

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To designate certain special management areas, wildlife conservation areas, protection areas, recreation areas, wilderness areas, and a scientific research and education area in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. HICKENLOOPER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

A BILL

To designate certain special management areas, wildlife conservation areas, protection areas, recreation areas, wilderness areas, and a scientific research and education area in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Gunnison Outdoor Re-
5 sources Protection Act of 2025”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) COLLABORATIVELY DEVELOPED.—The term
2 “collaboratively developed”, with respect to a
3 project, means the project is developed and imple-
4 mented through a collaborative process that—

5 (A) includes multiple interested persons
6 representing diverse interests; and

7 (B)(i) is transparent and nonexclusive; or

8 (ii) meets the requirements for a resource
9 advisory committee under—

10 (I) for projects carried out on Na-
11 tional Forest System land, subsections (c)
12 through (f) of section 205 of the Secure
13 Rural Schools and Community Self-Deter-
14 mination Act of 2000 (16 U.S.C. 7125); or

15 (II) for projects carried out on Bu-
16 reau of Land Management land, subpart
17 1784 of part 1700 of title 43, Code of
18 Federal Regulations (or successor regula-
19 tions).

20 (2) COUNTY.—The term “County” means Gun-
21 nison County, Colorado.

22 (3) COVERED AREA.—The term “covered area”
23 means each of the Special Management Areas, Wild-
24 life Conservation Areas, Protection Areas, and

1 Recreation Management Areas and the Scientific
2 Research and Education Area.

3 (4) DECOMMISSION.—The term “decommis-
4 sion”, with respect to a road, means—

5 (A) reestablishing native vegetation on the
6 road;

7 (B) restoring any natural drainage, water-
8 shed function, or other ecological processes that
9 were disrupted or adversely impacted by the
10 road by removing or hydrologically dis-
11 connecting the road prism and reestablishing
12 stable slope contours;

13 (C) effectively blocking the road to vehic-
14 ular traffic, where feasible; and

15 (D) developing and implementing an effec-
16 tive monitoring and response plan for invasive
17 species and vehicular traffic incursions.

18 (5) ECOLOGICAL INTEGRITY.—The term “eco-
19 logical integrity” has the meaning given the term in
20 section 219.19 of title 36, Code of Federal Regula-
21 tions (as in effect on the date of enactment of this
22 Act).

23 (6) OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE.—The term “off-
24 highway vehicle”—

1 (A) with respect to National Forest Sys-
2 tem land, has the meaning given the term in
3 section 212.1 of title 36, Code of Federal Regu-
4 lations (or a successor regulation); and

5 (B) with respect to land managed by the
6 Bureau of Land Management, has the meaning
7 given the term “off-road vehicle” in section
8 8340.0-5 of title 43, Code of Federal Regula-
9 tions (or a successor regulation).

10 (7) OVER-SNOW VEHICLE.—The term “over-
11 snow vehicle” has the meaning given the term in
12 section 212.1 of title 36, Code of Federal Regula-
13 tions (or a successor regulation).

14 (8) PROTECTION AREA.—The term “Protection
15 Area” means a protection area designated by section
16 5(a).

17 (9) RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA.—The
18 term “Recreation Management Area” means a recre-
19 ation management area designated by section 6(a).

20 (10) RESTORE.—The term “restore” has the
21 meaning given the term in section 219.19 of title 36,
22 Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect on the
23 date of enactment of this Act).

24 (11) SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND EDUCATION
25 AREA.—The term “Scientific Research and Edu-

1 cation Area” means the Rocky Mountain Scientific
2 Research and Education Area designated by section
3 7(a).

4 (12) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary”
5 means—

6 (A) the Secretary of Agriculture (acting
7 through the Chief of the Forest Service), with
8 respect to National Forest System land; and

9 (B) the Secretary of the Interior with re-
10 spect to land managed by the Director of the
11 Bureau of Land Management.

12 (13) SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA.—The term
13 “Special Management Area” means a special man-
14 agement area designated by section 3(a).

15 (14) STATE.—The term “State” means the
16 State of Colorado.

17 (15) WILDERNESS AREA.—The term “wilder-
18 ness area” means any area designated as wilderness
19 by the amendments to section 2(a) of the Colorado
20 Wilderness Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1132 note; Pub-
21 lic Law 103–77) made by section 8(a).

22 (16) WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE.—The term
23 “wildland-urban interface” means land within a cov-
24 ered area that is within $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of the interface and
25 intermix areas mapped as the wildland-urban inter-

1 face in the document entitled “The 2010 Wildland-
2 Urban Interface of the Conterminous United States”
3 and published by the Department of Agriculture in
4 2015.

5 (17) WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREA.—The
6 term “Wildlife Conservation Area” means a wildlife
7 conservation area designated by section 4(a).

8 (18) WINTER TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN.—
9 The term “winter travel management plan” means
10 a decision designating roads, trails, or areas for
11 over-snow vehicle use in accordance with—

12 (A) in the case of Forest Service land
13 within a covered area, subpart C of part 212 of
14 title 36, Code of Federal Regulations (or suc-
15 cessor regulations); and

16 (B) in the case of Bureau of Land Man-
17 agement land within a covered area, subpart
18 8342 of title 43, Code of Federal Regulations
19 (or successor regulations).

20 **SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS.**

21 (a) DESIGNATION.—

22 (1) AMERICAN FLAG SPECIAL MANAGEMENT
23 AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, certain Fed-
24 eral land in the County managed by the Forest
25 Service comprising approximately 36,171 acres, as

1 generally depicted as “American Flag SMA” on the
2 map entitled “Sheet 4: Brush Creek, Cement Creek,
3 and Spring Creek” and dated August 27, 2024, is
4 designated as the “American Flag Special Manage-
5 ment Area”.

6 (2) BECKWITHS SPECIAL MANAGEMENT
7 AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, certain Fed-
8 eral land in the County managed by the Forest
9 Service comprising approximately 24,031 acres, as
10 generally depicted as “Beckwiths SMA” on the map
11 entitled “Sheet 3: Kebler and Schofield Pass” and
12 dated August 27, 2024, is designated as the
13 “Beckwiths Special Management Area”.

14 (3) CLEAR FORK SPECIAL MANAGEMENT
15 AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, certain Fed-
16 eral land in the County managed by the Forest
17 Service comprising approximately 37,998 acres, as
18 generally depicted as “Clear Fork SMA” on the map
19 entitled “Sheet 2: McClure Pass” and dated August
20 27, 2024, is designated as the “Clear Fork Special
21 Management Area”.

