

Glossary

ACCELERATED EROSION—Erosion processes increased by the activities of man. See "EROSION".

ACTIVITY PLANNING—Site-specific planning which precedes actual development. This is the most detailed level of BLM planning.

ACTUAL USE—The true amount of grazing AUMs based on the numbers of livestock and grazing dates submitted by the livestock operator and confirmed by periodic field checks by the BLM.

ADJUSTMENTS—Changes in animal numbers, seasons of use, kinds or class of animals or management practices as warranted by specific conditions.

ALLOTMENT—An area of land where one or more livestock operators graze their livestock. Allotments generally consist of BLM lands but may also include state owned and private lands. An allotment may include one or more separate pastures. Livestock numbers and seasons of use are specified for each allotment.

ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN (AMP)—A written program of livestock grazing management, including supportive measures if required, designed to attain specific management goals in a grazing allotment.

ALLUVIAL VALLEY FLOORS—The definition of this phrase as used for surface mining control and reclamation as stated in Public Law 95-87, August 3, 1977 (Sec. 701(1)) is:

"Alluvial valley floors" means the unconsolidated stream land deposits holding streams where water availability is sufficient for subirrigation or flood irrigation agricultural activities but does not include upland areas which are generally overlain by a thin veneer of colluvial deposits composed chiefly of debris from sheet erosion, deposits by unconcentrated runoff or slope wash, together with talus, other mass movement accumulation and wind-blown deposits.

In order to apply this definition to the Billings Resource Area, the following supplemental statements are made:

- A. Alluvial valley floors, includes alluvium on active floodplains (including channel areas), terraces and fans with slopes up to 15%.
- B. The land designated as "alluvial valley floors" is partially subirrigated (water table within 12 feet of surface), flood irrigated or flood irrigable with water developments.
- C. Sufficient water is available for subirrigation, flood irrigation, gravity irrigation from irrigation ditches, or sprinkler irrigation from wells, dams or other water sources on alluvial valley floors.

- D. Sources of water for these alluvial valley floors are irrigation ditches from diversion of streams, from dams or from water tables.
- E. Irrigation dams may be large enough for seasonlong irrigation or so small they are used only in spring or early summer.
- F. Minimum width of alluvial valley floor areas is 50 feet with subirrigated areas sometimes near this width.
- G. Subirrigation of the land is derived from the groundwater systems of the valley floor. This water table may be derived from, or supplemented by, seepage from dams in the upper watershed area.
- H. The irrigation capability of an area is based on streamflow, water yield, soils, water quality and topography.
- I. Agricultural activities means, with respect to alluvial valley floors, the use of any tract of land for the production of animal or vegetable life, where the use is enhanced or facilitated by subirrigation or floor irrigation associated with alluvial valley floors. These uses include, but are not limited to, the pasturing, grazing or watering of livestock. Crop production is aided by the availability of water from subirrigation or flood irrigation. Those uses do not include agricultural practices which do not benefit from the availability of water from subirrigation or flood irrigation.

ALLUVIUM—Soil and rock debris deposited by streams.

ANIMAL UNIT MONTH (AUM)—A standardized measurement of the amount of forage necessary for the complete sustenance of one animal for 1 month; also, the measurement of the privilege of grazing one animal for 1 month.

AQUATIC—Living or growing in or on the water.

AQUIFER—A rock formation, group of rock formations or part of a rock formation that contains enough water-saturated permeable material to yield water to a spring or well.

AVOIDANCE AREAS—Land areas that pose particular environmental impacts which would be difficult or impossible to mitigate or which impose unusual engineering constraints.

BAILY-KUCHLER SYSTEM—A classification system that divides the United States into ecosystems based on climate, vegetation, soils and landform.

BROWSE—To browse is to graze a plant; also, browse (noun) is the tender shoots, twigs and leaves of trees and shrubs often used as food by cattle, deer, elk and other animals.

