

**GLOSSARY, REFERENCES CITED, INDEX, AND
ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

GLOSSARY

-A-

Activity Plan: A type of implementation plan (see Implementation plan); an activity plan usually describes multiple projects and applies best management practices to meet land use plan objectives. Examples of activity plans include interdisciplinary management plans, habitat management plans, recreation area management plans, and allotment management plans.

Administrative Use: Official use related to management and resources of the public lands by Federal, State or local governments or non-official use sanctioned by an appropriate authorization instrument, such as right-of-way, permit, lease, or maintenance agreement.

Administrative Route: routes that are limited to administrative (official or authorized) users only.

Administrative Purposes: administrative use functions involving regular maintenance or operation of facilities or programs.

Air Quality: Refers to standards for various classes of land as designated by the Clean Air Act of 1978.

Air Quality Standards: The allowable concentrations of air pollutants in the ambient (public outdoor) air. National ambient air quality standards are based on the air quality criteria and divided into primary standards (allowing an adequate margin of safety to protect the public health) and secondary standards (allowing an adequate margin of safety to protect the public welfare). Welfare is defined as including (but not limited to) effects on soils, water, crops, vegetation, human-made materials, animals, wildlife, weather, visibility, climate, and hazards to transportation, as well as effects on economic values and on personal comfort and well-being.

All -Terrain Vehicle (ATV): A wheeled or tracked vehicle, other than a snowmobile or work vehicle, designed primarily for recreational use or for the transportation of property or equipment exclusively on undeveloped road rights of way, marshland, open country or other unprepared surfaces.

Allotment: An area of land where one or more livestock operators graze their livestock. Allotments generally consist of BLM lands but may also include other federally managed, state owned, and private lands. An allotment may include one or more separate pastures. Livestock numbers and periods of use are specified for each allotment.

Allotment Management Plan: A written program of livestock grazing management, including supportive measures if required, designed to attain specific management goals in a grazing allotment.

Amendment: The process for considering or making changes in the terms, conditions, and decisions of approved RMPs or MFPs. Usually only one or two issues are considered that involve only a portion of the planning area.

Animal Unit Month (AUM): A standardized measurement of the amount of forage necessary for the sustenance of one cow unit or its equivalent for 1 month, approximately 800 pounds of forage.

Appeal: Application for review of an implementation decision by a higher administrative level.

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC): Areas within the public lands where special management attention is required to: (1) protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources, or other natural systems or processes, or (2) protect life and safety from natural hazards.

Arroyo: A term applied in the arid and semiarid regions of the southwestern United States to the small, deep, flat-floored channel or gully of an intermittent stream usually with vertical or steeply cut banks of unconsolidated material at least 2 feet high; it is usually dry, but may be transformed into a temporary watercourse or short-lived torrent after heavy rainfall

Aspect: (1) the visual first impression of vegetation at a particular time or seen from a specific point. (2) The predominant direction of the slope of the land.

Assessment: The act of evaluating and interpreting data and information for a defined purpose.

Avoidance Areas: Areas with sensitive resource values where rights-of-way and Section 302 permits, leases, and easements would be strongly discouraged. Authorizations made in avoidance areas would have to be compatible with the purpose for which the area was designated and not otherwise feasible on lands outside the avoidance area.

-B-

Back Country Byways: A component of the national scenic byway system which focuses primarily on corridors along back country roads which have high scenic, historic, archaeological, or other public interest values. The road may vary from a single track bike trail to a low speed, paved road that traverses back country areas.

Base Metal: A metal inferior in value to gold and silver, a term generally applied to the commercial metals such as copper and lead.

Beneficial Outcomes: Also referenced as “Recreation Benefits;” improved conditions, maintenance of desired conditions, prevention of worse conditions, and the realization of desired experiences.

Biological Assessment: The gathering and evaluation of information on proposed endangered and threatened species and critical habitat and proposed critical habitat. Required when a management action potentially conflicts with endangered or threatened species, the biological assessment is the way federal agencies enter into formal consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service and describe a proposed action and the consequences to the species the action would affect.

Biotic Communities: The assemblage of native and exotic plants and of a particular site or landscape, including microorganisms, fungi, algae, vascular and herbaceous plants, invertebrates, and vertebrates. These assemblages and their biotic and abiotic relationships serve landscape and watershed functions by promoting soil properties supporting water infiltration, recycling and transfer, species survival, and sustainable population dynamics.

Biological Crusts (also known as microbiotic, microphytic, cryptogamic, or cryptobiotic crusts/soils): Biological communities that form a surface layer or thin crust on some soils. These communities consist of cyanobacteria (blue-green bacteria), microfungi, mosses, lichens, and green algae and perform many important functions, including fixing nitrogen and carbon, maintaining soil surface stability, and preventing erosion. These crusts are slow to recover after disturbance, requiring 40 years or more to recolonize small areas.

Browse: To browse (verb) is to graze a plant; also, browse (noun) is the tender shoots, twigs and leaves of trees and shrubs often used as food by livestock and wildlife.

-C-

Candidate species: Any species included in the *Federal Register* notice of review being considered for listing as threatened or endangered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Canopy: The uppermost layer consisting of the crowns of trees or shrubs in a forest or woodland.

Categorical Exclusion: A category of actions (identified in agency guidance) that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment, and for which neither an environmental assessment nor an Environmental Impact Statement is required.

Cave Resource: Any naturally occurring void, cavity, recess, or system of interconnected passages beneath the surface of the earth or within a cliff or ledge, including any cave resource therein, that is large enough to permit

a person to enter, whether the entrance is excavated or naturally formed. Also included is any natural pit or sinkhole.

Channel: An open conduit either naturally or artificially created which periodically or continuously contains moving water or forms a connecting link between two bodies of water.

Clean Air Act: Federal legislation governing air pollution. Prevention of Significant Deterioration above legally established levels.

Closed: Generally denotes that an area is not available for a particular use or uses; refer to specific definitions found in law, regulations, or policy guidance for application to individual programs. For example, 43 CFR 8340.0-5 sets forth the specific meaning of “closed” as it relates to off-highway vehicle use, and 43 CFR 8364 defines “closed” as it relates to closure and restriction orders.

Closed OHV Area Designation: an area where off-road vehicle use is prohibited. Use of off-road vehicles in closed areas may be allowed for certain reasons; however, such use shall be made only with the approval of the authorized officer. (43 CFR 8340.0–5 (h))

Code of Federal Regulations (CFR): The official, legal tabulation or regulations directing federal government activities.

Collaboration : A cooperative process in which interested parties, often with widely varied interests, work together to seek solutions with broad support for managing public and other lands. This may or may not involve an agency as a cooperating agency.

Community: An assemblage of plant and animal populations in a common spatial arrangement.