22 (4) MCINTOSH MOUNTAIN SPECIAL MANAGE-
23 MENT AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, cer-
24 tain Federal land in the County managed by the Bu-
25 reau of Land Management and the Forest Service

1 comprising approximately 22,497 acres, as generally
2 depicted as “McIntosh Mountain SMA” on the map
3 entitled “Sheet 8: Gunnison Valley and Ohio Pass”
4 and dated August 27, 2024, is designated as the
5 “McIntosh Mountain Special Management Area”.

6 (5) NORTH POVERTY GULCH SPECIAL MANAGE-
7 MENT AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, cer-
8 tain Federal land in the County managed by the
9 Forest Service comprising approximately 5,476
10 acres, as generally depicted as “North Poverty Gulch
11 SMA” on the map entitled “Sheet 3: Kebler and
12 Schofield Pass” and dated August 27, 2024, is des-
13 igned as the “North Poverty Gulch Special Man-
14 agement Area”.

15 (6) PILOT KNOB SPECIAL MANAGEMENT
16 AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, certain Fed-
17 eral land in the County managed by the Forest
18 Service comprising approximately 16,973 acres, as
19 generally depicted as “Pilot Knob SMA” on the map
20 entitled “Sheet 2: McClure Pass” and dated August
21 27, 2024, is designated as the “Pilot Knob Special
22 Management Area”.

23 (7) SIGNAL PEAK SPECIAL MANAGEMENT
24 AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, certain Fed-
25 eral land in the County managed by the Bureau of

1 Land Management and the Forest Service com-
2 prising approximately 28,345 acres, as generally de-
3 picted as “Signal Peak SMA” on the map entitled
4 “Sheet 9: Cabin Creek” and dated August 27, 2024,
5 is designated as the “Signal Peak Special Manage-
6 ment Area”.

7 (8) UNION PARK SPECIAL MANAGEMENT
8 AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, certain Fed-
9 eral land in the County managed by the Forest
10 Service comprising approximately 22,483 acres, as
11 generally depicted as “Union Park SMA” on the
12 map entitled “Sheet 5: Union Park” and dated Au-
13 gust 27, 2024, is designated as the “Union Park
14 Special Management Area”.

15 (9) WHETSTONE HEADWATERS SPECIAL MAN-
16 AGEMENT AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights,
17 certain Federal land in the County managed by the
18 Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management
19 comprising approximately 20,676 acres, as generally
20 depicted as “Whetstone Headwaters SMA” on the
21 map entitled “Sheet 3: Kebler and Schofield Pass”
22 and dated August 27, 2024, is designated as the
23 “Whetstone Headwaters Special Management Area”.

24 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Special Manage-
25 ment Areas is to conserve, protect, and enhance for the

1 benefit of present and future generations the natural, sce-
2 nic, scientific, cultural, watershed, recreation, and wildlife
3 resources of the Special Management Areas.

4 (c) MANAGEMENT.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall manage
6 the Special Management Areas in a manner that—

7 (A) conserves, protects, and enhances the
8 resources of the Special Management Areas;
9 and

10 (B) is in accordance with—

11 (i) this Act; and

12 (ii) other applicable laws.

13 (2) USES.—

14 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
15 only allow uses of the Special Management
16 Areas that the Secretary determines would fur-
17 ther the purpose described in subsection (b).

18 (B) VEHICLE AND BICYCLE USE.—

19 (i) IN GENERAL.—The use of off-high-
20 way vehicles and bicycles in the Special
21 Management Areas shall be permitted only
22 on roads, trails, and areas designated for
23 use by those vehicles on the date of enact-
24 ment of this Act, except—

11

1 (I) as needed for administrative
2 purposes;

3 (II) to respond to an emergency;

4 or

5 (III) as authorized under clauses
6 (ii) and (iii).

7 (ii) WINTER TRAVEL MANAGEMENT.—

8 For any portion of a Special Management
9 Area for which the Secretary has not
10 adopted a winter travel management plan
11 as of the date of enactment of this Act, the
12 Secretary—

13 (I) shall, not later than 3 years
14 after the date of enactment of this
15 Act, adopt a winter travel manage-
16 ment plan with respect to the applica-
17 ble portion of the Special Manage-
18 ment Area; and

19 (II) may, during any period be-
20 ginning on the date of enactment of
21 this Act and ending on the date of
22 adoption of a winter travel manage-
23 ment plan for the applicable portion
24 under subclause (I), permit the use of
25 over-snow vehicles in the applicable

1 portion of the Special Management
2 Area in accordance with the applicable
3 land management plan or other appli-
4 cable management direction.

5 (iii) POTENTIAL TRAILS.—The Sec-
6 retary may permit—

7 (I) the use of bicycles on the po-
8 tential trails described in paragraph
9 (3) if the trails are designated by the
10 Secretary for the use; and

11 (II) the use of off-highway vehi-
12 cles on the potential trails described
13 in subparagraphs (A), (C), and (F) of
14 paragraph (3) if the trails are des-
15 ignated by the Secretary for the use.

16 (3) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this section af-
17 fects the potential development, in accordance with
18 applicable law, of—

19 (A) a proposed trail of less than 50 inches
20 in width, commonly known as the “Big Grassy
21 Trail”, within the American Flag Special Man-
22 agement Area designated by subsection (a)(1);

23 (B) the proposed trails, commonly known
24 as the “Crested Butte to Paonia Trail” and the
25 “Crested Butte to Carbondale Trail”, within

1 the Beckwiths Special Management Area des-
2 ignated by subsection (a)(2);

3 (C) the proposed trails, commonly known
4 as the “Antelope Ridge Trail and Connector”,
5 the “East West Antelope Trail”, the “West An-
6 telope Trail”, and the “Mill Creek Connector”,
7 within the McIntosh Mountain Special Manage-
8 ment Area designated by subsection (a)(4);

9 (D) the proposed trail, commonly known as
10 the “Gunnison to Crested Butte Trail”, and the
11 trails generally depicted in figure 7 of the docu-
12 ment entitled “Candidate Conservation Agree-
13 ment: For the Gunnison sage-grouse,
14 *Centrocercus minimus*—Gunnison Basin Popu-
15 lation” and dated 2012 within the Signal Peak
16 Special Management Area designated by sub-
17 section (a)(7);

18 (E) the proposed trails, commonly known
19 as the “Gunnison to Crested Butte Trail” and
20 the “Baxter Gulch to Splain’s Gulch Trail”, in
21 the Whetstone Headwaters Special Management
22 Area designated by subsection (a)(9); or

23 (F) the proposed trail, commonly known as
24 the “Splain’s Gulch to Carbon Creek Trail”, in

1 the Whetstone Headwaters Special Management
2 Area designated by subsection (a)(9).