- CANOPY COVER**—The percentage of ground covered when a polygon drawn around the extremities of the undisturbed canopy of each plant is projected on the ground and all such projections on a given area are added together.
- CAREY ACT**—An act to aid public land states in the reclamation of the desert lands and the settlement, cultivation and sale in small tracts to actual settlers. (Act of August 18, 1894 as amended.)
- CATCHMENT**—A structure built to collect and retain water.
- 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.
- CHANNEL STABILITY**—A relative term describing erosion or movement of the channel walls or bottom due to waterflow.
- CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE**—The established landscape in an area, not necessarily a natural area. It could refer to a farming community, urban area or any other landscape which has an identifiable character.
- CHERRY-STEMMED ROAD**—A road that enters but doesn't pass completely through a wilderness study area.
- CHISELING**—Shallow tillage of the range to speed range improvement by increasing infiltration and reducing competition to desirable species from a dense stand of less desirable vegetation.
- CLASSIFICATION AND MULTIPLE USE ACT (C&MU ACT)**—An act to authorize and direct that certain lands exclusively administered by the Secretary of the Interior be classified in order to provide for their disposal or interim management under principles of multiple use and to produce a sustained yield of products and services, and for other purposes.
- CLAYEY**—A soil containing more than 35% clay. The textural classes are sandy clay, silty clay, clay and clay loam and silty clay loam.
- CLAYPAN**—A dense, compact layer in the subsoil having a much higher clay content than the overlying material from which it is separated by a sharply defined boundary.
- CLIMAX**—The highest ecological development of a plant community capable of perpetuation under the prevailing climatic and soil conditions.
- COMPACTION**—The process of packing firmly and closely together; the state of being so packed, e.g., mechanical compaction of soil by livestock or vehicular activity. Soil compaction results from particles being pressed together so that the volume of the soil is reduced. It is influenced by the physical properties of the soil, moisture content and the type and amount of compactive effort.
- CORRIDOR**—A strip of land usually a few to many times the width of a right-of-way through which one or more existing or potential facilities may be located.
- COW-CALF OPERATION**—A livestock operation in which a basic breeding herd of cows, heifers and bulls is maintained. The cows produce a calf crop each year and the operation keeps some heifer calves from each crop for breeding herd replacements. The operation sells the rest of the calf crop between the ages of 6-12 months along with old or nonproductive cows and bulls.
- CRITICAL WILDLIFE HABITAT**—The area of land, water and airspace required for the normal needs and survival of an endangered species.
- CRUCIAL WILDLIFE HABITAT**—Parts of the habitat necessary to sustain a wildlife population at critical periods of its life cycle. This is often a limiting factor on the population, such as breeding habitat, winter habitat, etc.
- CUESTA**—A sloping plain terminated on one side by a steep slope.
- CULTURAL RESOURCES**—A term that includes items of historical, archeological or architectural significance which are fragile, limited and non-renewable portions of the human environment.
- CULTURAL SITE**—Any location that includes prehistoric and/or historic evidence of human use.
- DEFACTO CORRIDOR**—An area in which one or more linear facilities already exist.
- DEFERMENT**—The withholding of livestock grazing until a certain stage of plant growth is reached.
- DEFERRED GRAZING**—Discontinuance of livestock grazing on an area for a specified period of time during the growing season to promote plant reproduction, establishment of new plants or restoration of the vigor by old plants.
- DEFERRED ROTATION GRAZING**—Discontinuance of livestock grazing on various parts of a range in succeeding years, allowing each part to rest successively during the growing season. This permits seed production, establishment of new seedlings or restoration of plant vigor. Two, but more commonly three or more, separate pastures are required. Control is usually ensured by fencing but may be accomplished by herding on sheep ranges.
- DESERT LAND ENTRIES**—Authorized the reclamation by irrigation, of the arid and semiarid public lands of the western states through individual effort and private capital, it being assumed that settlement and occupation would follow when the lands were rendered more productive and habitable. (Act of March 3, 1977 as amended by the Act of March 3, 1981.)

DESIGNATED CORRIDOR—A linear area of land with legally defined and recognized boundaries and capacities having ecological, technical, economic, social or similar advantages over other areas for the present or future location of transportation or utility rights-of-way, and which have been identified and designated by legal public notice.

DIET OVERLAP—The presence of the same forage plant in the diet of several herbivores.

DISTRIBUTION—The uniformity of livestock grazing over a range area. Distribution is affected by the availability of water, topography and type and palatability of vegetation as well as other factors.

DRAINAGE (INTERNAL SOIL)—The property of a soil that permits the downward flow of excess water. Drainage is reflected in the number of times and in the length of time water stays in the soil.

