Facilitator(s): Tom Folks Initial Evaluation Date: 6/5/2020

Les Weeks

Evaluators: Brandon Johnson, Realty Specialist Jason Stewart, GIS Specialist

James Holland, Geologist Carson Gubler, Rangeland Management

Specialist

Lisa Church, Wildlife Biologist Dan Gunn, Outdoor Recreation Planner

Lou Pratt, GIS/Transportation Director Shea Owens, Legal Council

Clay Stewart, Assistant Field Manager

TMA: Trail Canyon

Length: 3.26 miles Width: Graded Track Class: Wild Inv Road Use Level: High

Surface & Maint. 🗷 Bladed

Additional Information County Class D. This is the middle portion of route 20 that is within the WSA. Other portions of

route 20 will be addressed as separate segments, and numbered differently. Route designation

applies only to those portions of the route located on public lands managed by BLM.

Do Not Designate - Route is in WSA

Citizen Comments and Proposals

Author Designation Comment or Proposal

None.

General Evaluation Questions

Does this route: YES either wholly or in part, have a right-of-way grant or is it simply an officially-recognized route with a record of management by another government agency? provide commercial, private property, or administrative access, e.g., via permit, ingress/egress rights or management responsibility? provide a principal means of connectivity within a Travel Management Area or sub-region? × exist as part of an officially recognized part of an Agency planning document and is subject to maintenance? provide an important linkage between Travel Management Areas or planning sub-regions? Does this route contribute to recreational opportunities, route network connectivity, public safety, or other public YES multi-use access opportunities enumerated in agency Organic laws? Might the continued use of this route potentially impact: YES State or Federal special status species or their habitat? cultural or any other specially-protected resources or objects identified by Agency planning documents, plan amendments? any special area designations, e.g., National Monuments? any other resources of concern? Can the anticipated potential impacts to the identified resources be avoided, minimized, i.e., reduced to acceptable YES levels, or be mitigated? Can the commercial, private property, recreation or public uses of this route be adequately met by another route or NO routes that may minimize impacts to the resources identified as part of this evaluation or that may minimize cumulative effects on various other resources?

Evaluation Information

Commercial, Administrative, Property and Economics Route Management Objective(s) identify the purpose and need of the route: This route provides important access to the following facilities and/or jurisdictions shown below for the purpose of carrying out administrative and/or authorized operations or for property access where applicable. Facilities & Access Specifically Primary Alternate Link Memo **Jurisdictional Access Private Lands** × × **Agency Facilities Monitoring Site** × Lease Facilities R.S. 2477 claim × **Lease Facilities** Utility/ROW Exclusion Area × Range Facilities **Active Allotment** x Range Facilities Cattleguard × **Range Facilities Exclosure Fence** × Range Facilities **Livestock Trailing** Range Facilities Pasture Fence × ('Primary access' is the main route into a jurisdiction or facility. 'Alternate access', while leading directly to a jurisdiction or facility, it is not the main access and

therefore may not be as important as a primary. 'Link access' does not lead directly to a jurisdiction or facility, but would be required to access a primary access.)

Recreational Uses										
Route Management Objective(s) identify the purpose and need of the route: This route provides public access to the following facilities using the listed travel modes for the purposes of engaging in the listed recreation activities.										
Facilities Recreation Facilities Recreation Facilities	Description Campsite - Undeveloped Parking Area - Undeveloped	Primary 🗷	Alternate	Link	Memo					
Travel Modes	Description	Primary	Secondary	Infreq						
Modes of Transportation	Stock 4 Wheel Drive	×								
Modes of Transportation	UTV	×								
Modes of Transportation	ATV	×								
Modes of Transportation	2WD vehicle			×						
Modes of Transportation	By Foot		×							
Modes of Transportation	By Horse		×							
Modes of Transportation	Motorcycle		×							
Activities										
Public Use Activities	Antler Shed Hunting	×								
Public Use Activities	Camping	×								
Public Use Activities	Canyoneering		×							
Public Use Activities	Equestrian		×							
Public Use Activities	· Cultural / Historical Viewing		×							
Public Use Activities	Hiking		×							
Public Use Activities	Hunting	×								
Public Use Activities	Photography	×								
Public Use Activities	Sightseeing	×								
Public Use Activities	Vehicle Exploring	×								
Public Use Activities	Wildlife Watching		×							
Public Use Activities	Woodcutting		×							
Public Use Activities	Backpacking	×								
<i>u</i> = .										
<u>('Primary access'</u> are the main uses on the route by the public. <u>'Secondary uses'</u> , while common, are not the main use on the route. <u>Infrequent uses</u> are uses that are rare on this route, but have been observed.)										