Community Recreation-Tourism Market: A community or communities dependent on public lands recreation and/or related tourism use, growth, and/or development. Major investments in facilities and visitor assistance are authorized within SRMAs where BLM’s strategy is to target demonstrated community recreation-tourism market demand. Here, recreation management actions are geared toward meeting primary recreation-tourism market demand for specific activity, experience, and benefit opportunities. These opportunities are produced through maintenance of prescribed natural resource and/or community setting character and by structuring and implementing management, marketing, monitoring, and administrative actions accordingly.

Conformance: That a proposed action shall be specifically provided for in the land use plan or, if not specifically mentioned, shall be clearly consistent with the goals, objectives, or standards of the approved land use plan.

Conservation Agreement: A formal signed agreement between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service and other parties that implements specific actions, activities, or programs designed to eliminate or reduce threats or otherwise improve the status of a species. Conservation agreements can be developed at a State, regional, or national level and generally include multiple agencies at both the State and Federal level, as well as tribes. Depending on the types of commitments the BLM makes in a conservation agreement and the level of signatory authority, plan revisions or amendments may be required prior to signing the conservation agreement, or subsequently in order to implement the conservation agreement.

Conservation Strategy: A strategy outlining current activities or threats that are contributing to the decline of a species, along with the actions or strategies needed to reverse or eliminate such a decline or threats. Conservation strategies are generally developed for species of plants and animals that are designated as BLM Sensitive species or that have been determined by the Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service to be Federal candidates under the Endangered Species Act.

Consistency: The proposed land use plan does not conflict with officially approved plans, programs, and policies of tribes, other Federal agencies, and state, and local governments to the extent practical within Federal law, regulation, and policy.

Cooperating Agency: Assists the lead Federal agency in developing an Environmental Analysis or Environmental Impact Statement. The Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA define a cooperating agency as any agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise for proposals covered by NEPA (40 CFR 1501.6). Any tribe or Federal, State, or local government jurisdiction with such qualifications may become a cooperating agency by agreement with the lead agency.

Corridor: A wide strip of land within which a proposed linear facility could be located.

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ): An advisory council to the President of the United States established by the national Environmental Policy Act of 1969. It reviews Federal programs for their effect on the environment, conducts environmental studies, and advises the president on environmental matters.

Cover: Any form of environmental protection that helps an animal stay alive (mainly shelter from weather and concealment from predators).

Critical Habitat: An area occupied by a threatened or endangered species on which are found those physical and biological features (1) essential to the conservation of the species, and (2) which may require special management considerations or protection@.

Cultural Resources: Nonrenewable elements of the physical and human environment including archaeological remains (evidence of prehistoric or historic human activities) and sociocultural values traditionally held by ethnic groups (sacred places, traditionally used raw materials, etc.).

Cultural Site: Any location that includes prehistoric and/or historic evidence of human use, or that has important sociocultural value.

Cumulative Impact/Effect: The impact on the environment that results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

-D-

Designated Roads and Trails: Specific roads and trails identified by the BLM (or other agencies) where some type of motorized vehicle use is appropriate and allowed either seasonally or yearlong.

Desired Condition: Description of those factors that should exist within ecosystems both to maintain their survival and to meet social and economic needs.

Desired Future Condition: A type of land use plan decision that is a broad statements of desired outcomes for a use.

Desired Outcomes: A type of land use plan decision expressed as a goal or objective.

Destination Recreation-Tourism Market: National or regional recreation-tourism visitors and other constituents who value public lands as recreation-tourism destinations. Major investments in facilities and visitor assistance are authorized within SRMAs where BLM's strategy is to target demonstrated destination recreation-tourism market demand. Here, recreation management actions are geared toward meeting primary recreation-tourism market demand for specific activity, experience, and benefit opportunities. These opportunities are produced through maintenance of prescribed natural resource setting character and by structuring and implementing management, marketing, monitoring, and administrative actions accordingly.

Director (BLM Director): The national Director of the BLM.

Dispersed/Extensive Recreation: Recreation activities of an unstructured type that are not confined to specific locations such as recreation sites. Example of these activities may be hunting, fishing, off-road vehicle use, hiking, and sightseeing.

Diversity: The relative abundance of wildlife species, plant species, communities, habitats, or habitat features per unit of area.

Drainage: The removal of excess water from land by surface or subsurface flow.

-E-

Easement: A right afforded a person or agency to make limited use of another's real property for access or other purposes.

Ecological Integrity: A measure of the health of the entire area or community based on how much of the original physical, biological, and chemical components of the area remain intact.

Ecosystem: A complete, interacting system of living organisms and the land and water that make up their environment; the home places of all living things, including humans.

Ecological Zone: A zone in which similarities in ecological functions and conditions allow for the classification of large areas into ecological zones, or geographic areas that may be managed similarly. Ecological zones are primarily based on the geology, soils, hydrology, plants, and animals of the area. In many areas, there is a gradual gradient between ecological zones.

Emission: Effluent discharge into the atmosphere, usually specified by mass per unit time.

Endangered Species: A plant or animal species whose prospects for survival and reproduction are in immediate jeopardy, as designated by the Secretary of the Interior, and as is further defined by the Endangered Species Act.

Entry: An application to acquire title to public lands.

Environmental Assessment (EA): A concise public document that analyzes the environmental impacts of a proposed federal action and provides sufficient evidence to determine the level of significance of the impacts.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): A detailed written statement required by the National Environmental Policy Act when an agency proposes a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Ephemeral Stream: A stream that flows only after rains or during snowmelt.

Erosion: The wearing away of the land surface by running water, wind, ice, or other geological agents.

Evaluation (plan evaluation): The process of reviewing the land use plan and the periodic plan monitoring reports to determine whether the land use plan decisions and NEPA analysis are still valid and whether the plan is being implemented.

Exclusion Area: Areas with sensitive resource values where rights-of-way and 302 permits, leases, and easements would not be authorized.

Exotic Plant/Vegetation: A plant species that is not native to the region in which it is found, whose introduction does or is likely to cause harm to the economy, environment, or human health. Executive Order 11987 more broadly defines "exotic" as any species not naturally occurring either presently or historically in an ecosystem in the United States.

Exploration: The work of investigating a mineral deposit to determine by geological surveys, geophysical surveys, geochemical surveys, boreholes, pits, and underground workings if it is feasible to mine.

Explicit Recreation Management Objective: Specifically targeted recreation activity, experience, and benefit opportunities (i.e., recreation opportunity outputs) and their attainment (i.e., recreation outcomes).

Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA): A public lands unit identified in land use plans containing all acreage not identified as a SRMA. Recreation management actions within an ERMA are limited to only those of a custodial nature.

-F-

Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976: Public Law 94-579. October 21, 1976, often referred to as the BLM's Organic Act, which provides the majority of the BLM's legislated authority, direction, policy, and basic management guidance.

Federal Register: A daily publication which reports Presidential and Federal Agency documents.