3 **SEC. 4. DESIGNATION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS.**

4 (a) DESIGNATION.—

5 (1) CABIN CREEK WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
6 AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, certain Fed-
7 eral land in the County managed by the Bureau of
8 Land Management and the Forest Service com-
9 prising approximately 29,518 acres, as generally de-
10 picted as “Cabin Creek WCA” on the map entitled
11 “Sheet 9: Cabin Creek” and dated August 27, 2024,
12 is designated as the “Cabin Creek Wildlife Conserva-
13 tion Area”.

14 (2) FLAT TOP WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
15 AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, certain Fed-
16 eral land in the County managed by the Forest
17 Service comprising approximately 28,844 acres, as
18 generally depicted as “Flat Top WCA” on the map
19 entitled “Sheet 8: Gunnison Valley and Ohio Pass”
20 and dated August 27, 2024, is designated as the
21 “Flat Top Wildlife Conservation Area”.

22 (3) LAKE GULCH AND CEBOLLA CREEK WILD-
23 LIFE CONSERVATION AREA.—Subject to valid exist-
24 ing rights, certain Federal land in the County man-
25 aged by the Bureau of Land Management com-

1 prising approximately 50,535 acres, as generally de-
2 picted as “Lake Gulch and Cebolla Creek WCA” on
3 the map entitled “Sheet 11: Lake Fork” and dated
4 August 27, 2024, is designated as the “Lake Gulch
5 and Cebolla Creek Wildlife Conservation Area”.

6 (4) MATCHLESS WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
7 AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, certain Fed-
8 eral land in the County managed by the Forest
9 Service and the Bureau of Land Management com-
10 prising approximately 12,975 acres, as generally de-
11 picted as “Matchless WCA” on the map entitled
12 “Sheet 4: Brush Creek, Cement Creek, and Spring
13 Creek” and dated August 27, 2024, is designated as
14 the “Matchless Wildlife Conservation Area”.

15 (5) MUNSEY CREEK WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
16 AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, certain Fed-
17 eral land in the County managed by the Forest
18 Service and the Bureau of Land Management com-
19 prising approximately 3,281 acres, as generally de-
20 picted as “Munsey Creek WCA” on the map entitled
21 “Sheet 3: Kebler and Schofield Pass” and dated Au-
22 gust 27, 2024, is designated as the “Munsey Creek
23 Wildlife Conservation Area”.

24 (6) PINNACLES WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
25 AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, certain Fed-

1 eral land in the County managed by the Forest
2 Service and the Bureau of Land Management com-
3 prising approximately 27,935 acres, as generally de-
4 picted as “Pinnacles WCA” on the map entitled
5 “Sheet 8: Gunnison Valley and Ohio Pass” and
6 dated August 27, 2024, is designated as the “Pin-
7 nacles Wildlife Conservation Area”.

8 (7) POWDERHORN WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
9 AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, certain Fed-
10 eral land in the County managed by the Bureau of
11 Land Management comprising approximately 27,668
12 acres, as generally depicted as “Powderhorn WCA”
13 on the map entitled “Sheet 11: Lake Fork” and
14 dated August 27, 2024, is designated as the
15 “Powderhorn Wildlife Conservation Area”.

16 (8) SAWTOOTH WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
17 AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, certain Fed-
18 eral land in the County and in Saguache County,
19 Colorado, managed by the Bureau of Land Manage-
20 ment comprising approximately 43,109 acres, as
21 generally depicted as “Sawtooth WCA” on the map
22 entitled “Sheet 11: Lake Fork” and dated August
23 27, 2024, is designated as the “Sawtooth Wildlife
24 Conservation Area”.

1 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Wildlife Con-
2 servation Areas are—

3 (1) to conserve, protect, enhance, and restore
4 for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future
5 generations the wildlife and wildlife habitat of the
6 Wildlife Conservation Areas; and

7 (2) to conserve, protect, and enhance for the
8 benefit and enjoyment of present and future genera-
9 tions the natural, scenic, scientific, cultural, water-
10 shed, and recreation resources of the Wildlife Con-
11 servation Areas.

12 (c) MANAGEMENT.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall manage
14 the Wildlife Conservation Areas in a manner that—

15 (A) furthers the purposes of the Wildlife
16 Conservation Areas; and

17 (B) is in accordance with—

18 (i) this Act; and

19 (ii) other applicable laws.

20 (2) USES.—

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
22 only allow uses of the Wildlife Conservation
23 Areas that the Secretary determines would fur-
24 ther the purposes described in subsection (b).

25 (B) VEHICLE AND BICYCLE USE.—

1 (i) IN GENERAL.—The use of off-high-
2 way vehicles and bicycles in the Wildlife
3 Conservation Areas shall be permitted only
4 on roads, trails, and areas designated for
5 the uses on the date of enactment of this
6 Act.

7 (ii) EXCEPTIONS.—Notwithstanding
8 clause (i)—

9 (I) off-highway vehicles and bicy-
10 cles may be permitted—

11 (aa) as needed for adminis-
12 trative purposes; or

13 (bb) to respond to an emer-
14 gency;

15 (II) for any portion of a Wildlife
16 Conservation Area for which the Sec-
17 retary has not adopted a winter travel
18 management plan as of the date of
19 enactment of this Act, the Sec-
20 retary—

21 (aa) shall, not later than 3
22 years after the date of enactment
23 of this Act, adopt a winter travel
24 management plan for the applica-

1 ble portion of the Wildlife Con-
2 servation Area; and

3 (bb) may, during the period
4 beginning on the date of enact-
5 ment of this Act and ending on
6 the date of adoption of a winter
7 travel management plan for the
8 applicable portion under item
9 (aa), permit the use of over-snow
10 vehicles in the applicable portion
11 of the Wildlife Conservation Area
12 in accordance with the applicable
13 land management plan or other
14 applicable management direction;

15 (III) except as authorized under
16 subclause (I), the use of off-highway
17 vehicles and bicycles shall be prohib-
18 ited in the Matchless Wildlife Con-
19 servation Area designated by sub-
20 section (a)(4); and

21 (IV) the Secretary may permit
22 the use of bicycles on the potential
23 trails described in paragraph (3) if
24 the trails are designated by the Sec-
25 retary for the use.

