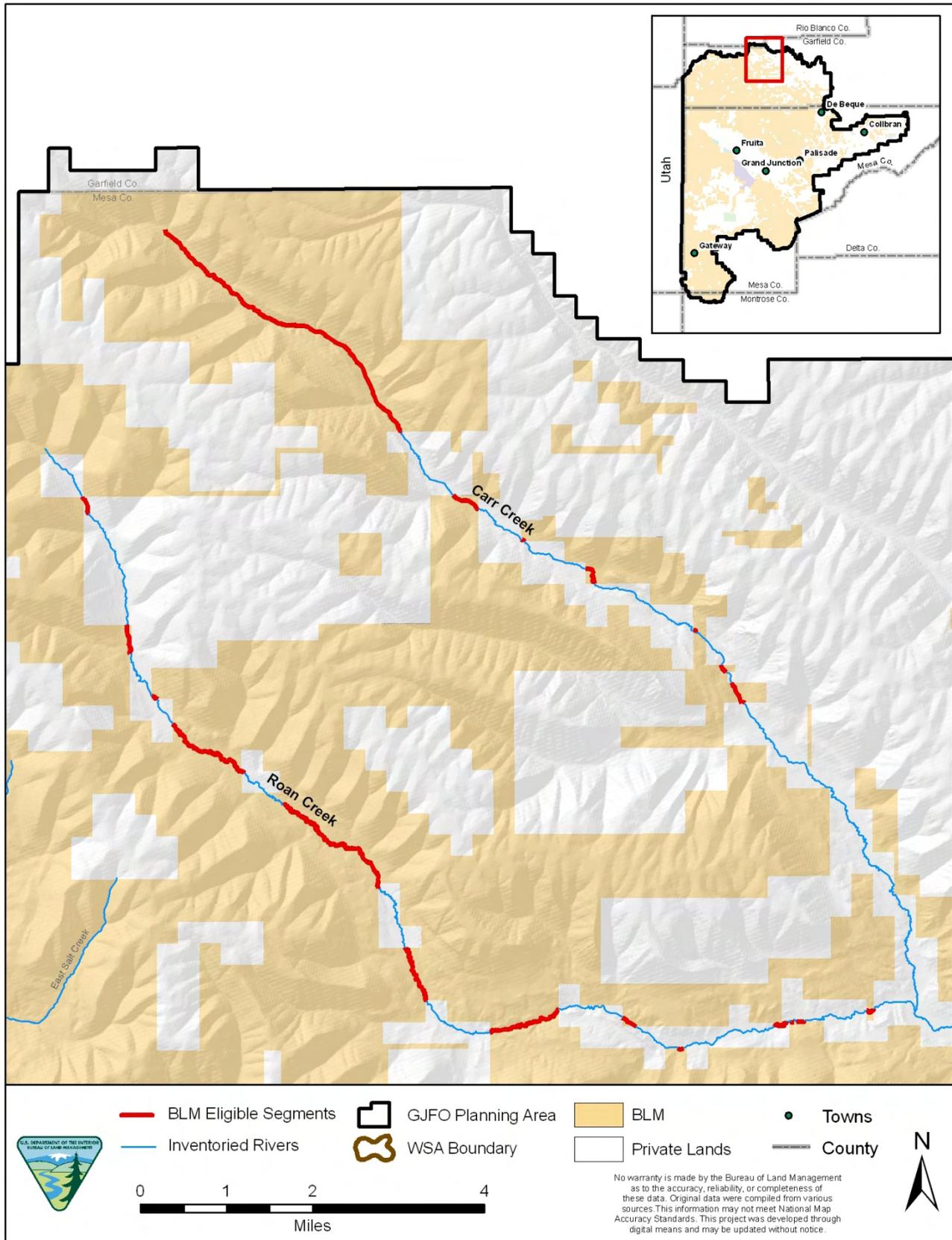
Fish

This ORV is the same as for Roan Creek.

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

This segment is tentatively classified as scenic due to access via a dirt road along this segment.

Map 4.10: Eligible Segments of Roan Creek and Carr Creek



4.8 Rough Canyon Creek (Map 4.11)

Location/Description: Sections of Rough Canyon Creek on BLM land located south of Grand Junction in the Bangs Canyon Special Recreation Management Area.