Fire Management Plan: A strategic plan that defines a program to manage wildland and prescribed fires and documents the fire management program in the approved land use plan; the plan is supplemented by operational procedures such as preparedness plans, preplanned dispatch plans, prescribed fire plans, and prevention plans.

Fire Return Intervals: Time between consecutive wildland fires in a given area; fire frequency. Often described as the typical range of years between fires in a healthy, functioning ecosystem.

Floodplain: The relatively flat area or lowlands adjoining a body of standing or flowing water which has been or might be covered by floodwater.

Flow Regimes: Characteristics of stream discharge over time. The natural flow regime is the regime that occurred historically.

Forage: All browse and herbaceous foods available to grazing animals, which may be grazed or harvested for feeding.

Forb: Herbaceous plant that is not a grass, sedge, or rush.

Formation: A body of rock identified by lithic characteristics and stratigraphic position; it is prevailingly, but not necessarily tabular, and is mappable at the earth's surface or traceable in the subsurface.

Fossil: Mineralized or petrified form from a past geologic age, especially from previously living things.

Free-flowing River: Existing or flowing in a natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modification of the waterway.

Fuel Loadings: The amount of fuel present expressed quantitatively in terms of weight of fuel per unit area. This may be available fuel (consumable fuel) or total fuel and is usually dry weight.

Fugitive Dust: Airborne particles emitted from any source other than through a stack or vent.

-G-

General Management Plan: NPS general planning document giving broad guidance to the NPS units, comparable to the BLM Resource Management Plan (RMP).

Geographic Information System (GIS): A system of computer hardware, software, data, people and applications that capture, store, edit, analyze, and graphically display a potentially wide array of geospatial information.

Geographic Positioning System (GPS): Method of precise location using satellites.

Goal: A broad statement of a desired outcome. Goals are usually not quantifiable and may not have established time frames for achievement.

Grazing System: The manipulation of livestock grazing to accomplish a desired result.

Ground Cover: Vegetation, mulch, litter, rock, etc.

Groundwater: Water contained in pore spaces of consolidated and unconsolidated surface material.

Guidelines: Actions or management practices that may be used to achieve desired outcomes, sometimes expressed as best management practices. Guidelines may be identified during the land use planning process, but they are not considered a land use plan decision unless the plan specifies that they are mandatory.

Gully: A channel formed in the soil surface by ephemeral running water, usually considered to be more than 1 foot deep.

Gully Erosion: The removal of soil by the forming of relatively large gullies or channels cut into the soil by concentrated surface runoff.

-H-

Habitat: A specific set of physical conditions that surround a species, group of species, or a large community. In wildlife management, the major constituents of habitat are considered to be food, water, cover, and living space.

Habitat Improvements: See Vegetation Treatments

Habitat Manipulation: See Vegetation Manipulation

Herbaceous: Pertaining to or characteristic of an herb (fleshy-stem plant) as distinguished from the woody tissue of shrubs and trees.

Historic: Period of human occupation defined when the written record appeared (usually at the time of Euroamerican colonization or expansion in the Western Hemisphere), based primarily upon European roots.

Historic Property: Historic or archaeological site which qualifies for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

-I-

Igneous Rock: Rock, such as granite and basalt, which has solidified from a molten or partially molten state.

Impact: A modification of the existing environment caused by an action (such as construction or operation of facilities).

Impacts (or Effects): Environmental consequences (the scientific and analytical basis for comparison of alternatives) as a result of a proposed action. Effects may be either direct, which are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place, or indirect, which are caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable, or cumulative.

Implementation Decisions: Decisions that take action to implement land use plan decisions. They are generally appealable to Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA) under 43 CFR 4.410.

Implementation Plan: An area or site-specific plan written to implement decisions made in a land use plan. Implementation plans include both activity plans and project plans (they are types of implementation plans). Examples of implementation plans include interdisciplinary management plans, habitat management plans, and allotment management plans.**Increments:** Maximum allowable increases over legally established baseline concentrations of pollutants covered by the Prevention of Significant Deterioration provisions designated as Class I, II, and III areas.

Indian Tribe: Any American Indian group in the United States that the Secretary of the Interior recognizes as possessing tribal status (listed periodically in the Federal Register).

Indicator Species: A species of animal or plant whose presence is a fairly certain indication of a particular set of environmental conditions. Indicator species serve to show the effects of development actions on the environment.

Indirect Impacts: Secondary effects that occur in locations other than the initial action or later in time.

Inholding: Private or state administered land surrounded by Federally administered lands.

Infiltration: The downward entry of water into the soil or other material.

Infrastructure: The facilities, services, and equipment needed for a community to function including roads, sewers, water lines, police and fire protection, and schools.

Interdisciplinary Team: A group of individuals with different training, representing the physical sciences, social sciences, and environmental design arts, assembled to solve a problem or perform a task. The members of the team proceed to a solution with frequent interaction so that each discipline may provide insights to any stage of the problem and disciplines may combine to provide new solutions. The number and disciplines of the members preparing the plan vary with circumstances. A member may represent one or more discipline or Bureau program interest.

Interim Management Policy: Policy that guides management of existing Wilderness Study Areas. The policy balances the various uses of Wilderness Study Areas with the requirement to protect the lands wilderness values.

Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA): The Department of the Interior, Office of Hearings and Appeals board that acts for the Secretary of the Interior in responding to appeals of decisions on the use and disposition of public lands and resources. Because the Interior Board of Land Appeals acts for and on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, its decisions usually represent the Department's final decision but are subject to the courts.

Invasive Species: With respect to a particular ecosystem, any animal or plant that is not native to that ecosystem whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm, or harm to human health.

Invertebrates: Animals without backbones or internal bony skeletons.

-J-

Jurisdiction: The legal right to control or regulate use of a transportation facility. Jurisdiction requires authority, but not necessarily ownership.

-K-

Karst: A region with underground drainage and many cavities, underlain by limestone in which erosion has formed sinkholes, fissures, caverns, and underground streams.

-L-

Land Classification: A process for determining the suitability of public lands for certain types of disposal or lease under the public land laws or for retention under multiple use management.

Land Use Allocation: The identification in a land use plan of the activities and foreseeable development that are allowed, restricted, or excluded for all or part of the planning area, based on desired future conditions.

Land Use Plan: A set of decisions that establish management direction for land within an administrative area, as prescribed under the planning provisions of FLPMA; an assimilation of land-use-plan-level decisions developed through the planning process outlined in 43 CFR 1600, regardless of the scale at which the decisions were developed. The term includes both RMPs and MFPs.

Land Use Plan Decision: establishes desired outcomes and actions needed to achieve them. Decisions are reached using the BLM planning process in 43 CFR 1600. When they are presented to the public as proposed decisions, they can be protested to the BLM Director. They are not appealable to IBLA.

Lentic: Standing water habitats, as in lakes, ponds, bog, marshes, or meadows.

