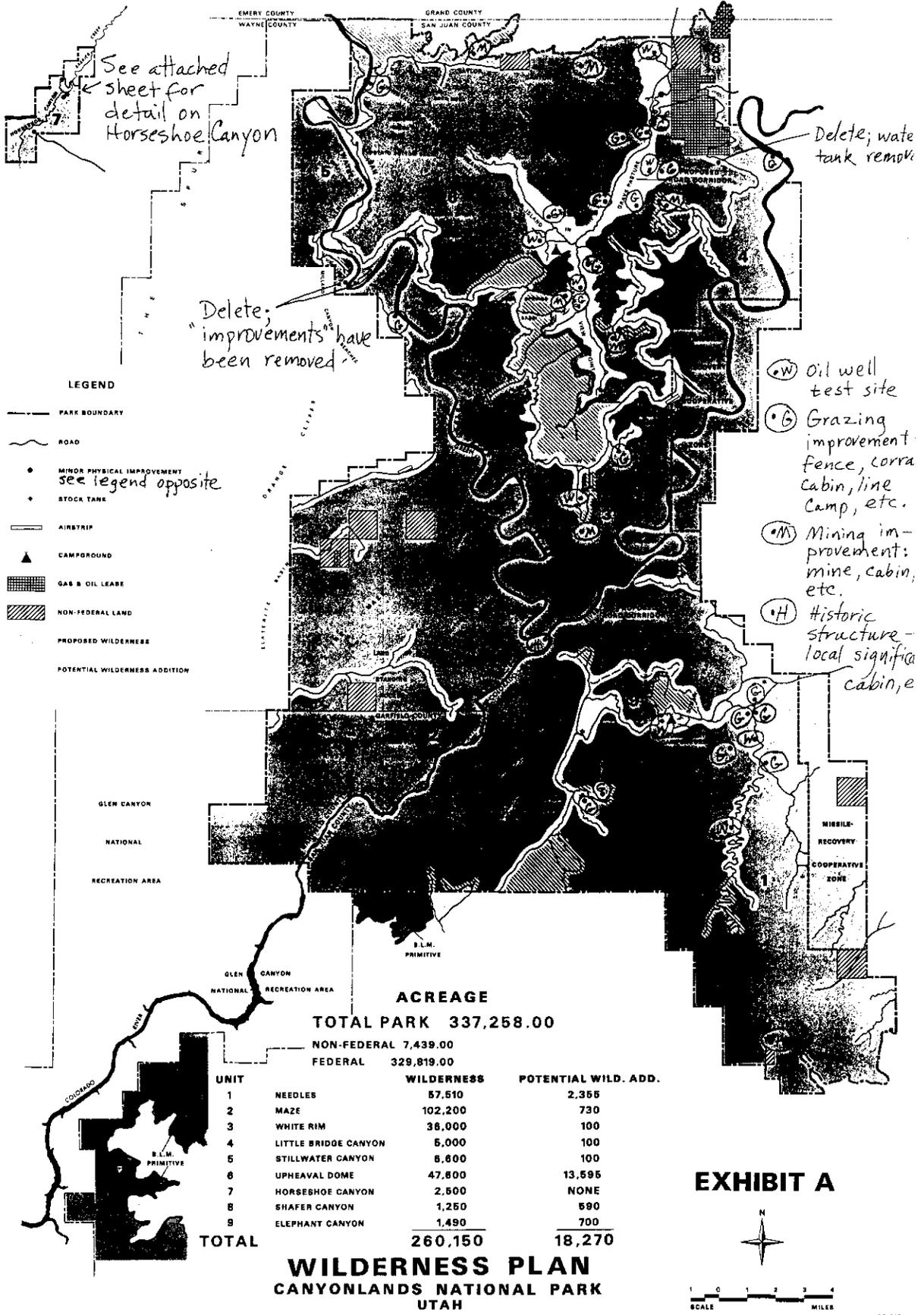


CANYONLANDS NATIONAL PARK

UTAH

THE PRESIDENT FORMALLY TRANSMITTED A WILDERNESS RECOMMENDATION FOR CANYONLANDS NATIONAL PARK TO CONGRESS ON MAY 23, 1977. THAT RECOMMENDATION SUGGESTED 260,150 ACRES FOR WILDERNESS DESIGNATION AND 18,270 ACRES AS POTENTIAL WILDERNESS ADDITIONS. THE PROPOSAL IS PRESENTLY UNDER REVIEW FOR FURTHER REVISIONS. MANY OF THE LANDS PREVIOUSLY RECOMMENDED AS POTENTIAL WILDERNESS ADDITIONS WERE SUBJECT TO GRAZING, OIL AND GAS LEASES WHICH HAVE SINCE EXPIRED. IN ADDITION, CERTAIN LANDS PREVIOUSLY OWNED BY THE STATE OF UTAH ARE NOW ACQUIRED. RECLASSIFICATION OF THESE POTENTIAL WILDERNESS ADDITIONS AND OTHER CHANGES BEING CONSIDERED COULD SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASE THE ACREAGE FOR IMMEDIATE WILDERNESS DESIGNATION. WE RECOMMEND, THEREFORE, THAT ACTION ON CANYONLANDS NATIONAL PARK BE DEFERRED.



Minor Physical Developments in Area Will be Allocated



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

It is with pleasure that I recommend the establishment of areas totalling 287,985 acres in Canyonlands National Park as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

The enclosed map entitled, "Wilderness Plan, Canyonlands National Park, Utah," is a revision to the wilderness proposal for 260,150 acres submitted to the Congress with your Environmental Message of May 23, 1977. Since the original wilderness proposal was prepared in 1974, changes have occurred in the status of lands within the national park which make additional areas suitable for designation as wilderness. A number of grazing permits and mineral leases, which existed before the national park was established, have expired. Because these lands are no longer subject to nonwilderness uses they are now included in the new wilderness proposal for Canyonlands National Park.

The Act of November 12, 1971 (85 Stat. 421) which revised the boundaries of Canyonlands National Park required a wilderness study in accordance with subsections 3(c) and 3(d) of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 890). Having reviewed potential areas in Canyonlands National Park, we conclude that 287,985 of the park's 336,679 acres should be designated wilderness.

Enclosed is a draft bill which, if enacted, would incorporate the recommended area of Canyonlands National Park into the National Wilderness Preservation System. Also enclosed are draft transmittal letters to the Congress.