1 (3) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this section af-
2 fects the potential development, in accordance with
3 applicable law, of—

4 (A) the proposed trail, commonly known as
5 the “Gunnison to Crested Butte Trail”, in the
6 Flat Top Wildlife Conservation Area designated
7 by subsection (a)(2);

8 (B) the proposed trail, commonly known as
9 the “Crested Butte to Carbondale Trail”, in the
10 Munsey Creek Wildlife Conservation Area des-
11 ignated by subsection (a)(5); or

12 (C) the proposed trails, commonly known
13 as the “Tenderfoot Mountain to Bambi’s Trail”
14 and the “Big Loop Trail”, in the Sawtooth
15 Wildlife Conservation Area designated by sub-
16 section (a)(8).

17 **SEC. 5. DESIGNATION OF PROTECTION AREAS.**

18 (a) DESIGNATION.—

19 (1) CASTLE PROTECTION AREA.—Subject to
20 valid existing rights, certain Federal land in the
21 County managed by the Forest Service comprising
22 approximately 6,390 acres, as generally depicted as
23 “Castle Protection Area” on the map entitled “Sheet
24 8: Gunnison Valley and Ohio Pass” and dated Au-

1 gust 27, 2024, is designated as the “Castle Protec-
2 tion Area”.

3 (2) DEER CREEK PROTECTION AREA.—Subject
4 to valid existing rights, certain Federal land in the
5 County managed by the Forest Service comprising
6 approximately 3,136 acres, as generally depicted as
7 “Deer Creek Protection Area” on the map entitled
8 “Sheet 3: Kebler and Schofield Pass” and dated Au-
9 gust 27, 2024, is designated as the “Deer Creek
10 Protection Area”.

11 (3) GRANITE BASIN PROTECTION AREA.—Sub-
12 ject to valid existing rights, certain Federal land in
13 the County managed by the Forest Service and the
14 Bureau of Land Management comprising approxi-
15 mately 9,666 acres, as generally depicted as “Gran-
16 ite Basin Protection Area” on the map entitled
17 “Sheet 4: Brush Creek, Cement Creek, and Spring
18 Creek” and dated August 27, 2024, is designated as
19 the “Granite Basin Protection Area”.

20 (4) SOUTH POVERTY GULCH PROTECTION
21 AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, certain Fed-
22 eral land in the County managed by the Forest
23 Service and the Bureau of Land Management com-
24 prising approximately 1,350 acres, as generally de-
25 picted as “South Poverty Gulch Protection Area” on

1 the map entitled “Sheet 3: Kebler and Schofield
2 Pass” and dated August 27, 2024, is designated as
3 the “South Poverty Gulch Protection Area”.

4 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Protection
5 Areas are—

6 (1) to protect the natural and undeveloped
7 character of the Protection Areas; and

8 (2) to conserve and protect for the benefit and
9 enjoyment of present and future generations the
10 natural, scenic, scientific, cultural, watershed, recre-
11 ation, and wildlife resources of the Protection Areas.

12 (c) MANAGEMENT.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall manage
14 the Protection Areas in a manner that—

15 (A) furthers the purposes of the Protection
16 Areas described in subsection (b); and

17 (B) is in accordance with—

18 (i) this Act; and

19 (ii) other applicable laws.

20 (2) USES.—

21 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
22 only allow uses of the Protection Areas that the
23 Secretary determines would further the pur-
24 poses described in subsection (b).

25 (B) VEHICLE USE.—

1 (i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided
2 in clause (ii), as needed for administrative
3 purposes, or to respond to an emergency,
4 the use of off-highway vehicles in the Pro-
5 tection Areas is prohibited.

6 (ii) OVER-SNOW VEHICLES.—The Sec-
7 retary may permit the use of over-snow ve-
8 hicles in the Deer Creek Protection Area
9 designated by subsection (a)(2) on roads,
10 trails, and areas designated for the use on
11 the date of enactment of this Act.

12 (C) BICYCLES.—The Secretary may permit
13 the use of bicycles in the Protection Areas
14 only—

15 (i) on roads and trails designated for
16 the use on the date of enactment of this
17 Act;

18 (ii) as needed for administrative pur-
19 poses;

20 (iii) to respond to an emergency; or

21 (iv) if designated by the Secretary for
22 the use on the potential trails described in
23 paragraph (3).

1 (3) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this section af-
2 fects the potential development, in accordance with
3 applicable law, of—

4 (A) the proposed trail, commonly known as
5 the “Deer Creek to Brush Creek Connector
6 Trail”, within the Deer Creek Protection Area
7 designated by subsection (a)(2);

8 (B) the proposed trail, commonly known as
9 the “Eecher Exit Trail”, within the Granite
10 Basin Protection Area designated by subsection
11 (a)(3); or

12 (C) the proposed trail, commonly known as
13 the “Lower Loop Trail Extension”, in the
14 South Poverty Gulch Protection Area des-
15 ignated by subsection (a)(4).

16 **SEC. 6. DESIGNATION OF RECREATION MANAGEMENT**
17 **AREAS.**

18 (a) DESIGNATION.—

19 (1) DOUBLE TOP RECREATION MANAGEMENT
20 AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, certain Fed-
21 eral land in the County managed by the Forest
22 Service comprising approximately 14,734 acres, as
23 generally depicted as “Double Top RMA” on the
24 map entitled “Sheet 4: Brush Creek, Cement Creek,
25 and Spring Creek” and dated August 27, 2024, is

1 designated as the “Double Top Recreation Manage-
2 ment Area”.

3 (2) HORSE RANCH PARK RECREATION MANAGE-
4 MENT AREA.—Subject to valid existing rights, cer-
5 tain Federal land in the County managed by the
6 Forest Service comprising approximately 3,513
7 acres, as generally depicted as “Horse Ranch Park
8 RMA” on the map entitled “Sheet 3: Kebler and
9 Schofield Pass” and dated August 27, 2024, is des-
10 ignated as the “Horse Ranch Park Recreation Man-
11 agement Area”.