Limited Area: Limited area means an area restricted at certain times, in certain areas, and/or to certain vehicular use. These restrictions may be of any type, but can generally be accommodated within the following type of categories: Numbers of vehicles; types of vehicles; time or season of vehicle use; permitted or licensed use only; use on existing roads and trails; use on designated roads and trails; and other restrictions.

Limits of Acceptable Change (LAC): A framework for establishing acceptable and appropriate resource and social conditions in recreation settings. A system of management planning.

Litter: The uppermost layer of organic debris on the soil surface, essentially the freshly fallen or slightly decomposed vegetal material.

Livestock Operation: The management of a ranch or farm so that a significant portion of the income is derived from the production of livestock.

Location: The act of taking or appropriating a parcel of mineral land, including the posting of notices, the recording thereof when required, and marking the boundaries so they can be readily traced; also the claim acquired by an act of location.

Lotic: Running water habitats such as rivers, streams, and springs.

-M-

Maintenance: The work required keeping a facility in such a condition that it may be continuously utilized at its original or designed capacity and efficiency, and for its intended purposes. (Road or trail maintenance actions include a) signage, b) minor repairs: e.g. correction of drainage, erosion, or vegetation interference problems. Upon condition assessment performance, maintenance could also be construed as c) allowing road or trail to remain in present state for regular and continuous use.)

Management Decision: A decision made by the BLM or NPS to manage public lands. Management decisions include both land use plan decisions and implementation decisions.

Management Practices: Any actions or practices that improve or maintain basic soil and vegetation resources, and better manage livestock. Management practices typically consist of Rangeland Improvements AMPs that establish and grazing systems: seasons-of-use, utilization levels, stocking rate etc., which allows the achievement of standards in conformance with the guidelines.

Metamorphic Rock: Any rock derived from preexisting rocks by mineralogical, chemical, and structural changes, essentially in the solid state, in response to marked changes in temperature, pressure, shearing stress, and chemical environment at depth in the earth's crust.

Mineral: Any solid or fluid inorganic substance that can be extracted from the earth for profit.

Mineral Estate: The ownership of minerals, including rights necessary for access, exploration, development, mining, ore dressing, and transportation operations.

Mineral Materials: Materials such as common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, pumice, pumicite, and clay, that are not obtainable under the mining or leasing laws but that can be acquired under the Mineral Materials Act of 1947, as amended.

Mineral Withdrawal: A formal order that withholds federal lands and minerals from entry under the Mining Law of 1872 and closes the area to mineral location (staking mining claims) and development.

Minimize: To reduce the adverse impact of an operation to the lowest practical level.

Mitigation Measures: Methods or procedures that reduce or lessen the impacts of an action.

Monitoring: The periodic observation and orderly collection of data on 1) changing conditions of public land related to management actions and 2) the effects of implementing decisions.

Modification: A change in a Plan of Operations that requires some level of review by BLM because it exceeds what was described in the approved Plan of Operations.

Monitoring (plan monitoring): The process of tracking the implementation of land use plan decisions and collecting and assessing data/information necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of land use planning decisions.

Mosaic Pattern: The intermingling of plant communities and their successional stages in such a manner as to give the impression of an interwoven design.

Multiple Use: The management of the public lands and their various resource values so that they are used in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people; the use of some lands for less than all of the resources; a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the long term needs of future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including but not limited to, recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific and historical values; and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources without permanent impairment of the productivity of the lands and the quality of the environment with consideration being given to the relative values of the resources and not necessarily to the combination of uses that will give the greatest economic return or greatest unit output.

-N-

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969: An Act that encourages productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment and promotes efforts to prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man; enriches the understanding or the ecological systems and natural resources important to the Nation, and establishes the Council on Environmental Quality.

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP): A register of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects, significant in American history, architecture, archaeology and culture, established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and maintained by the Secretary of the Interior.

National Wild and Scenic Rivers System: A system of nationally designated rivers and their immediate environments that have outstanding scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, and other similar values and are preserved in a free-flowing condition. The system consists of three types of streams: (1) recreation rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad and that may have some development along their shorelines and may have undergone some impoundments or diversion in the past, (2) scenic rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments with shorelines or watersheds still largely undeveloped but accessible in places by roads, and (3) wild rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trails, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted.

Native Species, Plant or Vegetation: A species that, with respect to a particular ecosystem, historically occurred or currently occurs in that ecosystem. Executive Order 11987 more broadly defines “native” as any species naturally occurring either presently or historically in any ecosystem of the United States.

Naturalness: For designated wilderness character: An area which generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man’s work substantially unnoticeable. (From Section 2(c),

Wilderness Act.) For wilderness characteristics: Lands and resources exhibit a high degree of naturalness when affected primarily by the forces of nature and where the imprint of human activity is substantially unnoticeable. Attributes of the lands and resources on public lands, which, taken together, are an indication of an area's naturalness. These attributes may include the presence or absence of roads and trails, fences and other improvements; the nature and extent of landscape modifications; the presence of native vegetation communities; and the connectivity of habitats.

Negligible Impact: Impact that is small in magnitude and importance and is difficult or impossible to quantify relative to those occurring naturally or due to other actions.

No Surface Disturbance: In general, this applies to an area where an activity is allowed so long as it does not disturb the surface.

Non-native: A species that is not a part of the original flora or fauna of the area in question (synonymous with introduced flora or fauna).

Non-Native Invasive Species: Species that were not components of pre-European settlement vegetative communities: which have been introduced, either deliberately or inadvertently; which have the capacity to aggressively invade new habitats, displacing and out-competing native species, and; whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health.

Noxious Weeds: A plant species designated by Federal or State law as generally possessing one or more of the following characteristics: aggressive and difficult to manage; parasitic; a carrier or host of serious insects or disease; or nonnative, new, or not common to the United States.

-O-

Objective: A description of a desired outcome for a resource. Objectives can be quantified and measured and, where possible, have established time frames for achievement.

Official Use: Use by an employee, agent, or designated representative of the Federal Government or one of its contractors, in the course of his employment, agency, or representation. Also, use by an employee of the State agency having lands or responsible for managing resources within the Planning Area after consultation, cooperation and coordination with the BLM and/or NPS.

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV)(off-road vehicle): Any motorized vehicle capable of, or designed for, travel on or immediately over land, water, or other natural terrain, excluding: (1) any nonamphibious registered motorboat; (2) any military, fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle while being used for emergency purposes; (3) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by the authorized officer, or otherwise officially approved; (4) vehicles in official use; and (5) any combat or combat support vehicle when used for national defense (43 CFR 8340.0-5 (a)).

Off-target: Recreation actions that promote a different market than the specific targeted primary recreation-tourism market for a given SRMA and/or the specified recreation niche for a RMZ within an SRMA.

Open: Generally denotes that an area is available for a particular use or uses. Refer to specific program definitions found in law, regulations, or policy guidance for application to individual programs.