Sincerely,

SECRETARY

Enclosures

A B I L L

To designate certain lands in the Canyonlands National Park, Utah, as wilderness.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, in accordance with section 3(c) of the Wilderness Act of September 3, 1964 (78 Stat. 890, 892; 16 U.S.C. 1132(c)), certain lands in the Canyonlands National Park, Utah, which comprise about 287,985 acres, designated "Wilderness," and which are depicted on the map entitled "Wilderness Plan, Canyonlands National Park, Utah," numbered 164-20,015-A and dated July 1978, are hereby designated as wilderness. Certain other lands in the national park, which comprise about 597 acres and which are designated on such map as "Potential Wilderness Addition," are designated wilderness subject only to the cessation of all uses thereon prohibited by the Wilderness Act. At such time as all uses thereon prohibited by the Wilderness Act have ceased, the Secretary of the Interior is directed to publish notice thereof in the Federal Register, and effective upon such publication the lands represented as potential wilderness additions shall be administered as wilderness.

Sec. 2. A map and description of the boundaries of the area designated in this Act shall be on file and available for public inspection in the Office of the Director of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, and in the Office of the Superintendent of Canyonlands National

Park. As soon as practicable after this Act takes effect, a map of the wilderness area and a description of its boundaries shall be filed with the Energy and Natural Resources Committee of the United States Senate and the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives, and such map and description shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act: Provided, That correction of clerical and typographical errors in such map and description may be made.

Sec. 3. The wilderness area designated by this Act shall be known as the "Canyonlands Wilderness" and shall be administered by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Wilderness Act governing areas designated by that Act as wilderness, except that any reference in such provisions to the effective date of the Wilderness Act shall be deemed to be a reference to the effective date of this Act, and, where appropriate, any reference to the Secretary of Agriculture shall be deemed to be a reference to the Secretary of the Interior.