Total Segment Length: 4.21 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 4.21 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Scenic

Rough Canyon Creek is contained in the Rough Canyon Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) which is set aside to protect the values of the area including its scenic values. The outstandingly remarkable scenery is created by the deep canyons exposing multiple layers of rock as old as the Precambrian. In addition, a classical faulted monocline (see geological) exist next to the creek adding to the unusual and spectacular scenery.

Geological

Of particular interest to geologists is the faulted monocline visible within Rough Canyon. It is readily visible from the creek and provides a textbook example of the feature. This exposed fault has provided evidence of the formation of the Uncompahgre Plateau.

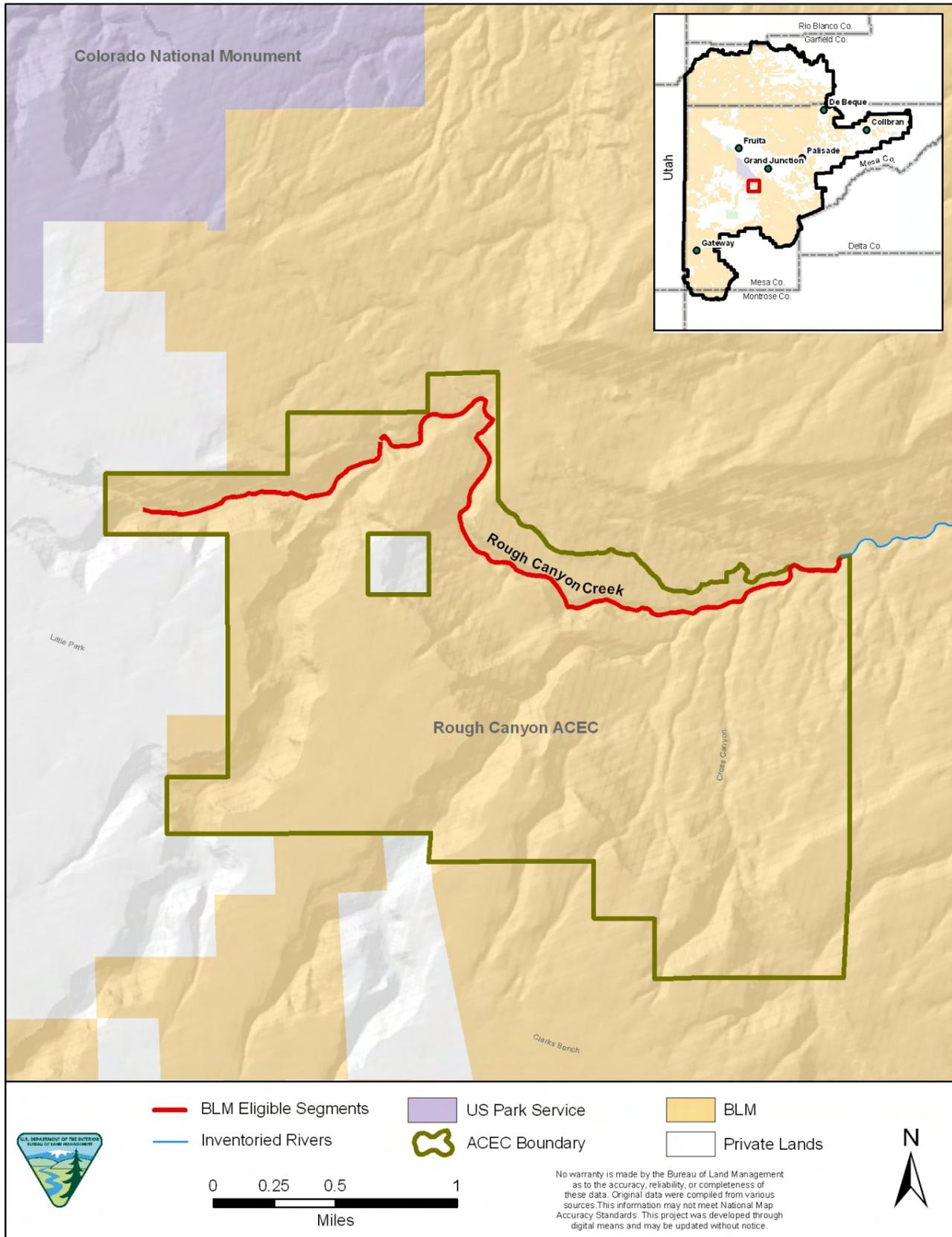
Wildlife

Rough Canyon Creek is an important Canyon Tree Frog (*Hyla arenicolor*) breeding area with many breeding pools found in surveys of this area. The Canyon Tree Frog is a BLM sensitive species and is a species of greatest conservation in the State of Colorado (CDOW 2006).

