Chapter 7: Wild Places and Irreplaceable Resources: Protecting Wilderness and National Monuments

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Abstract
This chapter is really two chapters in one in that it discusses wilderness, both as an idea that has had an evolving meaning, and as a legal construct. This chapter also discusses national monuments on our public lands, another legal construct that has been used to protect a wide range of resources, including wilderness character. To be sure, these areas overlap, but that overlap is far from complete, and the objectives underpinning these two designations, while complimentary, are not identical.

Recommended Citation