

Wilderness one pager

1. Two levels of the Wilderness Act

Federally – Wilderness Act of 1964 – obviously consistent – well known

State level – each state has its own Wilderness Act – awareness is much more limited and these acts were far broader in scope than just designation of Wilderness

- Generally Congress stepped in to resolve the litigation around the RARE and RARE 2 processes
- Some states simply designated Wilderness (South Dakota PL 95-560 §201- §203) while others took this opportunity to make larger scale land management decisions (Colorado)
- compare §101 of Colorado to §201 for South Dakota

2. Colorado Wilderness Act was passed in 1980 (PL 95-560 generally §101- 111)

- Resolved possibility of litigation around Roadless Rule/wilderness inventory by Congressional determination that RARE inventories were sufficient §101(A)(1)& A(2) and §107(a)
- Clearly stated areas not designated shall be returned to management for non-wilderness multiple use §101(a)(3) & §101(b)(2)
- Designated 20 Wilderness areas throughout the state §102 (a)
- Created 9 new WSA §105(a)
- Abolished two existing primitive area designations- §102(b)- Wilson Mesa, Uncompahgre and Uncompahgre Adjacent (not sure why inventoried separately)
- Specifically identified basis for many of the boundaries of particular Wilderness areas with great detail (bill memo)- unprecedented
- Modified Wilderness Act to allow grazing related activities and forest treatments with mechanical means (§109)
- Stated buffers for Wilderness areas are not allowed or required (§110)

3. Colorado Wilderness Act has been amended several times since – most recently Hermosa

- Continued to designate and release areas for Wilderness and non-Wilderness usage

4. All the further inventory areas for Wilderness GMUG areas addressed in draft RMP were the subject of previous Congressional Action with release of primitive areas for non-wilderness multiple use

- Additionally we must question the inventory on the buffer issue (§110) as previous inventory on the GMUG specifically designated areas because of their characteristics as a buffer for existing Wilderness – clearly that violates the no buffer management requirements of Colorado Wilderness Act