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

This segment is tentatively classified as scenic due to an inconspicuous dirt road that runs parallel to the creek for most of its extent.

Map 4.11: Eligible Segments of Rough Canyon Creek



4.9 Unaweep Canyon (Map 4.12)

East Creek

Location/Description: Sections of East Creek on BLM land running parallel to Highway 141 from the Unaweep Divide to East Creek's confluence with the Gunnison River near Whitewater.

Total Segment Length: 20.26 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 8.96 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Geological

East Creek flows east from the Unaweep Divide, through Unaweep Canyon to the Gunnison River, while West Creek flows out of the other end of the canyon to the Dolores River. These creeks originate in the canyon and do not have a source large enough to create a canyon of such magnitude. It is hypothesized that this canyon was carved by one or both of the modern day Gunnison or Colorado Rivers (the present course of the Colorado River through DeBeque Canyon lines up with Unaweep Canyon, and the Gunnison River was thought to enter at Cactus Park), which were rerouted after the second uplift of the Uncompahgre Plateau (Chronic 1980). This has led to the exposure of multiple layers of rock, including the Precambrian basement layer of the Uncompahgre Plateau, and high canyon walls of up to 1000 feet. In addition, the divide located in the middle of the canyon, separating East Creek and West Creek, is rare (Foutz 1994) and Unaweep Canyon is the only canyon in the world with a divide in the middle and a creek flowing out of each end (Ikenberry 2002).

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

The tentative classification for this segment is recreational. Highway 141 runs parallel to the creek and its frequent traffic is readily apparent.

West Creek

Location/Description: Sections of West Creek on BLM land running parallel to Highway 141 from the Unaweep Divide to West Creek's confluence with the Dolores River near Gateway.

Total Segment Length: 23.56 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 4.93 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Scenic

Colorado State Highway 141 runs through Unaweep Canyon from Whitewater to Gateway paralleling East and West Creeks. It is part of the Unaweep - Tabequache Scenic and Historic Byway. The steep canyon walls formed by a rerouted ancient river have resulted in cliffs up to 1000 feet high in a magnificent canyon. Cottonwoods abound along the watercourse and provide a striking contrast to the variety of different colors of the multitude of rock layers exposed on the canyon walls. Sections of the canyon are very narrow and intimate while others are very wide and open up to provide fantastic views. Sections of private land through the canyon are used for farming and ranching, adding to the contrast between steep rock walls and green valley bottoms.

Geological

This ORV is the same as for East Creek, except that West Creek flows west from the Unaweep Divide.

Wildlife

Approximately eight miles east of Gateway along West Creek is the Unaweep Seep ACEC designated to protect the area's outstanding biologic diversity. This area contains around twenty seeps in a contiguous area harboring an unusually high species diversity and density. The BLM sensitive species, the Great Basin Silverspot Butterfly (*Speyeria n. nokomis*) is also found here. Unaweep Seep has been designated an Important Bird Area (Audubon 2008).

Vegetation

The Unaweep Seep also contains extremely high plant diversity, one of the highest in the planning area. Included in this assemblage is a CNHP state imperiled species (S2 rank), the Helleborine orchid (*Epipactis gigantean*).

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

The tentative classification of this segment is recreational. Highway 141 runs parallel to the creek and its traffic is apparent from the watercourse corridor.

North Fork West Creek

Location/Description: Sections of the North Fork of West Creek on BLM land from Pinon Mesa running through the Palisade WSA to the confluence with West Creek east of Gateway along Highway 141.

Total Segment Length: 8.46 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 3.31 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Scenic

The North Fork of West Creek drops steeply from Pinon Mesa and forms a rugged narrow canyon through the Palisade WSA. In this area the dark grey Precambrian bedrock is overlaid with deep red sandstone. Therefore the canyon appears with mostly dark gray cliffs with upper cliff bands dark red. This impressive transition, a creek with relatively high perennial flow, and remote environment make the North Fork of West Creek an outstandingly remarkable scenic area. In addition, the more mesic environment along the creek allows Ponderosa Pines and other higher elevation species to exist the entire length of the creek down to the confluence with West Creek, different from most of the other creeks in the area. The contrast between the riparian corridor and upland vegetation is pleasing to the eye and provides for an exceptional experience for visitors.