12 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Recreation
13 Management Areas are—

14 (1) to provide for, and improve the manage-
15 ment of, recreation resources in the Recreation Man-
16 agement Areas for the benefit and enjoyment of
17 present and future generation; and

18 (2) to conserve, protect, and enhance for the
19 benefit and enjoyment of present and future genera-
20 tions the natural, scenic, scientific, cultural, water-
21 shed, and wildlife resources of the Recreation Man-
22 agement Areas.

23 (c) MANAGEMENT.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall manage
2 the Recreation Management Areas in a manner
3 that—

4 (A) furthers the purposes of the Recre-
5 ation Management Areas described in sub-
6 section (b); and

7 (B) is in accordance with—

8 (i) this Act; and

9 (ii) other applicable laws.

10 (2) USES.—

11 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
12 only allow uses of the Recreation Management
13 Areas that the Secretary determines would fur-
14 ther the purposes described in subsection (b).

15 (B) VEHICLE AND BICYCLE USE.—

16 (i) DOUBLE TOP.—

17 (I) IN GENERAL.—Except as pro-
18 vided in subclause (II), the use of off-
19 highway vehicles and bicycles in the
20 Double Top Recreation Management
21 Area designated by subsection (a)(1)
22 shall be permitted only on roads and
23 trails designated for the use on the
24 date of enactment of this Act.

25 (II) EXCEPTIONS.—

1 (aa) OVER-SNOW VEHI-
2 CLES.—Except as provided in
3 item (bb), the use of over-snow
4 vehicles shall not be permitted in
5 the Double Top Recreation Man-
6 agement Area designated by sub-
7 section (a)(1).

8 (bb) ADMINISTRATIVE
9 USE.—Nothing in this section
10 limits the use of off-highway ve-
11 hicles in the Double Top Recre-
12 ation Management Area des-
13 igned by subsection (a)(1) as
14 necessary for administrative pur-
15 poses or to respond to an emer-
16 gency (including as appropriate
17 for administrative support and
18 emergency response during the
19 Grand Traverse skiing event, as
20 permitted by the Grand Mesa,
21 Uncompahgre, and Gunnison Na-
22 tional Forests).

23 (ii) HORSE RANCH PARK.—

24 (I) VEHICLE USE.—

1 (aa) IN GENERAL.—Except
2 as provided in item (bb), the use
3 of off-highway vehicles in the
4 Horse Ranch Park Recreation
5 Management Area designated by
6 subsection (a)(2) is prohibited.

7 (bb) EXCEPTIONS.—The
8 Secretary may permit the use of
9 over-snow vehicles in the Horse
10 Ranch Park Recreation Manage-
11 ment Area designated by sub-
12 section (a)(2)—

13 (AA) only on roads,
14 trails, and areas designated
15 for the use on the date of
16 enactment of this Act; or

17 (BB) as needed for ad-
18 ministrative purposes or to
19 respond to an emergency.

20 (II) BICYCLES.—The Secretary
21 may permit the use of bicycles in the
22 Horse Ranch Park Recreation Man-
23 agement Area designated by sub-
24 section (a)(2) only—

1 (aa) on roads, trails, and
2 areas designated for the use on
3 the date of enactment of this
4 Act;

5 (bb) as needed for adminis-
6 trative purposes;

7 (cc) to respond to an emer-
8 gency; or

9 (dd) if designated by the
10 Secretary for the use on the po-
11 tential trails described in sub-
12 clause (III).

13 (III) LIMITATION.—Nothing in
14 this section affects the potential devel-
15 opment, in accordance with applicable
16 law, of the proposed trail commonly
17 known as the “Crested Butte to
18 Paonia Trail”, the proposed trail com-
19 monly known as the “Crested Butte
20 to Carbondale Trail”, or the proposed
21 trail commonly known as the “Dark
22 Canyon Loop Trail”, in the Horse
23 Ranch Park Recreation Management
24 Area designated by subsection (a)(2).

1 **SEC. 7. DESIGNATION OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN SCI-**
2 **ENTIFIC RESEARCH AND EDUCATION AREA.**

3 (a) DESIGNATION.—Subject to valid existing rights,
4 certain Federal land managed by the Forest Service com-
5 prising approximately 12,250 acres, as generally depicted
6 as “Rocky Mountain Scientific Research and Education
7 Area” on the map entitled “Sheet 3: Kebler and Schofield
8 Pass” and dated August 27, 2024, is designated as the
9 “Rocky Mountain Scientific Research and Education
10 Area”.

11 (b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Scientific Re-
12 search and Education Area are—

13 (1) to encourage and preserve conditions nec-
14 essary for ecological, evolutionary, geological, biogeo-
15 chemical, climatological, biological, meteorological,
16 and other natural science research and education;

17 (2) to provide opportunities for the use of con-
18 tinually emerging techniques and methodologies in
19 the conduct of the research and education described
20 in paragraph (1); and

21 (3) to conserve, protect, and enhance for the
22 benefit and enjoyment of present and future genera-
23 tions the natural, scenic, scientific, cultural, water-
24 shed, recreation, and wildlife resources of the Sci-
25 entific Research and Education Area.

26 (c) MANAGEMENT.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall manage
2 the Scientific Research and Education Area in a
3 manner that—

4 (A) furthers the purposes of the Scientific
5 Research and Education Area described in sub-
6 section (b); and

7 (B) is in accordance with—

8 (i) this Act; and

9 (ii) other applicable laws.

10 (2) USES.—

11 (A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
12 only allow uses of the Scientific Research and
13 Education Area that the Secretary determines
14 would further the purposes described in sub-
15 section (b).

16 (B) VEHICLE USE.—Except as needed for
17 administrative purposes or to respond to an
18 emergency, the use of off-highway vehicles in
19 the Scientific Research and Education Area
20 shall be permitted only on roads designated for
21 the use on the date of enactment of this Act.

22 (C) BICYCLES.—The use of bicycles in the
23 Scientific Research and Education Area shall be
24 permitted only—

1 (i) on roads and trails designated for
2 the use by the Secretary on the date of en-
3 actment of this Act; or

4 (ii) on trails designated for the use by
5 the Secretary after the date of enactment
6 of this Act if the Secretary determines that
7 the use is consistent with the purposes de-
8 scribed in paragraphs (1) and (2) of sub-
9 section (b).

10 (d) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section limits the au-
11 thority of the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory to
12 conduct scientific research or education activities inside or
13 outside the boundaries of the Scientific Research and Edu-
14 cation Area.

