

## POTENTIAL CONFLICTS WITH GOALS/OBJECTIVES OF OTHER AGENCIES

The USFS and BLM have coordinated with various Federal, State, and local agencies in the formulation of alternatives; development of goals, objectives, standards, and guidelines; and other important aspects of the revision process. Consultations included American Indian tribes; U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service; Colorado Department of Natural Resources, Colorado Division of Wildlife; Colorado Water Conservation District; county governments; and other local, State, and Federal agencies. County Land Use Plans were also reviewed. For more discussion of coordination, please see Volume 3, Appendix A. The administrative record, located at the San Juan Public Lands Center in Durango, Colorado, contains proceedings of the coordination efforts.

Alternatives, associated effects, SJPL-wide standards and guidelines, and management area prescriptions are generally compatible and compliment the goals and objectives of land management agencies adjacent to or near the San Juan Public Lands.

## RESOURCE COMMITMENTS

### Energy Requirements for Implementing the Alternatives

- Energy is consumed in the administration and use of natural resources from the San Juan Public lands. For purpose of the Revised LMP, energy sources are gasoline, diesel fuel, liquefied petroleum, natural gas, electricity, and wood. Although many activities consume energy, the following are considered important in the implementation of any alternative:
- Energy consumption related to recreation is the amount required for visitors to get to and around the SJPL, and for administrative purposes. The amount used is based on the number of dispersed and developed recreation visitor days, estimated trip lengths, and facility construction.
- Energy consumed in timber harvesting is the amount required for felling, bucking, skidding, loading, hauling, for performing road maintenance, and for the industrial traffic associated with harvest activities.
- Energy consumed in utilizing range vegetation is the amount required for hauling stock to and from the range and for permittee range improvement activities (watering, salting, and herding).
- Energy consumed in road construction and reconstruction activities is that used by contractors or USFS and BLM crews in completing road development.
- Energy consumed by USFS and BLM administrative activities includes vehicle use; lighting and heating of buildings; and fuel used in such equipment as small engines and burners.

## **UNAVOIDABLE ADVERSE EFFECTS**

The application of SJPL-wide standards and guidelines and other resource protection measures would limit the extent and duration of any adverse environmental effects. Nevertheless, some adverse effects are unavoidable. Adverse effects for one source may be a beneficial effect for another. For example, timber harvest may adversely affect the habitat for places that need mature, large trees while at the same time increasing the amount of habitat for species that need early successional habitat. For a detailed discussion of all effects, including unavoidable adverse effects, see the Environmental Consequences discussions for each resource area: air, biological diversity, recreation, minerals, etc.

## **RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SHORT-TERM USES OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND LONG-TERM PRODUCTIVITY**

Short-term uses are those expected to occur on the San Juan Public Lands over the next ten years. These uses include, but are not limited to, recreation, grazing, mineral development, timber harvest, and prescribed burning. Long-term productivity refers to the capability of the land to provide resource outputs for a period of time beyond the next ten years.

The minimum management requirement established by regulation 36 CFR 219.27 provides for the maintenance of long-term productivity of the land. Minimum management requirements prescribed by the SJPL-wide standards and guidelines will be met under all alternatives. Minimum requirements assure that long-term productivity of the land will not be impaired by short-term uses.

Monitoring, described in Volume 2, Part 2, applies to all alternatives. One purpose of monitoring is to assure that the long-term productivity of the land is maintained or improved. If monitoring and subsequent evaluation indicates that SJPL-wide standards and guidelines are insufficient to protect long-term productivity, the LMP will be amended accordingly.

Although all the alternatives were designed to maintain long-term productivity, there are differences between alternatives in the long-term availability or condition of resources. There may also be differences between alternatives in the expenditures necessary to maintain desired conditions.

## IRREVERSIBLE AND IRRETRIEVABLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES

The irreversible commitment of resources means that nonrenewable resources are consumed or destroyed. Examples include mineral extraction, which consumes nonrenewable minerals and potential destruction of such things as heritage resources by other management activities. These consumptions or destructions are only renewable over extremely long periods of time.

The irretrievable commitment of resources means that opportunities are foregone. They represent trade-offs in the use and management of forest and rangeland resources. Irretrievable commitment of resources can include the expenditure of funds, loss of production, or restrictions on resource use.

Decisions made during the plan revision process do not represent actual irreversible or irretrievable commitments of resources. They merely determine the kinds and levels of activities that are appropriate on the San Juan Public Lands. Additionally, a land management plan does not make site specific or project decisions. A decision to irreversibly or irretrievably commit resources occurs:

- When the USFS or BLM makes a project- or site-specific decision.
- At the time Congress acts on a recommendation to establish a new wilderness or to include a river in the Wild and Scenic River System.

Examples of irretrievable resource commitments associated with Revised Plan decisions are as follows:

- Commodity outputs and uses (such as motorized recreation) are curtailed or eliminated in areas recommended for, and subsequently designated as, wilderness, Wild and Scenic Rivers, Research Natural Areas, and some Special Areas (such as botanical and archeological).
- Opportunities for nonmotorized recreation, solitude, and primitive or wilderness experiences are foregone if portions of the SJPL are not allocated or recommended for these purposes.
- Timber volume outputs would be foregone on lands determined not suitable for harvest.
- Commodity outputs are reduced or foregone on areas allocated to specific uses or purposes, such as developed recreation sites, old growth habitat, or botanical areas.
- Non-commodity values such as scenic resources may be reduced or foregone in areas allocated to commodity uses.
- To the degree that an alternative preserves or encourages the development of mature and old-growth habitat, opportunities to develop early successional habitat are reduced.
- The Record of Decision that accompanies the Final Land Management Plan and the USFS Oil and the Gas Leasing Analysis will authorize the Bureau of Land Management to lease certain portions of National Forest System lands based on the leasing analysis in the final EIS and subject to the leasing stipulations in Volume 3, Appendix H. Although surface disturbance cannot occur on leased land without further NEPA analysis and decision-making, issuance of a lease confers certain rights on the lessee and represents a commitment of resources. The effects of the exploratory and developmental wells on lands with low oil and gas development potential were analyzed and disclosed in all alternatives.