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

The tentative classification of this segment is Wild. The segment falls within the Palisade WSA.

Ute Creek

Location/Description: Sections of Ute Creek occurring on BLM land from North Berg Mesa near the Northern extent of the Uncompahgre Plateau to the confluence of Ute Creek with West Creek east of Gateway.

Total Segment Length: 4.22 miles

Segment Length on BLM Land: 4.19 miles

Description and Justification of Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Scenic

Ute Creek has formed a narrow canyon that rarely opens up to create a wider canyon bottom. Therefore, visitors in the canyon bottom have narrow views and can normally feel very remote. The narrow steep canyon walls form interesting overhangs and features, and the addition of a healthy cottonwood community provides for a unique pristine watercourse in an area where riparian areas are frequently impacted by humans. When the canyon does open up, spectacular views of the Dolores River Valley and the Palisade are revealed.

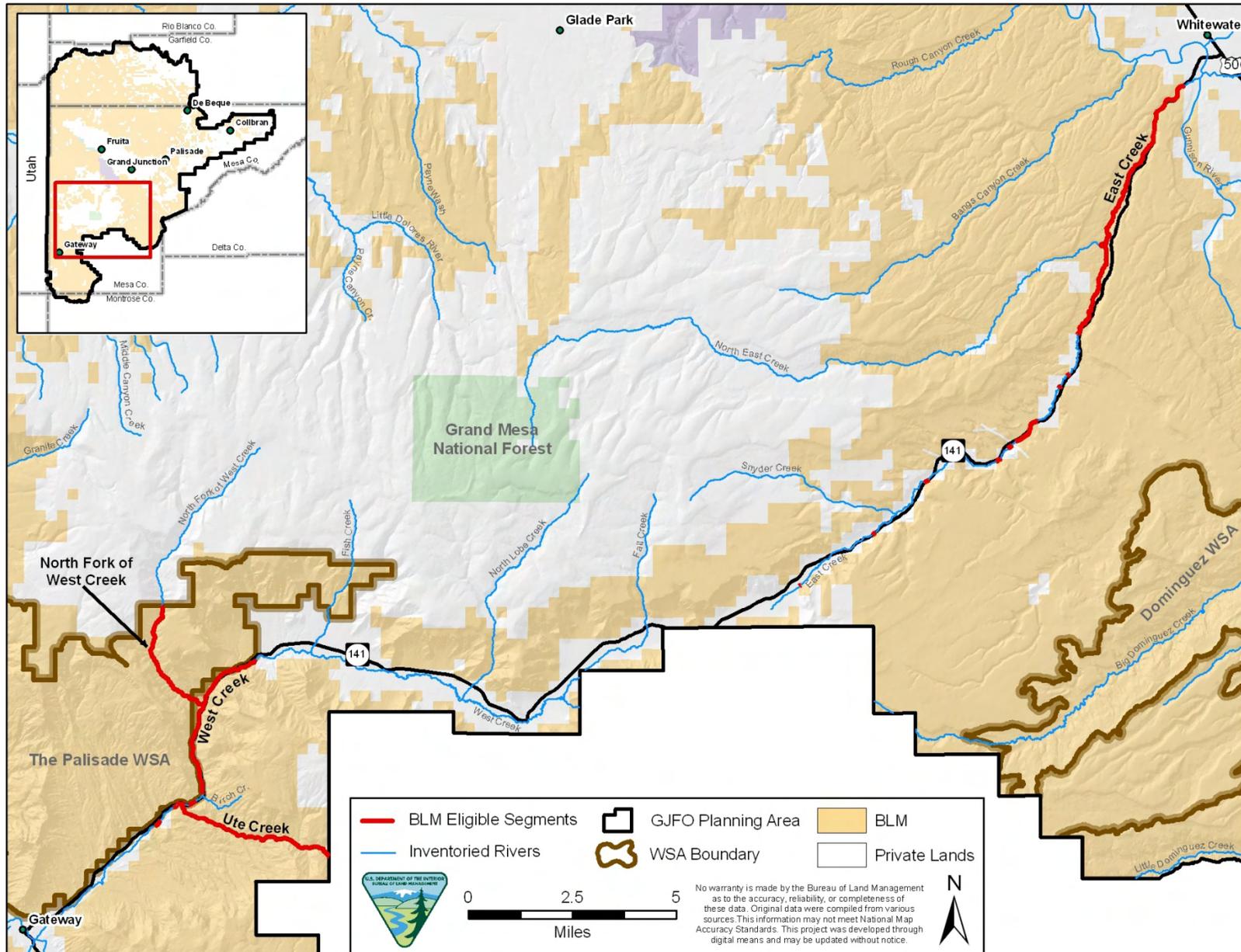
Vegetation

The cottonwood communities along Ute Creek are particularly remarkable containing a gallery forest with cottonwoods of all age classes present, composing one of the best examples of a “potentially natural community” (BLM 1993) in the planning area.

Tentative Classification and Level of Human Activity:

This segment is tentatively classified as scenic due to limited access via a dirt road along this segment.

Map 4.12: Eligible Segments of Unaweep Canyon



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Chapter 5

Suitability Analysis

Eligible river segments (Chapter 5) will undergo a suitability study during the development of the Draft RMP and Draft EIS, and Final RMP and Final EIS. The final decision on the suitability of a given river segment will be made in the ROD for the Grand Junction RMP. This determination does not designate a river as part of the NWSRS. Only congressional action (or the Secretary of the Interior in some cases) may designate a river. If a river is found unsuitable it will be removed from further WSR consideration and will be subject to management objectives in the Grand Junction Filed Office RMP. The Interagency Wild and Scenic River Coordinating Council (1999) indicated that the suitability evaluation should answer three questions:

- 1) Should the river's free-flowing character, water quality, and ORVs be protected, or are one or more other uses important enough to warrant doing otherwise?
- 2) Will the river's free-flowing character, water quality, and ORVs be protected through designation? Is it the best method for protecting the river corridor? In answering these questions, the benefits and impacts of WSR designation must be evaluated, and alternative protection methods considered.
- 3) Is there a demonstrated commitment to protect the river by any nonfederal entities that may be partially responsible for implementing protective management?

