

**1997 Revision of the Land and Resource Management Plan
Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests
and
Pawnee National Grassland**

July 2005

Amendment No. 5

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Description

This amendment is based on the environmental assessment conducted for the Forest Plan Amendment for Stream Flows and its associated decision notice and finding of no significant impact. This amendment changes the Forest Plan by modifying the language for standard 12, standard 135, and guideline 136 to the following language:

Standard 12 – Cooperate with state, tribal, and local governments and holders of water rights, and other interested parties to manage water resources to minimize damage to scenic and aesthetic values, fish and wildlife habitat, and to otherwise protect the environment.

Standard 135 – Generally, Standard 12 provides for most recreation-related water uses, but additional water may be needed for special recreational features and heavy-use recreational areas. Cooperate with state, tribal and local governments, holders of water-rights and other interested parties to maintain enough additional water in associated streams to sustain the water-dependent recreational values. A preliminary assessment identified the key areas where these values exist and they are shown in Table 1.16. Additional areas may be identified during plan implementation.

Guideline 136 – Cooperate with state, tribal, and local governments and holders of water rights, and other interested parties to manage water resources to protect instream flows at outstanding recreation features. Such features include, but are not limited to, designated/study wild, scenic, or recreational rivers, stream segments used for commercial boating, or segments having developed recreation sites or vistas; or national recreation/historic/scenic trails or scenic byways from which the segment(s) is visible in the foreground or middleground. Protection of water quantity and quality is vital to recreation experiences. See Table 1.16. Bypass flows and instream-flow water rights are distinctly different, but settlement of reserved water rights claims can meet this criterion if the negotiated flows are decreed to the United States by a court of jurisdiction. In addition, the

word “outstanding” in this guideline is meant in the generic sense, and should not be confused with the use of the word to describe and analyze Wild and Scenic characteristics

In addition, this amendment modifies Table 1.16 to the following table.

Table 1.16: High Value Recreation Stream Segments*

| Stream Name; Reach | Stream Name; Reach |
|--|--|
| South St Vrain; Headwaters to Lefthand diversion | North Boulder Creek; Waterfall at confluence with Boulder Creek |
| North Fork Cache La Poudre; Headwaters to Cache La Poudre River. | Arapaho Creek; Headwaters to Monarch Lake |
| Cache La Poudre River; Headwaters to Forest Boundary | Willow Creek; Lost Lake Trailhead to Forest Boundary |
| Joe Wright Creek; Headwaters to Cache La Poudre River | St. Louis Creek; Headwaters to Forest Boundary |
| South Fork Cache La Poudre River; Headwaters to Cache La Poudre River. | Fraser River; Midland Campground to Forest Boundary |
| Laramie River; Headwaters to Rawah Creek | West Fork Clear Creek; Big Bend Picnic Area to Forest Boundary |
| North Fork Big Thompson River; Glen Haven Picnic Area to Lower NF Thompson Picnic Area | Clear Creek; Headwaters to Forest Boundary |
| Big Thompson River; Lake Estes to Forest Boundary | South Clear Creek; Headwaters to Clear Creek |
| South St Vrain; Middle St Vrain to Forest Boundary | Chicago Creek; Headwaters to Forest Boundary |
| Middle St Vrain; Headwaters to Raymond | Fall River Fall River Reservoir to ½ mile below Continental Divide Scenic Trail crossing |
| Rainbow Creek; Rainbow Lakes to Caribou Creek | Buchanan Creek, Gourd Lake to Monarch Lake |

*This table is merely a representation of high value recreation stream segments to which standard 135 and guideline 136 may apply. A determination of flow needs would be needed at the project level during permit issuance/reissuance to determine whether to apply standard 135 and/or guideline 136, regardless of whether a stream segment is listed in this table.

Reason for Amendment

This amendment is needed because standard 12 was found to not accurately reflect the requirements of Section 505 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) or 36 CFR 251.56. Addressing standard 12, standard 135 and guideline 136 together was necessary to ensure clarity and consistency in the plan. The amended standards and guideline clarifies the requirements for issuance and re-issuance of authorizations for water storage and diversion facilities to ensure compliance with FLPMA and applicable regulations.

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(for)

July 8, 2005

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DATE

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