ECOLOGICAL RANGE CONDITION CLASSES—Four classes used to express the degree to which the composition of the present plant community reflects that of climax. They are:

Range Condition Class	Percentage of Present Plant Community That is Climax for the Range Site
Excellent	76-100
Good	51-75
Fair	26-50
Poor	0-25
High Good Condition	65% - 75% of climax. A condition score of 65-75.
Low Good Condition	51% - 64% of climax. A condition score of 51-64.

ELIMINATION GRAZING—Relinquishment or cancellation of livestock grazing on public lands currently being grazed by livestock.

ENDANGERED OR THREATENED SPECIES—Determined for plants and animals by one or a combination of the following factors:

1. The present threatened destruction, modification or curtailment of a species habitat or range.
2. Over-utilization of a species for commercial sporting, scientific or educational purposes.
3. Disease or predation of the species.
4. The inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms.
5. Other natural or human caused factors affecting a species' continued existence.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)—A written analysis of the impacts on the environment of a proposed project (e.g., a grazing program).

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.

EROSION SUSCEPTIBILITY—The susceptibility of a soil to erosion when no cover is present. The rate of soil displacement depends on the physical properties of the soil, rainfall intensity and slope gradient.

EXCLUSION AREAS—Land areas determined to be unavailable for corridor allocation or facility siting for reasons of unsuitability, legislative classification or prior, unalterable allocation to uses incompatible with facility siting.

EXPOSURE—Direction of a slope in respect to points of the compass.

FEDERAL LAND POLICY AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976 (FLPMA)—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.

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

FORB—A broad-leaved herb that is not grass, sedge or rush.

FOREST LAND—Land which is now, or is capable of being at least 10% stocked by forest trees, and is not currently developed for nontimber use.

FORMATION—A sequence of rock strata which are recognizable over a large area.

GEOMORPHIC—Pertaining to the form of the earth or its surface features.

GRANDFATHERED ACTIVITY—For wilderness purposes, any land surface disturbance or alteration that had occurred within a wilderness study area prior to the passage of FLPMA (October 21, 1976).

GRAZING DISTRICT—Established by the Taylor Grazing Act, grazing districts are administrative subdivisions of the rangelands under jurisdiction of the BLM.

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.

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.

HUNTER DAY—One person hunting during any part of one day.

HYDROLOGY—The science dealing with the behavior of water as it occurs in the atmosphere, on the surface of the ground and underground.