Open OHV Area Designation: An area where all types of vehicle use is permitted at all times, anywhere in the area subject to the operating regulations and vehicle standards set forth in subparts 8341 and 8342 of title 43 CFR. (43 CFR 8340.0-5 (f))

Outstanding Opportunities for Solitude: *For designated wilderness:* Superior or excellent condition favorable for avoiding the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people in the area or for attaining a state of being alone or remote from others. A lonely or secluded place. *For manage for wilderness characteristics:* when the sights,

sounds, and evidence of other people are rare or infrequent (and) where visitors can be isolated, alone or secluded from others.

Outstanding Opportunities for Primitive/Unconfined Recreation: *For designated wilderness:* Superior or excellent situations favorable for non-motorized, non-mechanical (except as provided by law), and undeveloped types of recreation activities. Provides dispersed, undeveloped recreation, either through the diversity in the number of primitive and unconfined recreational activities possible in the area or the outstanding quality of one opportunity. *For manage for wilderness characteristics:* where the use of the area is through non-motorized, non-mechanical means, and where no or minimal developed recreation facilities are encountered.

Overstory: The layer of foliage in a forest canopy.

-P-

Paleontological Resources (Fossils): The physical remains of plants and animals preserved in soils and sedimentary rock formations.

Paleontology: A science dealing with the life forms of past geological periods as known from fossil remains.

Patent: The instrument by which the Federal Government conveys title to the public lands.

Percentage of Use: Grazing use of current vegetation growth, usually expressed as a percentage of volume removed.

Perennial Stream: A stream that flows continuously during all seasons of the year.

Perennial Vegetation: Plants that have a life cycle of 3 or more years.

Period of Use: The time of livestock grazing on a range area based on type of vegetation or stage of vegetative growth.

Permitted Use: The forage allocated by, or under the guidance of, an applicable land use plan for livestock grazing in an allotment under a permit or lease; expressed in Animal Unit Months.

Plan: A document that contains a set of comprehensive, long range decisions concerning the use and management of Bureau and Park administered resources in a specific geographic area.

Plan of Operations: A plan for mining exploration and development that an operation must submit to BLM for approval when more than 5 acres a year will be disturbed or when an operator plans to work in an area of critical environmental concern or a wilderness area. A Plan of Operations must document in detail all actions that the operator plans to take from exploration through reclamation.

Planning Analysis: A process using appropriate resource data and NEPA analysis to provide a basis for decisions in areas not yet covered by an RMP.

Planning Area: A geographical area for which land use and resource management plans are developed and maintained.

Planning Criteria: The standards, rules, and other factors developed by managers and interdisciplinary teams for their use in forming judgments about decision making, analysis, and data collection during planning. Planning criteria streamline and simplify the resource management planning actions.

Population: Within a species, a distinct group of individuals that tend to mate only with members of the group. Because of generations of inbreeding, members of a population tend to have similar genetic characteristics.

Porosity: A rock, soil, or other material's property of containing interstices. Porosity is commonly expressed as a percentage of the bulk volume of a material occupied by interstices.

Potential Wild and Scenic River: A flowing body of water or estuary or a section, portion, or tributary thereof, including rivers, streams, creeks, runs, kills, rills, and small lakes.

Prehistoric: Refers to the period wherein American Indian cultural activities took place before written records and not yet influenced by contact with nonnative culture(s).

Prescribed Fire: The introduction of fire to an area under regulated conditions for specific management purposes.

Project Plan: Detailed survey and design plan.

Project Area: The area of land upon which an operator conducts mining operations, including the area needed for building or maintaining of roads, transmission lines, pipelines, or other means of access.

Project Plan: A type of implementation plan (see implementation plan). A project plan typically addresses individual projects or several related projects. Examples of project plans include prescribed burn plans, trail plans, and recreation site plans.

Protest: Application for review of a land use plan decision by a higher administrative level.

Public Land: Land or interest in land owned by the United States and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the BLM without regard to how the United States acquired ownership, except lands located on the Outer Continental Shelf, and land held for the benefit of Indians, Aleuts, and Eskimos.

Public Use Site: Any cultural property found to be appropriate for use as an interpretive exhibit in place, or for related educational and recreational uses by member of the general public.

-Q-

Quarry: An open or surface working, usually for the extraction of stone, slate, limestone, etc.

-R-

Range Development: A structure, excavation, treatment or development to rehabilitate, protect, or improve public lands to advance range betterment.

Rangeland: Land used for grazing by livestock and big game animals on which vegetation is dominated by grasses, grass-like plants, forbs, or shrubs.

Range Improvements: Any activity or program, structural or nonstructural, on or relating to rangelands that is designed to improve forage production, change vegetation composition, control patterns of use, provide water, stabilize soil and water conditions, and enhance habitat for livestock, wildlife. Rangeland improvements include land treatments (e.g., chaining, seeding, burning, chemical, etc.), stockwater developments, fences, corrals, and trails etc.

Raptor: Bird of prey with sharp talons and strongly curved beaks such as hawks, owls, vultures, and eagles.

Reach: A specified length of a stream or channel.

Recharge Area: An area that absorbs water that eventually reaches the zone of saturation in one or more aquifers.

Reclamation: The process of stabilizing disturbed areas to protect both disturbed and adjacent undisturbed areas from unnecessary degradation and returning the disturbed area to a condition approximate or equal to that which existed prior to disturbance, or to a stable and productive condition compatible with the land use plan.

Record of Decision (ROD): A document signed by a responsible official recording a decision that was preceded by the preparing of an environmental impact statement.

Recreation Experiences: Psychological outcomes realized either by recreation-tourism participants as a direct result of their onsite leisure engagements and recreation-tourism activity participation or by non-participating community residents as a result of their interaction with visitors and guests within their community and/or interaction with the BLM and other public and private recreation-tourism providers and their actions.

Recreation Management Zones (RMZ): Subunits within a SRMA managed for distinctly different recreation products. Recreation products are comprised of recreation opportunities, the natural resource and community settings within which they occur, and the administrative and service environment created by all affecting recreation-tourism provides, within which recreation participation occurs.

Recreation Niche: The place or position within the strategically targeted recreation-tourism market for each SRMA that is most suitable (i.e., capable of producing certain specific kinds of recreation opportunities) and appropriate (i.e., most responsive to identified visitor or resident customers), given available supply and current demand, for the production of specific recreation opportunities and the sustainable maintenance of accompanying natural resource and/or community setting character.

Recreation Opportunities: Favorable circumstances enabling visitor's engagement in a leisure activity to realize immediate psychological experiences and attain more lasting, value-added beneficial outcomes.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS): One of the existing tools for classifying recreation environments (existing and desired) along a continuum ranging from primitive, low-use, and inconspicuous administration to urban, high-use, and a highly visible administrative presence. This continuum recognizes variation among various components of any landscape's physical, social and administrative attributes; and resulting descriptions (of existing conditions) and prescriptions (of desired future conditions) define recreation setting character.