Input from designated stakeholder groups and from comments upon issuing the Draft RMP and Draft EIS will be incorporated in the suitability determination.

5.1 Criteria Used in the Next Step

To examine jurisdictional and management constraints and to answer the questions presented above, the BLM Manual 8351, *Wild and Scenic Rivers - Policy and Program Direction for Identification, Evaluation, and Management* (BLM 1992) sets out 8 factors to be considered in the suitability process:

1. Characteristics which do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the NWSRS;
2. Status of landownership, minerals (surface and subsurface), use in the area, including the amount of private land involved and associated or incompatible uses. Jurisdictional consideration (administrative role and/or presence) must be taken into account to the extent that management would be affected;
3. Reasonably foreseeable potential uses of the land and related waters which would be enhanced, foreclosed, or curtailed if the area were included in the NWSRS, and the values which could be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the NWSRS;
4. Federal, public, State, tribal, local, or other interests in designation or non-designation of the river;
5. Estimated cost, if necessary, of acquiring lands, interests in lands, and administering the area if it is added to the NWSRS;
6. Ability of the agency to manage and/or protect the river area or segment as a WSR river, or other mechanisms (existing and potential) to protect identified values other than WSR designation;
7. Historical or existing rights which could be adversely affected;
8. Other issues and concerns (The Interagency Wild and Scenic River Coordinating Council (1999) provides detailed examples of six more factors that may be important to examine for a given segment).

5.2 Timing and Process of the Suitability Phase

During the creation of management alternatives for the Draft RMP, determinations will be made as to the suitability of eligible river and stream segments in this report based on the suitability criteria listed in Section 5.1. This will be accomplished through a collaborative effort between the BLM (GJFO and State Office) and other federal and non-federal stakeholders. In addition to two required alternatives, finding all eligible segments suitable and finding no eligible segments suitable, the BLM and stakeholders will coordinate to develop alternatives considering determining a portion of the eligible segments as suitable, and examine different levels of classification for each segment. Coordination is particularly important during the suitability phase in order to determine the appropriateness of determining a river based on other uses, if the river can be protected as a Wild and Scenic River, and the level of commitment to protect the river by any nonfederal entities involved in the protective management. Other options may be developed that would be successful in maintaining the characteristics and values of eligible river segments.