- IGNEOUS ROCKS**—Rocks formed by solidification of molten earth materials. Intrusive igneous rocks are those solidified beneath the surface of the earth; extrusive igneous rocks emerged at the surface as molten material before solidifying (e.g., lava).
- INFILTRATION**—The penetration of water into the soil surface through pores of the soil. The rate and amount of infiltration is limited by the size and abundance of pores, organic matter content and the water absorption capacity of the soil.
- INHOLDINGS**—State or privately-owned lands inside a wilderness study area.
- INTERIM MANAGEMENT POLICY AND GUIDELINES FOR LANDS UNDER WILDERNESS REVIEW (IMP)**—A BLM document, dated December 12, 1979, which defines the policy for management of Wilderness Study Areas until a final determination on wilderness designation is made by Congress.
- INTERMITTENT STREAM**—A stream which flows most of the time but occasionally is dry or reduced to pool stage.
- INTERSEEDING**—The practice of seeding native or introduced plant species into native range in combination with various mechanical treatments. Interseeding differs from range seeding in that only part of the native vegetation is removed to provide a seedbed for the seeded species.
- KEY AREA (GRAZING)**—An area that receives at least moderate use, has the productive capability to respond to management and is important from a livestock standpoint.
- KEY SPECIES**—Major forage species on which range management should be based.
- KNOWN GEOLOGIC STRUCTURE (KGS)**—Areas known to contain producible oil and gas deposits.
- LAND TREATMENT**—All methods of artificial range improvement and soil stabilization such as reseeding, brush control (chemical and mechanical), pitting, furrowing, water spreading, etc.
- LAND UTILIZATION (LU) LANDS**—Land reacquired and managed by BLM through the Bankhead Jones Act of 1937.
- LEASABLE MINERALS**—Minerals subject to lease by the Federal Government including oil, gas and coal.
- LIVESTOCK OPERATION**—The management of a ranch or farm so that a significant portion of the income is derived from the continuing production of livestock.
- LOCATABLE MINERALS**—Generally the metallic minerals subject to development specified in the Federal Mining Law of 1872; with the resource area, includes bentonite gypsum, uranium minerals.
- MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN (MFP)**—A planning decision document that establishes for a given area, land use allocations, coordination guidelines for multiple use or protection. It is the BLM's land use plan. An MFP is prepared in three steps: (1) resource recommendations, (2) impact analysis and alternative development and (3) decision making.
- MECHANICAL TREATMENTS**—Treatment by mechanical means of an area of range including contour furrowing, pitting, plowing and seeding, chiseling, scalping, water spreaders, etc. to accomplish desired objectives.
- MINERAL ENTRY**—The location of mining claims by an individual to protect his right to a valuable mineral.
- MITIGATION MEASURES**—Methods or procedures committed to by BLM for the purpose of reducing or lessening the impacts of an action.
- MULTIPLE USE**—Balanced management of the various surface and subsurface resources, with permanent impairment of the productivity of the land, that will best meet present and future needs.
- NATURAL GEOLOGIC EROSION**—The wearing away of the land's surface by running water, wind, ice or other geological agents, unaffected by human activities.
- NONUSE**—Available grazing capacity in AUMs which is not permitted during a given time period.
- OFF-ROAD VEHICLE (ORV)**—Any motorized track or wheeled vehicle designed for cross-country travel over any type of natural terrain.
- OFF-ROAD VEHICLE DESIGNATIONS**—
- OPEN**—Designated areas and trails where off-road vehicles may be operated (subject to operating regulations and vehicle standards set forth in BLM Manuals 8341 and 8343).
- LIMITED**—Designated areas and trails where the use of off-road vehicles is subject to restrictions such as limiting the number or types of vehicles allowed, dates and times of use (seasonal restrictions), limiting use to existing roads and trails, or limiting use to designated roads and trails. Under the designated roads and trails designation, use would be allowed only on roads and trails that are signed for use.
- Combinations of restrictions are possible such as limiting use to certain types of vehicles during certain times of the year.
- CLOSED**—Designated areas and trails where the use of off-road vehicles is permanently or temporarily prohibited. Emergency use of vehicles is allowed.
- OUTSTANDING**—Standing out among others of its kind; conspicuous, prominent or, superior to others of its kind, distinguished, excellent as used in the description of wilderness characteristics.
- PEAK DISCHARGE**—The highest stage or channel flow attained by a flood, usually expressed as the volume of water in cubic feet passing a given point in a one second time period, hence, cubic feet/second.

PERCENTAGE OF USE—Grazing use of current vegetation growth, usually expressed as a percentage of weight removed.

PERENNIAL (PERMANENT) STREAM—A stream which flows 9 or more months out of a year.

PERMIT (GRAZING)—An authorization that permits the grazing of a specified number and kind of livestock on a designated area of BLM lands for a period of time, usually not more than 1 year.

PERMIT VALUE—The market value of a BLM grazing permit which is often included in the overall market value of the ranch.

PLANNING CORRIDOR—A generally broad rather than narrow area used to evaluate where a specific right-of-way should be placed.

PLANT SUCCESSION—The process of vegetative development whereby an area becomes successively occupied by different plant communities of higher ecological orders.

POST-FLPMA LEASES—Mineral leases issued after passage of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of October 21, 1976.

PRE-FLPMA LEASES—Mineral leases issued prior to passage of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of October 21, 1976.

PRIMITIVE RECREATION—Nonmotorized outdoor recreation that requires undeveloped areas in which to take place as used in describing wilderness opportunities.

PRODUCTIVE FOREST LAND—Forest land that is capable of yielding at least 20 cubic feet of wood per acre per year of any tree species.

PROPER USE—The degree and time of use of the current year's plant growth which, if continued, will either maintain or improve the range condition consistent with conservation of other natural resources.

PROPER USE FACTOR—The degree of use a kind of grazing animal will make of a particular plant when the range is properly grazed.

PUBLIC LANDS—Any land and interest in land (outside of Alaska) owned by the United States and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Bureau of Land Management.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION—Part of BLM's planning system that provides the opportunity for citizens as individuals or groups to express local, regional and national perspectives and concerns in the rule making, decision making, inventory and planning processes for public lands. This includes public meetings, hearings or advisory boards or panels that may review resource management proposals and offer suggestions or criticisms for the various alternatives considered.

RANGE CONDITION—The present state of vegetation of a range site in relation to the climax plant community of that site. It is an expression of the relative degree to which the kinds, proportions and amounts of plants in a plant community resemble that of the climax plant community for that site. Range condition is basically an ecological rating of the plant community. Air-dry weight is the unit of measure used in comparing the composition and production of the present plant community with that of the climax community.