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Special Resource Concerns									
Resources Evaluated:									
This route is in, leads to, crosses or is proximate to the natural and/or cultural resources and resource concerns listed below.									
Resource/Concern Biome	Specifically Pinyon-Juniper Woodland	In ×	LeadsTo □	Crosses	Prox	Dist Memo			
Biome Managed Species	Sagebrush Steppe Desert bighorn sheep	×							
	crucial year-long habitat		_	_					
Managed Species Managed Species	Turkey/Quail habitat Migratory bird habitat	×							
Managed Species	Mule deer crucial habitat	×							
Managed Species VRM	Fisheries (native) VRM Class I - Preserve existing character	×		×					
Sp. Mgnt. Areas	WSA - Wilderness Study Area	×			×	1/4 Mile			
Sp. Mgnt. Areas	ERMA - Extensive Recreation Management Area	×							
Sp. Mgnt. Areas	Wild and Scenic River Corridor		×						
Water Resources Water Resources	Ephemeral stream Perennial stream	□ ×		×					
Water Resources Misc. Resources	Riparian Lands w/ Wilderness Character				×	1 foot			
Misc. Resources Resource Issues	PFYC Class 2 - Low Noxious weeds	×		×					
Resource Issues Resource Issues	Route proliferation Invasive vegetation	×		×					
Note: Specific sensitive resources, such as cultural or paleontological resources or Threaten or Endangered Species that may potentially be affected by this route are not listed in this report for their protection. These resources will be analyzed in the NEPA process included in the planning process of route designation.									

Potential Alternative Route Designations

Alternative A (Current Management, No Action Alternative)

Area Designation:

Limited to Designated Routes

Route Designation:

Open

Specific designations by user type:

Administrative/Official Users: All Federal, State and Local agencies may use this route by all motorized

modes, year-round.

Authorized/Permitted Users: Currently authorized users may use this route by all motorized modes, year-

round.

Additional users may be authorized by the BLM through future

authorizations.

Non-motorized Public: The public may use this route by all non-motorized modes, year-round.

OHV Public: Designation per 43 CFR § 8342.1: Open - The public may use this route by all

motorized modes, year-round.

Alternative B

Comprehensive Designation:

CLOSED

This route will be decommissioned and not managed as a BLM transportation asset. Unless otherwise signed, cross-country foot and animal use is allowed in the area.

OHV Public: Designation per 43 CFR § 8342.1: Closed

Specific Designation Criteria Addressed and Relevant to Route Issues:

- 43 CFR § 8342.1 (a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.
- 43 CFR § 8342.1 (b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitats. Special attention will be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.
- 43 CFR § 8342.1 (d) Areas and trails shall not be located in officially designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use in such locations will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

How Designation Addresses Criteria Above:

Rat67: By closing the route, the potential for future impacts to documented wilderness character and impairment of wilderness suitability would be minimized while wilderness characteristics of naturalness and opportunities for solitude would be enhanced.

Rat107: Per the Settlement, BLM is directed to analyze, within WSAs or Natural Areas, at least one alternative route network that would enhance BLM-inventoried wilderness characteristics by designating the routes or the relevant portions thereof as closed to ORV use.