Chapter 6

Report Preparers

Name	Role
BLM, Colorado State Office	
Roy Smith	Water Rights
BLM, Glenwood Springs Field Office	
Tom Fresques	Fish Biologist
BLM, Grand Junction Field Office	
Matt Anderson	Planning and Environmental Coordinator
Michelle Bailey	Outdoor Recreation Planner
Peter Benduha	Recreation Technician
Janny Choy	Hydrologist
Julia Christiansen	Natural Resource Specialist
Douglas Diekman	Geographic Information Systems
Jim Dollerschell	Range Management Specialist
Robert Fowler	Range Management Specialist
Scott Gerwe	Geologist
Chris Hamm	Supervisory Outdoor Recreation Planner
Mike Jones	Park Ranger
Robin Lacy	Realty Specialist

Aline LaForge	Archaeologist
Alissa Leavitt-Reynolds	Archaeologist
David Lehmann	Supervisory Natural Resource Specialist
Anna Lincoln	Ecologist
Heidi Plank	Wildlife Biologist
Christina Stark	Natural Resource Specialist
Ken Straley	Outdoor Recreation Planner
Mark Taber	Range Management Specialist
David Wood	Planner
Aaron Young	Geographic Information Systems
EMPSi, RMP Contractor	
Kate Wynant	Environmental Planner

Chapter 7

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Appendix A

Inventory Table

Table A-1
BLM Grand Junction Field Office Inventory Table, Watercourses Analyzed

Segment Name ¹	Total Segment Length	Segment Length on BLM Lands	Free Flowing Determination	Outstandingly Remarkable Values ²								Classification ³	Notes
				Scenic	Recreation	Geological	Fish	Wildlife	Cultural	Historic	Other		
ASBURY CREEK	5.19	4.85	Y	C									
BADGER WASH	8.44	5.27	N										
BANGS CANYON CREEK	12.21	10.44	Y	C	C								
BARREL SPRING CREEK	3.79	3.79	Y										
BIESER CREEK	9.48	1.88	Y										
BIG DOMINGUEZ CREEK, SEGMENT 1	15.86	15.86	Y	X	X	X		X	X			W	
BIG DOMINGUEZ CREEK, SEGMENT 2	0.78	0.78	Y	X		X		X	X			R	
BIG SALT WASH	31.84	14.27	Y										
BIG WASH	7.53	5.90	Y										
BIRCH CREEK	1.24	1.18	Y										
BLOSS GULCH	1.78	0.64	Y										
BLUE CREEK	11.36	10.08	Y	X			X		X			S	
BRANDON DITCH	6.45	3.64	N										
BULL CREEK	5.97	0.27	Y										
CALAMITY CREEK	8.57	8.03	Y										
CALF CANYON CREEK	3.84	3.40	N										
CALLOW CREEK	3.46	1.44	N										
CARR CREEK	15.10	5.06	Y				X						
COAL CANYON CREEK	13.33	11.40	N										
COATES CREEK	13.88	1.83	Y	C									
COLLIER CREEK	4.48	0.97	Y										
COLORADO RIVER, SEGMENT 1	17.76	7.32	Y	X			X	X				R	

1 - Shading indicates segment determined eligible

2 - **X** indicates value determined to meet ORV criteria, **C** indicates value considered but determined not to be an ORV

3 - **W** indicates tentative classification of wild, **S** indicates tentative classification of scenic, and **R** indicates tentative classification of recreational

Table A-1
BLM Grand Junction Field Office Inventory Table, Watercourses Analyzed (*continued*)

Segment Name ¹	Total Segment Length	Segment Length on BLM Lands	Free Flowing Determination	Outstandingly Remarkable Values ²								Classification ³	Notes
				Scenic	Recreation	Geological	Fish	Wildlife	Cultural	Historic	Other		
COLORADO RIVER, SEGMENT 2	40.24	1.31	Y				X					R	
COLORADO RIVER, SEGMENT 3	20.91	19.14	Y	X	X	X	X	X			X	S	
COON CREEK	9.14	0.18	Y				C						
CORRAL CANYON CREEK	3.21	3.21	Y										
COTTONWOOD CANYON CREEK 1	4.87	4.09	Y	C		C							
COTTONWOOD CANYON CREEK 2	3.33	3.33	Y										
COTTONWOOD CREEK 1	4.96	4.88	Y										
COTTONWOOD CREEK 2	7.23	6.22	N										
DARK CANYON CREEK	1.66	1.66	N										
DEER CREEK 1	9.66	7.61	Y										
DEER CREEK 2	2.54	1.54	Y										
DEMAREE CANYON CREEK	8.52	8.52	Y										
DOLORES RIVER	32.01	18.62	Y	X	X	X					X	R	Other value = paleontological
DRY FORK BIG DOMINGUEZ CREEK	12.75	6.49	N										
DRY FORK ROAN CREEK	1.35	1.35	Y										
EAST BRANCH BIG SALT WASH	13.77	8.81	Y										
EAST BRANCH WEST SALT CREEK	5.72	0.63	Y										