RANGE DEVELOPMENT—A structure, excavation, treatment or development to rehabilitate, protect or improve public lands to advance range betterment. "Range Development" is synonymous with "Range Improvement."

RANGE FACILITIES—Any structure or excavation such as water sources, shade sources, oilers, etc., designed to facilitate range management.

RANGE IMPROVEMENT—The same as "Range Development."

RANGE SEEDING—The process of establishing vegetation by mechanical dissemination of seed.

RANGE SITE—A distinctive kind of rangeland in its ability to produce a characteristic natural plant community. A range site is the product of all the environmental factors responsible for its development. It is capable of supporting a native plant community typified by an association of species that differs from that of other range sites in the kind or proportion of species or in total production.

RANGE TREND—The direction of change in range condition and soil.

RAPTOR—Bird of prey with sharp talons and strongly curved beaks, e.g., hawks, owls, vultures, eagles.

RECREATION AND PUBLIC PURPOSES ACT (R&PP ACT)—This act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to lease or convey public lands for recreational and public purposes under specified conditions of states or their political subdivisions, and to nonprofit corporations and associations.

RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITY—Those outdoor recreation activities which offer satisfaction in a particular physical, social and management setting in the EIS areas, these activities are primarily hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, photography, boating and camping.

REPRESENTATIVE RANCH BUDGET—A schedule of average costs, receipts and income for a typical ranch of a given size.

RESIDUAL GROUND COVER—That portion of the total vegetative ground cover that remains after the livestock grazing season.

- REST ROTATION GRAZING**—An intensive system of management where grazing is deferred on various parts of the range during succeeding years, allowing the deferred part complete rest for 1 year. Two or more units are required. Control by fencing is usually necessary on cattle range but may be obtained by herding on sheep ranges.
- RIPARIAN AREA**—A specialized form of wetland with characteristic vegetation restricted to areas along, adjacent to or contiguous with rivers and streams, also, periodically, flooded lake and reservoir shore areas, as well as lakes with stable water levels.
- RUNOFF**—The water that flows on the land surface from an area in response to rainfall or snowmelt. As used in this RMP runoff from an area becomes streamflow when it reaches a channel.
- SALEABLE MINERALS**—High volume, low value mineral resources including common varieties of rock, clay, decorative stone, sand and gravel.
- SALINITY**—A measure of the mineral substances dissolved in water.
- SANDY**—A soil containing a large amount of sand. Textural classes are sands and loamy sands.
- SCENIC QUALITY**—The degree of harmony, contrast and variety within a landscape.
- SEASON OF USE**—The time of livestock grazing on a range area based on type of vegetation or stage of vegetative growth.
- SEASONAL (SEASON LONG) GRAZING**—Grazing use throughout a specific season.
- SEDIMENT**—Soil, rock particles and organic or other debris carried from one place to another by wind, water or gravity.
- SEDIMENTATION**—The action or process of deposition of material borne by water, wind or glacier.
- SHRUB**—A low woody plant, usually with several stems, that may provide food and/or cover for animals.
- SIMULTANEOUS LEASING (OG SIM)**—Oil and gas estates on public lands leased through lottery-type drawings.
- SOIL SERIES**—The basic unit of soil classification, being a subdivision of a family and consisting of soils which are essentially alike in all major profile characteristics except in the texture of the "A" horizon (or surface layer).
- SOIL VEGETATION INVENTORY METHOD (SVIM)**—A composite of various inventory methods, including soil and vegetation, and provides a sampling frame for wildlife species occurrence inventories and gathers data used by all the resources.
- SOLITUDE**—The state of being alone or remote from habitations; isolation or a lonely, unfrequented or secluded place as used in describing wilderness opportunities.
- SPECIES OF SPECIAL INTEREST OF CONCERN**—Species not yet listed as "endangered or threatened" but whose status is being reviewed because of their widely dispersed populations or their restricted ranges. A species whose population is particularly sensitive to external disturbance.
- STANDARD METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREA (SMSA)**—A county containing at least one city with 50,000 inhabitants plus any adjacent urban territory.
- STREAMBANK (and CHANNEL) EROSION**—This is the removal, transport, deposition, recutting and bed-load movement of material by concentrated flows.
- SURFACE MINING CONTROL AND RECLAMATION ACT OF 1977 (SMCRA)**—Public Law 95-87, August 3, 1977—This law provides for: (1) surface coal mining using methods which will protect the environment and the rights of surface owners over Federally reserved coal; (2) reclamation of mined land as contemporaneously as possible with mining operations; (3) reclamation of previously abandoned mine areas.
- TACK-ON**—Public lands with wilderness characteristics but less than 5,000 acres in size adjacent to other public lands designated as wilderness or being studied for designation.
- THREATENED SPECIES**—A species that the Secretary of Interior has determined to be likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or most of its range. See also "Endangered or Threatened Species."
- TOPOGRAPHY**—The exact physical features and configuration of a place or region; the detailed and accurate description of the landforms of a place or region.
- TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS**—The dry weight of dissolved material, organic and inorganic, contained in water.
- TRESPASS**—The grazing of livestock on public lands without proper authority, resulting either from a willful or negligent act.
- TURBIDITY**—An interference to the passage of light through water due to insoluble particles of soil, organics, micro-organisms and other materials.
- UNIT RESOURCE ANALYSIS (URA)**—A comprehensive display of physical resource data and an analysis of the current use, production, condition and trend of the resources and the potentials and opportunities within a planning unit, including a profile of ecological values.
- VEGETATION (GROUND) COVER**—The percent of land surface covered by all living vegetation (and remnant vegetation yet to decompose) within 20 feet of the ground.
- VEGETATION MANIPULATION**—Alteration of present vegetation by using fire, plowing, spraying or other means to manipulate natural successional trends.