Rat45: Closing the route would reduce the potential for impacts to MSO habitats by eliminating motorized use and removing the route footprint.

Rat39: Closing this route would enhance wildlife habitat by eliminating motorized use and removing the route footprint.

Rat41: Closing this route would enhance wildlife movement by reducing fragmentation.

Designation Criteria Addressed but Not Relevant to Route Issues:

(no known conflicts among users or no known resource concerns to minimize for)

• 43 CFR § 8342.1 (c)

<u>Closure Method:</u> Sign Closed; Fence or barrier to natural barrier

Alternative C

Comprehensive Designation:

OPEN W/ MANAGEMENT

Specific designations by user type:

Administrative/Official Users: All Federal, State and Local agencies may use this route by all motorized

modes, year-round.

Authorized/Permitted Users: Currently authorized users may use this route by all motorized modes, year-

round.

Additional users may be authorized by the BLM through future

authorizations.

Non-motorized Public: The public may use this route by all non-motorized modes, year-round.

OHV Public: Designation per 43 CFR § 8342.1: Open - The public may use this route by all

motorized modes, year-round.

Designation Criteria Addressed and Relevant to Route Issues:

• 43 CFR § 8342.1 (a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

- 43 CFR § 8342.1 (b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitats. Special attention will be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.
- 43 CFR § 8342.1 (d) Areas and trails shall not be located in officially designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use in such locations will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

How Designation Addresses Criteria Above:

Rat61: Continued use of this primitive route would minimize impacts to wilderness characteristics (LWC or Natural Area) by providing reasonable access to these lands on a pre-existing route, reducing the potential for new disturbances from cross-country use.

Rat10: Allowing continued use of this existing route, which provides the best access to pasture fence, would minimize the potential for new disturbances to documented resources from cross-country use or the need for construction of new routes to provide similar access.

Rat9: Continued use of this route with the added application of specific management prescriptions, would minimize potential impacts to documented resources.

Rat6: Allowing continued use of this route would minimize potential impacts to documented resources by concentrating motorized use (rather than dispersing it) on an alignment capable of accommodating the route's anticipated traffic volume.

Rat50: Due to the typical traffic volume and speeds expected on this route, allowing its continued use would contribute to minimizing the overall route network's potential for soil erosion, habitat disruption, wildlife harassment, vegetative damage and impacts to cultural resources.

Designation Criteria Addressed but Not Relevant to Route Issues:

(no known conflicts among users or no known resource concerns to minimize for)
• 43 CFR § 8342.1 (c)

Potential Management Actions:

Maintenance: Signing - Directional Mitigation: Signing - Regulatory

Monitoring: Route proliferation; Condition of WC

Potential management actions may be incorporated with an overall monitoring strategy that would assess the status and/or integrity of the potentially impacted sensitive resource or resource issues identified as they relate to various external factors, e.g., climate cycles, exotic species introduction, visitor use levels (type, intensity, and season of use), etc. Monitoring data that indicate a decline in resource integrity or reveal methods of mitigation that proved to be unsuccessful would then trigger adaptive and appropriate responses aimed at restoring integrity or successfully mitigating undesirable conditions.

Memo(s): An interdisciplinary team evaluated this route within a WSA and concluded that its presence within the area supports the management emphasis of this alterative and meets the intent of BLM Manual 1626, Sec. 6.5.E.1. (from BLM Manual 6330) in permitting "motorized and mechanized use to continue along existing routes identified in the wilderness inventory conducted in support of sections 603 and 202 of FLPMA." While these routes may continue to be used as stated, Sec. 6.5.E.1. also states that BLM will not "designate primitive road or motorized/mechanized trails"...."or classify them as assets." For this alternative, the route evaluation team will likewise not choose, to 1) designate this route as a "non-motorized and non-mechanized trail" or 2) to "Close the route to motorized/mechanized use." This route alternative will therefore not be part of the current travel management decision package but will be displayed on maps only as a 'primitive route'.

