## Landscape Profile: Mesas

**District:** Mancos-Dolores  
**129,000 Acres**  
**January 20, 2005**

### Outstanding Features
- Quality Scenery – mesas, deep canyons, sandstone cliffs, West Dolores and Upper Dolores Rivers  
- Fen wetlands  
- Unroaded & unharvested aspen mesa top  
- CO Cutthroat Trout habitat  
- San Juan Skyway Scenic Byway  
- Fall Color Viewing Area  
- Several long and diverse system of trails  
- Natural setting w/active multiple use activity

### Active Uses
- Grazing  
- Timber management – firewood, aspen and spruce fir with extensive history of past harvest  
- Firewood collection  
- Multiple recreation uses  
- Municipal watershed

### Landscape Concerns
- Damage to fens wetlands by OHVs and grazing  
- Weed proliferation  
- Motorized/non-motorized rec conflicts (e.g., Bear Cr., Calico, Taylor Measa, Tenderfoot, Priest Gulch and Wildcat area)  
- Resource impacts from motorize. use (Taylor Mesa)  
- ATVs changing motorized and Mtn. bike single-track experience and impacting resources  
- Mesa sides landslide prone – due to geology  
- Private land grazing affecting streambank stability on public lands.

### Landscape Opportunities
- Aspen and Spruce/Fir Management  
- Forest restoration/reveg of former logged areas-Taylor mesa & Stoner Mesa  
- Develop loop trails off of Calico to connect w/Rico & River  
- Proposed oil & gas leasing  
- Improve riparian condition of the Westfork of the Dolores River  
- Prescribed natural fire

### Oil and Gas Leasing (Acres)
- Current leases 1,047  
- Available 81,600  
- W/restrictions 40,300 (No Surface Occupancy)

### Roads and Trails
- Roads (miles)
  - Improved 87  
  - Unimproved 103  
  - Closed 107  
  - Inventoried non-system 259  
  - Other 20
- Trails (miles)
  - Motorized UNK  
  - Non-motorized UNK
- Total Miles

### Land Ownership (Acres)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>National Forest</th>
<th>BLM</th>
<th>Private</th>
<th>Private surface federal subsurface (not ready for 1/20/2005)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>122,000</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>6,975</td>
<td>State 75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Vegetation Data

- **Vegetation Types: % of area by Vegetation Types:**
  - Trees 43%  
  - Shrubs 13%  
  - Grass 7%  
  - Forbes 8%  
  - Barren 3%  
  - Water 1%  
  - Unclassified 25%
- **Currently Suitable Timberlands:** 48,000 acres

### Dominant Recreation Uses
- Hiking  
- Mtn. biking  
- Hunting-big game  
- Backpacking  
- ATVing  
- High elevation motorized single-tracks  
- Dispersed Camping  
- Developed camping and picnic sites  
- Back country skiing  
- Snowmobiling