What Is Wilderness?

Wilderness Is Many Lasting Things

Wilderness areas are designated by Congress to protect places with unique primeval character from an ever-expanding human civilization. They are managed to preserve their natural conditions and "wildness" and provide opportunities for primitive recreation.

Wilderness Is America's Enduring Resource

Wilderness areas offer sanctuary for wildlife, protect watersheds, and are living links to the past. They preserve a piece of a lost landscape and are places of great ecological, historical, geological, scientific, recreational, and spiritual value.

USDA FOREST SERVICE
Ouray Ranger District
Uncompahgre National Forest