15 **SEC. 8. DESIGNATION OF WILDERNESS.**

16 (a) DESIGNATION.—Section 2(a) of the Colorado Wil-
17 derness Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1132 note; 107 Stat. 756;
18 114 Stat. 1955; 116 Stat. 1055; 128 Stat. 3823) is
19 amended—

20 (1) in paragraph (6), by striking “1993,” and
21 inserting “1993, and approximately 2,096 acres, as
22 generally depicted as ‘Crystal Creek Wilderness Ad-
23 dition’ and ‘Lottis Creek Wilderness Addition’ on
24 the map entitled ‘Sheet 4: Brush Creek, Cement

1 Creek, and Spring Creek’ and dated August 27,
2 2024,”;

3 (2) in paragraph (9)—

4 (A) by striking “Gunnison” and inserting
5 “Gunnison and White River”; and

6 (B) by striking “1993,” and inserting
7 “1993, and approximately 11,780 acres, as gen-
8 erally depicted as ‘Poverty Gulch Wilderness
9 Addition’, ‘Treasure Wilderness Addition’, and
10 ‘Erickson Springs Wilderness Addition’ on the
11 map entitled ‘Sheet 3: Kebler and Schofield
12 Pass’ and dated August, 27, 2024,”; and

13 (3) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(23) MATCHLESS WILDERNESS.—Certain Fed-
15 eral land in the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and
16 Gunnison National Forests comprising approxi-
17 mately 8,656 acres, as generally depicted as ‘Match-
18 less Wilderness’ on the map entitled ‘Sheet 4: Brush
19 Creek, Cement Creek, and Spring Creek’ and dated
20 August, 27, 2024, which shall be known as the
21 ‘Matchless Wilderness’.

22 “(24) EAST CEMENT WILDERNESS.—Certain
23 Federal land in the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and
24 Gunnison National Forests comprising approxi-
25 mately 7,684 acres, as generally depicted as ‘East

1 Cement Wilderness’ on the map entitled ‘Sheet 4:
2 Brush Creek, Cement Creek, and Spring Creek’ and
3 dated August 27, 2024, which shall be known as the
4 ‘East Cement Wilderness’.

5 “(25) STAR PEAK WILDERNESS.—Certain Fed-
6 eral land in the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison,
7 and the White River National Forests com-
8 prising approximately 7,210 acres, as generally de-
9 picted as ‘Star Peak Wilderness’ on the map entitled
10 ‘Sheet 4: Brush Creek, Cement Creek, and Spring
11 Creek’ and dated August 27, 2024, which shall be
12 known as the ‘Star Peak Wilderness’.

13 “(26) MAROON BELLS-SNOWMASS WILDERNESS
14 ADDITION.—Certain Federal land in the Grand
15 Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National For-
16 ests comprising approximately 3,321 acres, as gen-
17 erally depicted as ‘Deer Creek Wilderness Addition’
18 and ‘Ashcroft Wilderness Addition’ on the map enti-
19 tled ‘Sheet 4: Brush Creek, Cement Creek, and
20 Spring Creek’ and dated August 27, 2024, which
21 shall be incorporated in, and managed as part of,
22 the Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness.

23 “(27) WEST ELK WILDERNESS ADDITION.—
24 Certain Federal land in the Gunnison Field Office
25 administered by the Bureau of Land Management,

1 in the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, and Gunnison
2 National Forests and in the Curecanti National
3 Recreation Area, comprising approximately 58,603
4 acres, as generally depicted as ‘Lamborn Wilderness
5 Addition’, ‘Castle Wilderness Addition’, ‘Beaver Wil-
6 derness Addition’, ‘Steuben Creek Wilderness Addi-
7 tion’, ‘East Elk Creek Wilderness Addition’, ‘Dillon
8 Mesa Wilderness Addition’, ‘Soap Creek Wilderness
9 Addition’, and ‘Curecanti Wilderness Addition’ on
10 the map entitled ‘Sheet 7: West Elk Additions’ and
11 dated August 27, 2024, which shall be incorporated
12 in, and managed as part of, the West Elk Wilder-
13 ness.

14 “(28) UNCOMPAHGRE WILDERNESS ADDI-
15 TIONS.—Certain Federal land in the Grand Mesa,
16 Uncompahgre, and Gunnison National Forests com-
17 prising approximately 13,948 acres, as generally de-
18 picted as ‘Uncompahgre Wilderness Additions’ on
19 the map entitled ‘Sheet 10: Uncompahgre Additions’
20 and dated August 27, 2024, which shall be incor-
21 porated in, and managed as part of, the
22 Uncompahgre Wilderness.

23 “(29) POWDERHORN WILDERNESS ADDITION.—
24 Certain Federal land in the Gunnison Field Office
25 administered by the Bureau of Land Management

1 comprising approximately 9,604 acres, as generally
2 depicted as ‘Powderhorn Wilderness Addition’ on the
3 map entitled ‘Sheet 11: Lake Fork’ and dated Au-
4 gust 27, 2024, which shall be incorporated in, and
5 managed as part of, the Powderhorn Wilderness.”.

6 (b) APPLICABLE LAW.—Any reference in the Wilder-
7 ness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.) or the Colorado Wilder-
8 ness Act of 1993 (16 U.S.C. 1132 note; Public Law 103–
9 77) to the effective date of that Act shall be considered
10 to be a reference to the date of enactment of this Act for
11 purposes of administering the wilderness areas.

12 (c) FIRE, INSECTS, AND DISEASES.—In accordance
13 with section 4(d)(1) of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C.
14 1133(d)(1)), the Secretary may carry out any measure
15 within the wilderness areas that the Secretary determines
16 to be necessary to control fire, insects, and diseases, sub-
17 ject to any terms and conditions that the Secretary deter-
18 mines to be appropriate.

19 (d) WEST ELK WILDERNESS BOUNDARY MODIFICA-
20 TION.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—The boundary of the West
22 Elk Wilderness in the County is modified to exclude
23 the approximately 15 acres generally depicted as
24 “West Elk Wilderness Boundary Pullback” on the

1 map entitled “Sheet 3: Kebler and Schofield Pass”
2 and dated August 27, 2024.

3 (2) WITHDRAWAL.—Subject to valid existing
4 rights, the Federal land excluded from the boundary
5 of the West Elk Wilderness under paragraph (1) is
6 withdrawn from—

7 (A) entry, appropriation, or disposal under
8 the public land laws;

9 (B) location, entry, and patent under the
10 mining laws; and

11 (C) operation of the mineral leasing, min-
12 eral materials, and geothermal leasing laws.