Recreation Setting Character Conditions: The distinguishing recreational qualities of any landscape, objectively defined along a continuum ranging from primitive to urban landscapes, expressed in terms of the nature of the component parts of its physical, social and administrative attributes. These recreational qualities can be both classified and mapped. This classification and mapping process should be based on variation that either exists (i.e., setting descriptions) or is desired (i.e., setting prescriptions) among component parts of the various physical, social, and administrative attributes of any landscape. The recreation opportunity spectrum is one of the existing tools for doing this.

Recreation Settings: The collective, distinguishing attributes of landscapes that influence, and sometimes actually determine, what kinds of recreation opportunities are produced.

Recreation-Tourism Market: Recreation tourism visitors, affected community residents, affecting local governments and private sector businesses, or other constituents and the communities or other places where these customers originate (local, regional, national, or international). Based on analysis of supply and demand, land use plans strategically identify primary recreation-tourism markets for each SRMA- destination, community, or undeveloped.

Recreation Use Permit: Recreation Use Permits (RUPs) are authorizations for the use of developed facilities which meet the fee criteria established by the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (LWCFA) of 1964, as amended or subsequent authority. RUPs are issued to ensure that the people of the United States receive a fair and equitable return for the use of these facilities to help recover the cost of construction, operation, maintenance, administration, and management of the permits.

Rehabilitation: Effort undertaken to repair or improve damaged lands (such as from wildfire) unlikely to recover naturally to management approved conditions, utilizing native and or nonnative plant species to obtain a stable plant community that will protect the burned area from erosion and invasion by weeds.

Research Natural Area: An area where natural processes predominate and which is preserved for research and education. Research Natural Areas must meet the relevance and importance criteria of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern and are designated as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern.

Resource Advisory Council (RAC): A council established by the Secretary of the Interior to provide advice or recommendations to BLM management. In some states, provincial advisory councils (PACs) are functional equivalents of RACs.

Resource Management Plan (RMP): A land use plan as prescribed by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act which establishes, for a given area of land, land-use allocations, coordination guidelines for multiple-use, objectives and actions to be achieved.

Restoration: The process of returning ecological integrity to the area, and to obtain a plant community that is similar in appearance and function to the historic community.

Revision: The process of completely rewriting the land use plan due to changes in the planning area affecting major portions of the plan or the entire plan.

Right-of-way (ROW): A permit or an easement which authorizes the use of public lands for certain specified purposes, commonly for pipelines, roads, telephone lines, electric lines, reservoirs, etc.; also, the lands covered by such an easement or permit.

Right-of-way Corridor: A parcel of land that has been identified by law, Secretarial order, through a land use plan or by other management decision as being the preferred location for existing and future right-of-way grants and suitable to accommodate one type of right-of-way or one or more rights-of-way which are similar, identical or compatible.

Rill: A channel formed in the soil surface by ephemeral running water, usually considered to be less than 1 foot deep.

Riparian Area: A form of wetland transition between permanently saturated wetlands and upland areas. Riparian areas exhibit vegetation or physical characteristics that reflect the influence of permanent surface or subsurface water. Typical riparian areas include lands along, adjacent to, or contiguous with perennially and intermittently flowing rivers and streams, glacial potholes, and the shores of lakes and reservoirs with stable water levels. Excluded are ephemeral streams or washes that lack vegetation and depend on free water in the soil.

River Classification: The process whereby designated rivers are classified as wild, scenic and/or recreational according to criteria established in Section 2(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

River Designation: The process whereby rivers are added to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System by an act of Congress or by administrative action of the Secretary of the Interior with regard to state-designated rivers under Section 2(a)(ii) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

River Eligibility: Qualification of a river for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System through the determination (professional judgment) that it is free-flowing and, with its adjacent land area, possesses at least one river-related value considered to be outstandingly remarkable.

River Suitability: Referring to a river's suitability for Congress to designate as a National Wild and Scenic River.

Riverine: A system of wetlands that includes all wetland and deep-water habitats contained within a channel that lacks trees, shrubs, persistent emergents, and emergent mosses or lichens.

Road: As used herein, a transportation facility used primarily by vehicles having four or more wheels, documented as such by the owner, and maintained* for regular and continuous use. (*See "maintenance" definition)

Rock Art: Petroglyphs or pictographs; rock incisions, carvings, or paintings placed on rocks.

Rock shelter: Naturally-formed recess in a rock formation which provided shelter to prehistoric occupants.

Rotation: A technique performed while cementing, whereby casing is rotated in the hole in order to move the cement slurry uniformly around the casing to eliminate channeling and provide an effective cement bond on the casing and formation walls.

Route: any motorized, non-motorized, or mechanized transportation corridor. Corridor may either be terrestrial or a waterway. "Roads", "trails" and/or "ways" are considered routes.

Route Designation: an implementation level decision that determines a designation status for an inventoried route, resulting from the use of the Route Evaluation Tree© in the land use planning process. One of five designations are possible:

- 1) **Close:** A route that is permanently closed to all use. Physical closure includes restoring (by natural or mechanical means) the travelway to the degree possible to blend with surrounding landscape, as well as installation of physical barriers and signing at the original departure point, if necessary.
- 2) **Mitigate Limit:** A route that is limited to use by certain parties or entities with valid, vested, or implied rights of access, or to certain vehicle types, seasons of use, etc., in concert with mitigation action(s) aimed at reducing/eliminating certain estimated impacts identified during the route designation process.
- 3) **Limit:** A route that is limited to use by certain parties or entities with valid, vested, or implied rights of access, or to certain vehicle types, seasons of use, etc.
- 4) **Mitigate Open:** A route that is open for all uses, in concert with mitigation action(s) aimed at monitoring/reducing/eliminating certain estimated impacts identified during the route designation process.
- 5) **Open:** A route that is open for all uses.

Runoff: The water that flows on the land surface from an area in response to rainfall or snowmelt.

-S-

Salable Minerals: Common variety minerals on the public lands, such as sand and gravel, which are used mainly for construction and are disposed of by sales or special permits to local governments.

Salinity: A measure of the mineral substances dissolved in water.

Scale: Refers to the geographic area and data resolution under examination in an assessment or planning effort.

Scenic Quality: Scenic quality is described as the visual appeal of an area. Scenery is classified as A, B, or C, with A being the highest scenic quality. The rating is based on seven key factors: landform, vegetation, water, color, adjacent scenery, scarcity, and cultural modifications.

Scoping: The process of identifying the range of issues, management concerns, preliminary alternatives, and other components of an environmental impact statement or land-use planning document. It involves both internal and public viewpoints.

Season-long Use: Grazing throughout the growing period, with little or no effort to control the amount of distribution of livestock use in area/pasture/allotments.

