

**Planning Criteria  
for the  
Colorado Canyons National Conservation Area  
Resource Management Plan**

1. The RMP will be a comprehensive management plan for the long-range protection and management of the Colorado Canyons National Conservation Area and the Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness.
2. The RMP will reflect the legislative intent to conserve, protect, and enhance the area to benefit current and future generations and the unique and nationally important values of the land.
3. The RMP will be completed in compliance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 and all other applicable laws. It will meet the requirements of Public Law 106-353 designating the CCNCA to protect its natural resources and outstanding recreation opportunities.
4. The planning process will include an EIS that will comply with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) standards.
5. The planning process will involve the local community and recognize the results of previous collaborative planning efforts, most notably the Ruby Canyon/Black Ridge Integrated Resource Management Plan.
6. To enhance community involvement in the planning process, an Advisory Council will be established to advise the BLM on RMP development and implementation.
7. The planning process will involve Native American tribal governments and will provide strategies for the protection of recognized traditional uses.
8. The RMP will consider the geological, cultural, paleontological, natural, scientific, recreational, environmental, biological, wilderness, wildlife education, and scenic resources, allowing establishment of interpretive sites or facilities designed to protect these resources.
9. The RMP will set in place management goals and objectives for the 75,550 acres designated as the Black Ridge Canyons Wilderness as a component of the National Wilderness Preservation System and in accordance with the Wilderness Act of 1964.
10. The RMP will recognize that neither the Conservation Area nor the Wilderness shall include any part of the Colorado River.

11. The RMP will establish travel management goals and actions to allow motorized vehicle use only on roads and trails designated for motorized use; no cross-country, motorized travel will be allowed.
12. The RMP will allow continued management of grazing leases and permits in accordance with current BLM policy and with the Wilderness Act.
13. The RMP will recognize the Colorado Division of Wildlife's (CDOW) responsibility to manage wildlife on BLM-managed lands. The BLM will consult with CDOW in establishing policy for the purposes of protecting public safety, administration, or public use and enjoyment.
14. The RMP will provide for the continued management of the utility corridor, Black Ridge Communication Site, and Federal Aviation Administration Site.
15. It will be recognized throughout the planning process that recommended actions cannot effectively establish buffer zones adjacent to the Conservation Area boundary.
16. The RMP will encourage the acquisition of private in-holdings in the CCNCA and Wilderness, while continuing to allow reasonable access to private landowners.
17. Decisions in the RMP will strive to comply with existing plans and policies of adjacent local, state, and federal agencies, as long as the decisions conform with the CCNCA legislation, other laws and regulations, and applicable other legal or regulatory guidance.