13 (e) RELEASE.—Congress finds that, for the purposes
14 of subsection (c) of section 603 of the Federal Land Policy
15 and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1782), the land
16 within the Powderhorn Wilderness Study Area not des-
17 ignated as wilderness by this section (or an amendment
18 made by this section)—

19 (1) has been adequately studied for wilderness
20 designation; and

21 (2) is no longer subject to that subsection.

22 **SEC. 9. NORTH FORK VALLEY WATERSHED.**

23 (a) WITHDRAWAL.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to valid existing
25 rights, the Federal land in Delta County, Colorado,

1 as generally depicted as “Oil and Gas Withdrawal”
2 on the map entitled “Sheet 6: North Fork Valley”
3 and dated August 27, 2024, is withdrawn from oper-
4 ation of the mineral leasing laws with respect to oil
5 and gas.

6 (2) EFFECT.—Nothing in paragraph (1) pre-
7 vents the Secretary of the Interior from authorizing
8 the use or destruction of methane gas that would
9 leak or be vented into the atmosphere from—

10 (A) an active or inactive coal mine subject
11 to a Federal coal lease; or

12 (B) an abandoned underground coal mine
13 or the site of a former coal mine—

14 (i) that is not subject to a Federal
15 coal lease; and

16 (ii) with respect to which the Federal
17 interest in land includes mineral rights to
18 the methane gas.

19 (b) NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY RESTRICTION.—Sub-
20 ject to valid existing rights, the Federal land in Delta
21 County, Colorado, as generally depicted as “Oil and Gas
22 No Surface Occupancy” on the map entitled “Sheet 1:
23 Electric Mountain” and dated August 27, 2024, shall be
24 subject to a no surface occupancy restriction with respect

1 to oil and gas exploration, development, production, and
2 distribution.

3 (c) GUNNISON RIVER MOTORIZED BOATS AND BOAT
4 RAMP USE.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the limita-
6 tion on transfer in the Gunnison Gorge National
7 Conservation Area Approved Resource Management
8 Plan dated November 2004, the Secretary of the In-
9 terior, in accordance with the Wilderness Act (16
10 U.S.C. 1131 et seq.) and subject to paragraph (2)
11 and such terms and conditions as the Secretary of
12 the Interior may require, may transfer the special
13 recreation use permit for the use of motorized boats
14 within the Gunnison Gorge Wilderness Area, if the
15 use was established before the date of designation of
16 the Gunnison Gorge Wilderness Area.

17 (2) BOAT RAMP.—The Secretary of the Interior
18 may only transfer the special recreation use permit
19 described in paragraph (1) under that paragraph if
20 the Secretary of the Interior determines that—

21 (A) the right of the public to the perma-
22 nent and reasonable use of the boat ramp for
23 the Gunnison River at the Gunnison Forks Day
24 Use Area in Delta County, Colorado, has been

1 acquired by a Federal agency or a State or local
2 government; and

3 (B) any fees to be charged by the Federal
4 agency or the State or local government for
5 public use of the boat ramp described in sub-
6 paragraph (A) would be reasonable.

7 **SEC. 10. LAND TO BE HELD IN TRUST FOR THE UTE MOUN-**
8 **TAIN UTE TRIBE.**

9 (a) TRUST.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after
11 the date of enactment of this Act and subject to
12 valid existing rights, on request by the Ute Moun-
13 tain Ute Tribe (referred to in this section as the
14 “Tribe”), the Secretary of the Interior shall take
15 into trust for the benefit of the Tribe the approxi-
16 mately 19,080 acres of land in the County, owned in
17 fee by the Tribe, as generally depicted on the map
18 entitled “Ute Mountain Ute Tribe; Pinecrest
19 Ranch—Fee to Trust Legislation” and dated Sep-
20 tember 20, 2024.

21 (2) ADMINISTRATION.—The land taken into
22 trust by paragraph (1) shall—

23 (A) be part of the reservation of the Tribe;
24 and

1 (B) be administered in accordance with the
2 laws and regulations generally applicable to
3 property held in trust by the United States for
4 the benefit of an Indian Tribe.

5 (3) RESTRICTION ON USE FOR GAMING ACTIVI-
6 TIES.—The land taken into trust by paragraph (1)
7 shall not be eligible for, or considered to have been
8 taken into trust for, any gaming activity under any
9 Federal law, including the Indian Gaming Regu-
10 latory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.) and regulations
11 promulgated by the Secretary of the Interior or the
12 National Indian Gaming Commission under that
13 Act.

14 (b) SURVEY.—Not later than 1 year after the date
15 of enactment of this Act, if any land is taken into trust
16 under subsection (a), the Secretary of the Interior shall
17 complete a survey to establish the boundaries of the land
18 taken into trust under that subsection.

19 (c) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section shall affect the
20 rights, title, interests, or jurisdiction of the County in
21 County Road 25 or its right-of-way.

22 **SEC. 11. GENERAL PROVISIONS.**

23 (a) MAPS AND LEGAL DESCRIPTIONS.—

24 (1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after
25 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary

1 shall file a map and a legal description of the cov-
2 ered areas and wilderness areas with—

3 (A) the Committee on Energy and Natural
4 Resources of the Senate; and

5 (B) the Committee on Natural Resources
6 of the House of Representatives.

7 (2) FORCE OF LAW.—Each map and legal de-
8 scription filed under paragraph (1) shall have the
9 same force and effect as if included in this Act, ex-
10 cept that the Secretary may correct any typo-
11 graphical errors in the maps and legal descriptions.

12 (3) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—Each map and
13 legal description filed under paragraph (1) shall be
14 on file and available for public inspection in the ap-
15 propriate offices of the Bureau of Land Management
16 or the Forest Service, as applicable.

17 (b) ACQUISITION OF LAND.—

18 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may acquire
19 any land or interest in land within a covered area
20 or wilderness area only through exchange, donation,
21 or purchase from a willing seller.

22 (2) MANAGEMENT.—Any land or interest in
23 land acquired under paragraph (1) shall be incor-
24 porated in, and administered as a part of, the cov-

1 ered area or wilderness area in which the land or in-
2 terest in land is located.

3 (c) WITHDRAWAL.—Subject to valid existing rights,
4 the covered areas and wilderness areas are withdrawn
5 from—

6 (1) all forms of entry, appropriation, and dis-
7 posal under the public land laws;

8 (2) location, entry, and patent under the mining
9 laws; and

10 (3) operation of the mineral leasing, mining
11 materials, and geothermal leasing laws.