VISUAL RESOURCE(S)—The land, water, vegetation and animals that comprise the scenery of an area.

VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CLASSES—The degree of acceptable visual change within a characteristic landscape. A class is based upon the physical and sociological characteristics of any given homogeneous area and serves as a management objective.

CLASS I areas (preservation) provide for natural ecological changes only. This class includes primitive areas, some natural areas, some wild and scenic rivers and other similar sites where landscape modification activities should be restricted.

CLASS II (retention of the landscape character) includes areas where changes in any of the basic elements (form, line, color or texture) caused by management activity should not be evident in the characteristic landscape.

CLASS III (partial retention of the landscape character) includes areas where changes in the basic elements (form, line, color or texture) caused by management activity may be evident in the characteristic landscape. However, the changes should remain subordinate to the visual strength of the existing character.

CLASS IV (modification of the landscape character) includes areas where changes may subordinate the original composition and character; however, they should reflect what could be a natural occurrence within the characteristic landscape.

CLASS V (rehabilitation or enhancement of the landscape character) includes areas where change is needed. This class applies to areas where the landscape character has been so disturbed that rehabilitation is needed. This class would apply to areas where the quality class has been reduced because of unacceptable intrusions. It should be considered an interim short-term classification until one of the other classes can be reached through rehabilitation or enhancement.

WATER QUALITY—The chemical, physical and biological characteristics of water with respect to its suitability for a particular use.

WATERSHED—All lands which are enclosed by a continuous hydrologic drainage divide and lie upslope from a specified point on a stream.

WATERSHED COVER—The material (vegetation, litter, rock) covering the soil and providing protection from, or resistance to, the impact of raindrops and the energy of overland flow, and expressed in percent of the area covered.

WELL-BEING—Condition of human happiness and health, measured objectively by socioeconomic indicators or subjectively with individual perceptions.

WETLANDS—Permanently wet or intermittently flooded areas where the water table (fresh, saline or brackish) is at, near or above the soil surface for extended intervals, where hydric wet soil conditions are normally exhibited and where water depths generally do not exceed two meters.

WILDERNESS—An area formally designated by Congress as a part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS—The definition contained in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act (78 Stat. 891).

WILDERNESS STUDY AREA (WSA)—An area determined to have wilderness characteristics. Study areas will be subject to interdisciplinary analysis and public comment to determine wilderness suitability. Suitable areas will be recommended to the President and Congress for wilderness designation.

WINDOW—Usually short, narrow passageways through constrained areas which are the most feasible potential locations for linear facilities such as powerlines, pipelines, etc. considering engineering and/or environmental factors.

WOLF PLANT—A plant that, though the species is considered palatable, is not grazed by livestock. The term "wolfy" is often used to describe this condition which is common on underutilized crested wheat-grass seedings.