Seasonal Grazing: Grazing use throughout a specific season.

Section 7 Consultation: The requirement of Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act that all federal agencies consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service if a proposed action might affect a federally listed species or its critical habitat.

Section 106 Compliance: The requirement of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act that any project funded, licensed, permitted, or assisted by the Federal Government be reviewed for impacts to historic

properties and that the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation be allowed to comment on a project.

Sediment: Soil, rock particles and organic or other debris carried from one place to another by wind, water or gravity.

Sedimentary Rock: Rock resulting from consolidation of loose sediment that has accumulated in layers.

Sedimentation: The process or action of depositing sediment.

Sensitive Species: All species that are under status review, have small or declining populations, live in unique habitats, or need special management. Sensitive species include threatened, endangered, and proposed species as classified by the Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service.

Seral: Pertaining to the successional stages of biotic communities.

Setting Character: The condition of any recreation system, objectively defined along a continuum ranging from primitive to urban in terms of variation of its component physical, social, and administrative attributes.

Shrub: A low, woody plant, usually with several stems, that may provide food and/or cover for animals.

Significant: An effect that is analyzed in the context of the proposed action to determine the degree or magnitude of importance of the effect, either beneficial or adverse. The degree of significance can be related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts.

Slope: The degree of deviation of a surface from the horizontal.

Soil Compaction: Increasing the soil bulk density, and concomitantly decreasing the soil porosity, by the application of mechanical compression forces to the soil.

Soil Productivity: The capacity of a soil to produce a plant or sequence of plants under a system of management.

Solitude and Primitive/Unconfined Recreation: Visitors may have outstanding opportunities for solitude, or primitive and unconfined types of recreation when the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people are rare or infrequent, where visitors can be isolated, alone or secluded from others, where the use of the area is through non-motorized, non-mechanical means, and where no or minimal developed recreation facilities are encountered.

Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA): A public lands unit identified in land use plans to direct recreation funding and personnel to fulfill commitments made to provide specific structured recreation opportunities (i.e., activity, experience, and benefit opportunities). Both land use plan decisions and subsequent implementing actions for recreation in each SRMA are geared to a strategically identified primary market-destination, community, or undeveloped.

Special Recreation Permit: Special Recreation Permits (SRPs) are authorizations which allow for recreational uses of the public lands and related waters. They are issued as a means to control visitor use, protect recreational and natural resources, provide for the health and safety of visitors. Commercial SRPs are also issued as a mechanism to provide a fair return for the commercial recreational use of public lands.

Special Status Species: Includes proposed species, listed species, and candidate species under the ESA; State-listed species; and BLM State Director-design. sensitive species (BLM Manual 6840, Special Status Species Policy).

Species Composition: A term relating the relative abundance of one plant species to another using a common measurement; the proportion (percentage) of various species in relation to the total on a given area.

Species Diversity: The number, different kinds of, and relative abundances of species present in a given area.

Split Estate: Land whose surface rights and mineral rights are owned by different entities. Such a condition commonly occurs when surface rights are owned by the Federal Government and the mineral rights are privately or state owned.

Standard: A description of the physical and biological conditions or degree of function required for healthy, sustainable lands (e.g., land health standards). To be expressed as a desired outcome (goal).

Strategic Plan: A plan that establishes the overall direction for the BLM. This plan is guided by the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, covers a 5-year period, and is updated every 3 years. It is consistent with FLPMA and other laws affecting the public lands.

Structural Characteristics: The vegetative structure of a group of plants, vegetative structure is the form or appearance of a stand and can include plant size (height and diameter), arrangement of plants in the landscape in both the horizontal and vertical dimensions, stem density, percent cover, and other measures of biomass quantity.

Summer Range: Range that is grazed mainly during the summer growing season.

Surface Erosion: Erosion that removes materials from the surface of the land as distinguished from gully, or channel erosion.

Sustained Yield: Maintenance of an annual or regular periodic output of a renewable resource from public land consistent with the principles of multiple use.

-T-

Take: As defined by the Endangered Species Act, ‘to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, capture, or collect, or attempt to engage in any such conduct.’

Threatened Species: Any plant or animal species defined under the Endangered Species Act as likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range; listings are published in the *Federal Register*.

Traditional Cultural Property (TCP): A tangible place important to a community today and has been important to that community for at least 50 years. It has integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and has definable boundaries. Not all TCPs are eligible or listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Trail (interagency definition): Linear route managed for human powered, stock, or OHV forms of recreation or for historic or heritage values. Trails are not generally managed for use by four wheel drive or high clearance vehicles.

Travel Management Areas (TMA): Polygons or delineated areas where a rational approach has been taken to classify areas open, closed, or limited, and have identified and/or designated network of roads, trails, ways, and other routes that provide for public access and travel across the planning area. All designated travel routes within travel management areas should have a clearly identified need and purpose as well as clearly defined activity types, modes of travel, and seasons or timeframes for allowable access or other limitations.

Travel Management Network: a system of areas, roads, trails, and/or ways that addresses all resource use aspects (recreational, traditional, casual, agricultural, industrial, educational etc.) and accompanying modes and conditions of travel on the public lands.

Treatment: Any management practice or procedure applied to a resource to achieve desired results.

-U-

Undeveloped Recreation-Tourism Market: National, regional, and/or local recreation-tourism visitors, communities, or other constituents who value public lands for the distinctive kinds of dispersed recreation produced by the vast size and largely open, undeveloped character of their recreation settings. Major investments in facilities are excluded within SRMAs where BLM's strategy is to target demonstrated undeveloped recreation-tourism market demand. Here, recreation management actions are geared toward meeting primary recreation-tourism market demand to sustain distinctive recreation setting characteristics; however, major investments in visitor services are authorized both to sustain those distinctive setting characteristics and to maintain visitor freedom to choose where to go and what to do in response to demonstrated demand for undeveloped recreation.

Uplands: Lands at higher elevations than alluvial plains or low stream terraces; all lands outside the riparian-wetland and aquatic zones.

Utilization (rangeland): The proportion of the current year's forage production that is consumed or destroyed by grazing animals. Utilization is usually expressed as a percentage.

-V-

Valid Existing Rights: Locatable mineral development rights that existed when the Federal Land Policy and Management Act was enacted on October 21, 1976. Some areas are segregated from entry and location under the Mining Law to protect certain values or allow certain uses. Mining claims that existed as of the effective date of the segregation may still be valid if they can meet the test of discovery of a valuable mineral required under the Mining Law. Determining the validity of mining claims located in segregated lands requires BLM to conduct a validity examination and is called a 'valid existing rights' determination.

Vegetation Community: An assemblage of plant populations in a common spatial arrangement.

Vegetation Treatments: Land treatment projects undertaken to alter the existing vegetation communities, designed to improve the production of species desired.

Vegetation Manipulation: Altering existing vegetation communities to ensure production of the species desired.