Alternative D

Comprehensive Designation:

OPEN W/ MANAGEMENT

Specific designations by user type:

Administrative/Official Users: All Federal, State and Local agencies may use this route by all motorized

modes, year-round.

Authorized/Permitted Users: Currently authorized users may use this route by all motorized modes, year-

round.

Additional users may be authorized by the BLM through future

authorizations.

Non-motorized Public: The public may use this route by all non-motorized modes, year-round.

OHV Public: Designation per 43 CFR § 8342.1: Open - The public may use this route by all

motorized modes, year-round.

Designation Criteria Addressed and Relevant to Route Issues:

• 43 CFR § 8342.1 (a) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, air, or other resources of the public lands, and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability.

- 43 CFR § 8342.1 (b) Areas and trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitats. Special attention will be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats.
- 43 CFR § 8342.1 (d) Areas and trails shall not be located in officially designated wilderness areas or primitive areas. Areas and trails shall be located in natural areas only if the authorized officer determines that off-road vehicle use in such locations will not adversely affect their natural, esthetic, scenic, or other values for which such areas are established.

How Designation Addresses Criteria Above:

Rat113: Per IM No. UT 2012-066, all routes with an acknowledged or documented purpose and need should be proposed for an open designation under at least one alternative. This includes all Class D Roads recognized by the State of Utah and submitted by local counties.

Rat61: Continued use of this primitive route would minimize impacts to wilderness characteristics (LWC or Natural Area) by providing reasonable access to these lands on a pre-existing route, reducing the potential for new disturbances from cross-country use.

Rat10: Allowing continued use of this existing route, which provides the best access to pasture fence, would minimize the potential for new disturbances to documented resources from cross-country use or the need for construction of new routes to provide similar access.

Rat9: Continued use of this route with the added application of specific management prescriptions, would minimize potential impacts to documented resources.

Rat6: Allowing continued use of this route would minimize potential impacts to documented resources by concentrating motorized use (rather than dispersing it) on an alignment capable of accommodating the route's anticipated traffic volume.

Rat50: Due to the typical traffic volume and speeds expected on this route, allowing its continued use would contribute to minimizing the overall route network's potential for soil erosion, habitat disruption, wildlife harassment, vegetative damage and impacts to cultural resources.

Designation Criteria Addressed but Not Relevant to Route Issues:

(no known conflicts among users or no known resource concerns to minimize for)

• 43 CFR § 8342.1 (c)

Potential Management Actions:

Maintenance: Signing - Directional Mitigation: Signing - Regulatory

Monitoring: Route proliferation; Condition of WC

Potential management actions may be incorporated with an overall monitoring strategy that would assess the status and/or integrity of the potentially impacted sensitive resource or resource issues identified as they relate to various external factors, e.g., climate cycles, exotic species introduction, visitor use levels (type, intensity, and season of use), etc. Monitoring data that indicate a decline in resource integrity or reveal methods of mitigation that proved to be unsuccessful would then trigger adaptive and appropriate responses aimed at restoring integrity or successfully mitigating undesirable conditions.

Memo(s): An interdisciplinary team evaluated this route within a WSA and concluded that its presence within the area supports the management emphasis of this alterative and meets the intent of BLM Manual 1626, Sec. 6.5.E.1. (from BLM Manual 6330) in permitting "motorized and mechanized use to continue along existing routes identified in the wilderness inventory conducted in support of sections 603 and 202 of FLPMA." While these routes may continue to be used as stated, Sec. 6.5.E.1. also states that BLM will not "designate primitive road or motorized/mechanized trails"...." or classify them as assets." For this alternative, the route evaluation team will likewise not choose, to 1) designate this route as a "non-motorized and non-mechanized trail" or 2) to "Close the route to motorized/mechanized use." This route alternative will therefore not be part of the current travel management decision package but will be displayed on maps only as a 'primitive route'.