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Table A-1
BLM Grand Junction Field Office Inventory Table, Watercourses Analyzed (*continued*)

Segment Name ¹	Total Segment Length	Segment Length on BLM Lands	Free Flowing Determination	Outstandingly Remarkable Values ²							Classification ³	Notes	
				Scenic	Recreation	Geological	Fish	Wildlife	Cultural	Historic			Other
EAST CREEK	20.26	8.96	Y			X						R	
EAST HAWXHURST CREEK	1.85	1.29	Y										
EAST SALT CREEK 1	8.36	0.36	Y										
EAST SALT CREEK 2	44.34	21.57	Y										
EDD CANYON CREEK	2.95	1.28	Y										
FALL CREEK	4.03	1.08	Y	C									
FISH CREEK	4.30	1.30	Y	C									
GILL CREEK	0.65	0.29	Y										
GRANITE CREEK	6.95	5.57	Y	C									
GUNNISON RIVER, SEGMENT 1	15.73	13.45	Y		X		X			X		S	
GUNNISON RIVER, SEGMENT 2	16.63	3.85	Y				X			X		R	
HAY CANYON CREEK	6.91	2.65	Y										
HILL CREEK	8.05	4.03	Y										
HORSESHOE CANYON CREEK	9.78	9.78	N										
HORSETHIEF CREEK	7.25	4.81	N										
INDIAN CREEK 1	13.42	9.52	Y										
INDIAN CREEK 2	1.32	1.32	Y										
JACKSON CANYON CREEK	7.00	6.97	N										
JERRY CREEK	12.87	12.35	Y	C	C								
JOHN BROWN CANYON CREEK	8.31	6.40	Y	C									

1 - Shading indicates segment determined eligible

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Table A-1
BLM Grand Junction Field Office Inventory Table, Watercourses Analyzed (*continued*)

Segment Name ¹	Total Segment Length	Segment Length on BLM Lands	Free Flowing Determination	Outstandingly Remarkable Values ²								Classification ³	Notes	
				Scenic	Recreation	Geological	Fish	Wildlife	Cultural	Historic	Other			
KANNAH CREEK	15.50	0.94	Y											
KING CREEK	2.28	0.84	N											
LEFT FORK BARREL SPRING CREEK	2.74	2.74	Y											
LEON CREEK	2.77	0.73	Y											
LITTLE WASH	3.92	3.44	N											
LITTLE DOLORES RIVER, SEGMENT 1	9.28	1.16	Y											
LITTLE DOLORES RIVER, SEGMENT 2	20.03	10.46	Y						X		X	S	Other value = scientific	
LITTLE DOMINGUEZ CREEK, SEGMENT 1	13.14	13.14	Y	X		X		X	X			W		
LITTLE DOMINGUEZ CREEK, SEGMENT 2	2.45	2.45	Y	X		X		X	X			S		
LITTLE HORSETHIEF CREEK	5.64	4.17	N											
LITTLE SALT WASH	22.71	14.08	Y											
LONG MESA DITCH	7.19	5.95	N											
LUMSDEN CANYON CREEK	5.52	5.23	Y											
MAVERICK CANYON CREEK	8.71	8.71	Y											
MCKENZIE CANYON CREEK	5.18	2.55	Y											
MIDDLE CANYON CREEK	5.60	0.27	Y											

1 - Shading indicates segment determined eligible

2 - **X** indicates value determined to meet ORV criteria, **C** indicates value considered but determined not to be an ORV

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Table A-1
BLM Grand Junction Field Office Inventory Table, Watercourses Analyzed (*continued*)