12 (d) FISH AND WILDLIFE.—Nothing in this Act af-
13 fects the jurisdiction or responsibility of the State with
14 respect to fish and wildlife in the State.

15 (e) GRAZING.—The laws (including regulations) and
16 policies followed by the Secretary in issuing and admin-
17 istering grazing permits or leases on land under the juris-
18 diction of the Secretary shall continue to apply within a
19 covered area.

20 (f) WILDFIRE, INSECT, AND DISEASE MANAGE-
21 MENT.—In accordance with this Act, the Secretary may—

22 (1) carry out any measures that the Secretary
23 determines to be necessary to manage wildland fire,
24 and treat hazardous fuels, insects, and diseases, in
25 the covered areas; and

1 (2) coordinate the measures with the appro-
2 priate State or local agency, as the Secretary deter-
3 mines to be necessary.

4 (g) VEGETATION MANAGEMENT.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—No project shall be carried
6 out in a covered area for the purpose of harvesting
7 commercial timber.

8 (2) ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION.—Any vegeta-
9 tion management project carried out in a covered
10 area outside of the wildland-urban interface that in-
11 cludes the harvest or sale of merchantable materials
12 shall—

13 (A) be collaboratively developed;

14 (B) limit the sale of merchantable mate-
15 rials to small diameter trees or biomass; and

16 (C) in accordance with the best available
17 science—

18 (i) restore ecological integrity;

19 (ii) maximize the retention of old
20 growth and large trees, as appropriate for
21 the forest type; and

22 (iii) focus on prescribed fire as the
23 primary means to achieve modified
24 wildland fire behavior, as measured by the

1 projected reduction of uncharacteristically
2 severe wildfire effects for the forest type.

3 (h) ROADS AND TRAILS.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-
5 graph (2), no road shall be constructed in a covered
6 area.

7 (2) EXCEPTION.—Nothing in paragraph (1)
8 prevents the Secretary from—

9 (A) constructing a temporary road in a
10 Protection Area, Recreation Management Area,
11 or Special Management Area as the Secretary
12 determines to be necessary as a minimum re-
13 quirement for carrying out a vegetation man-
14 agement project in accordance with this Act;

15 (B) responding to an emergency; or

16 (C) authorizing the transportation of sci-
17 entific research equipment within the Scientific
18 Research and Education Area.

19 (3) DECOMMISSIONING OF TEMPORARY
20 ROADS.—Not later than 3 years after the date on
21 which an applicable vegetation management project
22 is completed, the Secretary shall decommission any
23 temporary road constructed under paragraph (2)(A)
24 for the applicable vegetation management project.

1 (4) REROUTING.—Nothing in this Act prevents
2 the Secretary from rerouting a trail within a covered
3 area to protect public safety or natural resources
4 from degradation, as determined to be appropriate
5 by the Secretary.

6 (i) WATER RIGHTS.—Nothing in this Act affects the
7 use or allocation of any absolute or conditional water right
8 that is—

9 (1) decreed under the laws of the State; and

10 (2) in existence on the date of enactment of this
11 Act.

12 (j) NO BUFFER ZONES.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act estab-
14 lishes a protective perimeter or buffer zone around
15 a covered area or wilderness area.

16 (2) OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES.—The fact that a non-
17 wilderness activity or use on land outside of a cov-
18 ered area or wilderness area can be seen or heard
19 from an area within a covered area or wilderness
20 area shall not preclude the conduct of the activity or
21 use outside the boundary of the covered area or wil-
22 derness area.

23 (k) SEASONAL CLOSURES.—As appropriate and in
24 accordance with applicable law, the Secretary shall develop

1 and implement seasonal closures for off-highway vehicles
2 and bicycles to protect wildlife and wildlife habitat in—

3 (1) the McIntosh Mountain Special Manage-
4 ment Area designated by section 3(a)(4);

5 (2) the Signal Peak Special Management Area
6 designated by section 3(a)(7);

7 (3) the Cabin Creek Wildlife Conservation Area
8 designated by section 4(a)(1);

9 (4) the Flat Top Wildlife Conservation Area
10 designated by section 4(a)(2);

11 (5) the Lake Gulch and Cebolla Creek Wildlife
12 Conservation Area designated by section 4(a)(3);

13 and

14 (6) the Pinnacles Wildlife Conservation Area
15 designated by section 4(a)(6).

16 (l) RESTORATION ACTIVITIES.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—As appropriate and in ac-
18 cordance with applicable law, the Secretary shall
19 conduct wet meadow and riparian restoration
20 projects to improve climate resiliency and wildlife
21 habitat in—

22 (A) the McIntosh Mountain Special Man-
23 agement Area designated by section 3(a)(4);

24 (B) the Signal Peak Special Management
25 Area designated by section 3(a)(7);

1 (C) the Flat Top Wildlife Conservation
2 Area designated by section 4(a)(2);

3 (D) the Lake Gulch and Cebolla Creek
4 Wildlife Conservation Area designated by sec-
5 tion 4(a)(3);

6 (E) the Pinnacles Wildlife Conservation
7 Area designated by section 4(a)(6); and

8 (F) the Sawtooth Wildlife Conservation
9 Area designated by section 4(a)(8).

10 (2) COLLABORATION.—In carrying out the
11 projects described in paragraph (1), the Secretary
12 shall seek to collaborate with—

13 (A) the Colorado Division of Parks and
14 Wildlife;

15 (B) the Upper Gunnison River Water Con-
16 servancy District;

17 (C) the County;

18 (D) in the case of a project located in the
19 Sawtooth Wildlife Conservation Area designated
20 by section 4(a)(8), Saguache County, Colorado;

21 (E) the United States Fish and Wildlife
22 Service; and

23 (F) other interested entities and individ-
24 uals.

25 (m) TRIBAL RIGHTS AND USES.—

1 (1) TREATY RIGHTS.—Nothing in this Act af-
2 fects the treaty rights of any Indian Tribe.

3 (2) TRADITIONAL TRIBAL USES.—Subject to
4 any terms and conditions that the Secretary deter-
5 mines to be necessary and in accordance with appli-
6 cable law, the Secretary shall allow for the continued
7 use of a covered area or wilderness area by members
8 of Indian Tribes—

9 (A) for traditional ceremonies; and

10 (B) as a source of traditional plants and
11 other materials.