Vegetation Type: A plant community with distinguishable characteristics described by dominant vegetation present.

Vegetation Habitat Management Area (VHA) – priority vegetation areas, riparian, previously defined habitat management areas, ESA conservation/recovery areas

Viable: Capable of sustaining a healthy and reproducing population over a long period of time.

Visitor Day: 12 visitor hours, which may be aggregated continuously, intermittently, or simultaneously by one or more people.

Visual Resource Management (VRM) Classes: Categories assigned to public lands based on scenic quality, sensitivity level, and distance zones. There are four classes. Each class has an objective which prescribes the amount of change allowed in the characteristic landscape.

Visual Resources: The visible physical features of a landscape (topography, water, vegetation, animals, structures, and other features) that constitute the scenery of an area.

Vital Signs: NPS standards and monitoring program to assess the condition of key natural resources and ecological processes on NPS lands in order to prevent or reverse resource degradation.

-W-

Water Quality: The chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of water with respect to its suitability for a particular use.

Water Table: The surface in a groundwater body where the water pressure is atmospheric. It is the level at which water stands in a well that penetrates the water body just far enough to hold standing water.

Watershed: All lands enclosed by a continuous hydrologic drainage divide that lay upslope from a specific point on a stream.

Wetlands: Areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water often and long enough to support and under normal circumstances do support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted to saturated soil conditions.

Wild Horses and Burros: All unbranded and unclaimed horses and burros using public lands as all or part of their habitat.

Wild River: Those rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watershed or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. They represent vestiges of primitive America.

Wild, Scenic, or Recreational River: Three classes that is traditionally referred to as a “Wild and Scenic River.” Designated river segments are classified as wild, scenic and/or recreational, the segments cannot overlap.

Wilderness: A congressionally designated area of undeveloped federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, that is protected and managed to preserve its natural conditions and that (1) generally appears to have been affected mainly by the forces of nature, with human imprints substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least 5,000 acres or is large enough to make practical its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historic value.

Wilderness Character: Key qualities of a designated wilderness or wilderness study area are listed in section 2(c) of the “Wilderness Act of 1964” and were used by BLM in its original wilderness inventory. Those qualities include size, naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude, and outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined type of recreation. Other qualities may include ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historic value.

Wilderness Characteristics: Features of the land associated with the concept of wilderness that may be considered in land use planning when BLM determines that those characteristics are reasonably present, of sufficient value (condition, uniqueness, relevance, importance) and need (trend, risk), and are practical to manage.” (BLM I.M. 2003-275) These features are not part of designated wilderness areas (WA) or wilderness study areas (WSA).

Wilderness Study Area (WSA): A designation made during the official BLM wilderness review period and through the land use planning process of a roadless area found to have wilderness character as described in Section 2 (c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Wildfire: A fire on wildlands not meeting management objectives and thus requiring a suppression response.

Wildland: An area in which development is essentially non-existent, except for roads, railroads, powerlines, and similar transportation facilities. Structures, if any, are widely scattered.

Wildland Fire: Any fire occurring on the wildlands, regardless of ignition source, damages, or benefits.

Wildland Fire Situation Analysis: A decision-making process that evaluates alternative management strategies against selected safety, environmental, social, economical, political, and resource management objectives as selection criteria.

Wildland Fire Use: Wildland fire used to protect, maintain, and enhance resources and, when possible, allowed to function in its natural ecological role. Use of fire will be based on approved Fire Management Plans and will follow specific prescriptions contained in operational plans.

Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI): Wildland-Urban Interface is the line, area, or zone where structures and other human developments meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels.

Wildlife Habitat Management Areas (WHA): Bighorn sheep, antelope, priority wildlife areas, riparian, previously defined habitat man. areas, ESA conservation/recovery areas, desert tortoise, critical deer winter range, etc.

Winter Range: Range that is grazed during winter.

Withdrawal (Minerals): An action that restricts the use of public lands by removing them from the operation of some or all of the public land or mining laws.

Withdrawal (Water): The withholding of water from appropriation, usually to protect it for specific uses.

Woodland: A forest community occupied primarily by noncommercial species such as juniper, mountain mahogany, or quaking aspen; all western juniper forest lands are classified as woodlands, since juniper is classified as a noncommercial species.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

A	Administrative Use
ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
ADOT	Arizona Department of Transportation
AGFD	Arizona Game and Fish Department
AMP	Allotment Management Plan
AMR	Appropriate Management Response
APHIS-WS	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service - Wildlife Services (US Department of Agriculture)
ASDO	Arizona Strip District Office
ATV	All-Terrain Vehicle
AUM	Animal Unit Month
BA	Biological Assessment
BBM	Benefits-based Management
BAER	Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation
BLM	United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management
C	Closed
CBW	Composition by Weight
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
DFC	Desired Future Condition
DOI	Department of Interior
DPC	Desired Plant Composition
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
ERMA	Extensive Recreation Management Area
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FAA	United States Federal Aviation Administration
FCR	Field Contact Representative
FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act
FO	Field Office
GIS	Geographic Information System
GPS	Global Positioning System
HCP	Habitat Conservation Plan
HMP	Habitat Management Plan
IAT	Interdisciplinary Assessment Team
IBLA	Interior Board of Land Appeals
IM	Instruction Memorandum
IMP	Interim Management Policy
IPM	Integrated Pest Management
LAC	Limits of Acceptable Change
MIST	Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics
ML, L	Mitigate Limit, Limit
MO	Mitigate Open

Vermilion Cliffs National Monument
Approved Plan

Abbreviations and Acronyms

MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSO	Mexican Spotted Owl
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NHT	National Historic Trail
NM	Non-motorized
NOA	Notice of Availability
NOI	Notice of Intent
NPS	United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service
NRA	National Recreation Area
NRHP	National Register of Historic Place
O	Open
OHV	Off-highway Vehicle
PL	Public Law
PLO	Public Land Office
RAC	Resource Advisory Council (BLM)
RAMP	Recreation Area Management Plan
RMA	Recreation Management Area
RMP	Resource Management Plan
RMZ	Recreation Management Zone
ROD	Record of Decision
ROW	Right-of-Way
R&PP	Recreation and Public Purposes
RRT	Rangeland Resource Team
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
S&G	Standards and Guides
SRMA	Special Recreation Management Area
SRP	Special Recreation Permit
SW	Southwestern
SWWF	Southwestern Willow Flycatcher
TCP	Traditional Cultural Property
TMA	Travel Management Area
USC	United States Code
USFWS <i>or</i> FWS	United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service
USFS	United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
VRM	Visual Resource Management
WFIP	Wildland Fire Implementation Plan
WHA	Wildlife Habitat Management Area
WMP	Wilderness Management Plan
WSA	Wilderness Study Area
W&SR	Wild and Scenic Rivers
WUI	Wildlife-Urban Interface