Segment Name ¹	Total Segment Length	Segment Length on BLM Lands	Free Flowing Determination	Outstandingly Remarkable Values ²								Classification ³	Notes
				Scenic	Recreation	Geological	Fish	Wildlife	Cultural	Historic	Other		
MIDDLE DRY FORK CREEK	5.17	1.84	N										
NORTH COTTONWOOD CANYON CREEK	2.24	2.24	N										
NORTH DRY FORK CREEK	13.79	1.60	N										
NORTH EAST CREEK	20.66	7.61	Y	C									
NORTH FORK KANNAH CREEK	6.80	1.82	Y										
NORTH FORK MESA CREEK	2.05	2.05	Y								X	S	Other value = vegetation
NORTH FORK WEST CREEK	8.46	3.31	Y	X								W	
NORTH LOBE CREEK	7.42	1.50	Y	C									
OAK CREEK	8.54	0.41	Y										
PAYNE CANYON CREEK	2.63	0.91	Y										
PAYNE WASH	6.67	4.95	N										
PLATEAU CREEK	32.51	4.23	Y	C			C						
PRARIE CANYON CREEK	17.98	14.59	Y										
RAPID CREEK	4.60	2.63	Y										
RIGHT FORK BARREL SPRING CREEK	2.63	2.63	Y										
ROAD GULCH	1.70	0.24	Y										
ROAN CREEK	17.04	6.47	Y	C			X						
ROCKY PITCH GULCH	0.57	0.57	Y										
ROUGH CANYON CREEK	4.21	4.21	Y	X		X		X				S	

1 - Shading indicates segment determined eligible

2 - **X** indicates value determined to meet ORV criteria, **C** indicates value considered but determined not to be an ORV

3 - **W** indicates tentative classification of wild, **S** indicates tentative classification of scenic, and **R** indicates tentative classification of recreational

Table A-1
BLM Grand Junction Field Office Inventory Table, Watercourses Analyzed (*continued*)

Segment Name ¹	Total Segment Length	Segment Length on BLM Lands	Free Flowing Determination	Outstandingly Remarkable Values ²								Classification ³	Notes	
				Scenic	Recreation	Geological	Fish	Wildlife	Cultural	Historic	Other			
SALT CREEK	5.07	4.85	Y	C										
SINK CREEK	11.61	4.99	Y											
SNYDER CREEK	5.83	1.53	Y											
SOUTH DRY FORK	12.42	2.07	Y											
SPRING CANYON CREEK	3.22	3.22	Y											
SPRING CREEK 1	6.17	1.65	Y											
SPRING CREEK 2	5.26	5.26	N											
SULPHUR GULCH	7.66	7.29	N											
TATE CREEK	8.10	0.88	Y											
TOMS CANYON CREEK	5.36	5.26	N											
TRAIL CANYON WASH	7.43	1.10	Y											
UNNAMED CRUM RESERVOIR CREEK	4.87	3.48	Y											
UNNAMED MULE SPRING CREEK	2.66	2.17	Y											
UNNAMED TRIB. COATES CREEK	2.42	1.11	Y											
UNNAMED TRIB. WEST BRANCH WEST SALT CREEK	1.33	0.53	Y											
UTE CREEK	4.22	4.19	Y	X							X	S	Other value = vegetation	
WATSON CREEK	6.40	1.41	N											
WEST BRANCH WEST SALT CREEK	2.23	0.81	Y											
WEST CREEK	23.56	4.93	Y	X		X		X			X	R	Other value = vegetation	

1 - Shading indicates segment determined eligible

2 - **X** indicates value determined to meet ORV criteria, **C** indicates value considered but determined not to be an ORV

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Table A-1
BLM Grand Junction Field Office Inventory Table, Watercourses Analyzed (*continued*)

Segment Name ¹	Total Segment Length	Segment Length on BLM Lands	Free Flowing Determination	Outstandingly Remarkable Values ²							Classification ³	Notes
				Scenic	Recreation	Geological	Fish	Wildlife	Cultural	Historic		
WEST HAWXHURST CREEK	1.65	1.62	Y									
WEST SALT CREEK	39.03	26.20	Y									
WHITEWATER CREEK	13.58	5.54	Y									
WINDY CREEK	7.89	7.89	N									

1 - Shading indicates segment determined eligible

2 - **X** indicates value determined to meet ORV criteria, **C** indicates value considered but determined not to be an ORV

3 - **W** indicates tentative classification of wild, **S** indicates tentative classification of scenic, and **R** indicates tentative classification of recreational