

San Juan Plan Revision
Theme 2 Special Situation Areas Handout
Working Draft prepared for the May 2006 Public Meetings

Theme 2 Research Natural Areas (See RNA Handout for more information about each RNA.)

- A. Narraguinnep
- B. Williams
- C. Martinez Creek
- D. Hidden Mesas
- E. Electra
- F. Hermosa
- G. Grizzly Peak

The following RNA's are within existing Designated Wilderness Boundaries or the Piedra Management Area and thus are being proposed as an RNA within a Theme One.

- H. Needles Mountains
- I. Piedra
- J. Porphyry Gulch
- K. Navajo River

Theme 2 Special Botanical Areas

- L. O'Neal Hill: *Emphasis is on preserving and protecting populations of Frosty Bladderpod (Lesquerella pruinosa), a yellow-flowered member of the mustard family. This globally rare plant species occurs on shale soils only in the Pagosa Springs area.*

Theme 2 Archeological Areas: *These areas are managed to protect and, in some cases, interpret archeological and historical resources. The level of public access and the emphasis on providing recreational and interpretive experiences as opposed to preserving resources varies among areas.*

- M. Chimney Rock
- N. Falls Creek
- O. Mesa Verde Escarpment
- P. McPhee

Theme 2 Wildlife Emphasis Areas

- Q. North Dale Habitat Area: *Emphasis is on managing Sage Grouse habitat in conjunction with adjacent to DOW lands.*
- R. Perins Peak Habitat Area: *Emphasis is on managing Big Game Winter Range and Peregrine Falcon habitat in conjunction with adjacent to DOW lands.*

Theme 2 Areas of Critical Environmental Concern

- S. Big Gypsum Valley: *Emphasis is on protecting and mitigating impacts to unique plant and lichen communities including a newly identified species Gypsum Cateye associated with Gypsum soils.*

Theme 2 Special Situation Areas

- T. Dolores River Canyon: *Emphasizing a diversity of recreational opportunities and mitigating impacts to sensitive species and communities such as Roundtail Chubs and Wild Privet riparian shrublands, as well as outstanding scenery, geology, cultural and botanical features.*

- U. Spring Creek Wild Horse Herd Management Area: *Emphasizing management of horse herd and critical watershed features.*

- V. Silverton: *The emphasis for the Silverton Theme 2 area is to provide a high elevation 4x4 scenic driving and recreation experience while interpreting and preserving historic resource. Additionally management of the area will address improving and mitigating impacts to water quality from Abandoned mine lands and roads, protecting unique ecological features, such as Fens, and management direction for a mix of uses including hard rock mining, lynx habitat, and grazing.*

- W. HD's: *The HD Mountains are a special situation combining a variety of factors. The area includes a potentially significant gas reservoir that is leased and has plans for development, authorized by the Northern San Juan Basin Coal Bed Methane decision, awaiting approval in 2006. The area also has unique and important cultural, wildlife, and botanical features that warrant protection. The HD Mountains Area is managed to allow development of the gas resources, while protecting these other values to the extent possible, with the intent to reclaim the area to a condition where natural processes dominate in the long-term after the Coal Bed Methane Project concludes.*