

## **CHAPTER 5**

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# **Consultation, Coordination and Public Involvement**

### **5.1 Interrelationships**

BLM's authority for the Proposed Action includes FLPMA (43 USC §1701 et seq.), §211 of the EPOA of 2005 (119 Stat. 594, 600), and BLM's Solar Energy Development Policy of April 4, 2007. The FLPMA authorizes BLM to issue ROW grants for renewable energy projects. Section 211 of EPOA 2005 states that the Secretary of the Interior should seek to have approved a minimum of 10,000 MW of renewable energy generating capacity on public lands by 2015.

The BLM coordinates its fire management activities with the actions of related federal and state agencies responsible for fire management. The Federal Wildland Fire Policy is a collaborative effort that includes the BLM, USFS, NPS, USFWS, Bureau of Indian Affairs, National Biological Service, and state wildlife management organizations. The collaborative effort has formulated and standardized the guiding principles and priorities of wildland fire management. The National Fire Plan is a collaborative interagency effort to apply the Federal Wildland Policy to all federal land management agencies and partners in state forestry or lands departments. Operational collaboration between the BLM, USFS, NPS, and USFWS is included in the Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations 2003. This federally approved document addresses fire management, wildfire suppression, fuels management and prescribed fire safety, interagency coordination and cooperation, qualifications and training, objectives, performance standards, and fire management program administration.

#### **5.1.1 Department of Defense**

BLM coordinates with Department of Defense prior to approval of ROWs for renewable energy, utility, and communication facilities to ensure that these facilities would not interfere with military training routes.

#### **5.1.2 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers**

The USACE has jurisdiction to protect the aquatic ecosystem, including water quality and wetland resources under Clean Water Act §404. Under that authority, USACE regulates the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands, by reviewing proposed projects to determine whether they may impact such resources and, thereby, are subject to the §404 permit requirement. The USACE advised the Applicant by letter dated August 30, 2011, of its determination that no §404 permit would be required for the Project.

### **5.1.3 California Department of Fish and Game**

CDFG protects fish and aquatic habitats within the state through regulation of modifications to streambeds under Fish and Game Code §1602. The Lead Agencies and the Applicant have provided information to CDFG to assist that agency in its determination of the impacts to streambeds and the identification of permit and mitigation requirements. The Applicant filed a Streambed Alteration Agreement (SAA) application with CDFG on December 6, 2011. Compliance with the requirements of the SAA would be required to implement the Project.

CDFG also has the authority to regulate potential impacts to species that are protected under the CESA (Fish and Game Code §2050 et seq.). The Applicant has filed the appropriate incidental take permit applications. Compliance with the requirements of any Incidental Take Permit issued under CESA would be required to implement the Project.

### **5.1.4 California Department of Transportation**

Caltrans has jurisdiction over encroachments to Caltrans facilities and related easements and ROWs. Any of the gen-tie lines necessary to serve the Project (i.e., the proposed Eastern Route or either of the gen-tie line/access road route alternatives) would need to cross Caltrans ROW for I-10 in order to connect the Project to the CRS. The Applicant will be responsible for obtaining permission for this crossing and for complying with all relevant Caltrans requirements.

### **5.1.5 Mojave Desert Air Pollution Management District**

The Project site is located in the Mojave Desert Air Basin and is under the jurisdiction of the MDAQMD. Based upon the authorities in 40 CFR Parts 52 and 60, the MDAQMD is responsible for issuing the federal New Source Review (NSR) permit and has been delegated enforcement of the applicable New Source Performance Standard (Subpart IIII).

### **5.1.6 Riverside County**

The County of Riverside has jurisdiction to issue a CUP for the portion of the project proposed on private lands. The County also has jurisdiction to issue discretionary approvals for any easements, rights-of-way and or encroachment permits where County facilities are concerned (i.e., the PUP).

## **5.2 Consultation Processes for FESA §7, NHPA §106, and Indian Tribes**

### **5.2.1 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

The USFWS has jurisdiction over threatened and endangered species listed under FESA (16 USC §1531 et seq.). Formal consultation with the USFWS under FESA §7 is required for any federal action that may adversely affect a federally listed species. Consultation will be initiated through the preparation and submittal of a Biological Assessment (BA) that describes the Proposed Action to the USFWS. Following review of the BA, the USFWS would be expected to issue a

Biological Opinion (BO) that specifies conservation measures that must be implemented for any protected species. Compliance with those measures would be required to implement the Project.

## 5.2.2 NHPA §106 Compliance and Tribal Consultation

### 5.2.2.1 NHPA §106 Compliance

Federal agencies must demonstrate compliance with the NHPA (16 USC 470, et seq.). NHPA §106 requires a federal agency with jurisdiction over a project to evaluate the effect of the proposed project on historic properties included on, or eligible for inclusion on, the NRHP. Federal agencies also must provide the ACHP an opportunity to comment on the undertaking. Under NHPA §106, the BLM consults with Indian tribes as part of its responsibilities to identify, evaluate, and resolve adverse effects to historic properties affected by BLM undertakings.

Adverse effects that the Proposed Action or alternatives may have on historic properties would be resolved through compliance with the terms of an MOA developed and agreed to in accordance with NHPA §106 and its implementing regulations (36 CFR §800). Analysis of impacts in this document and implementation of the terms of the MOA would provide evidence of BLM's compliance with §106 of the NHPA and NEPA with respect to cultural resources. The basic steps in the §106 process are described in Section 3.5, *Cultural Resources*.

### 5.2.2.2 Tribal Consultation

The BLM consults with Indian tribes on a government-to-government level in accordance with several authorities including NEPA, the NHPA, the AIRFA, and Executive Order 13007, and has initiated consultation on this project with interested Indian tribes.

The BLM has invited Indian tribes to consult on a government-to-government basis at the earliest stages of Project planning, and the BLM and the Applicant have followed up with additional correspondence, communication, and other information since then. AECOM contacted the California NAHC for a list of local Native Americans who might have concerns about the Project area and a search of the Sacred Lands File was requested to determine whether there were any known places of traditional importance in the vicinity of the Project. The NAHC responded with the list of individuals and organizations potentially interested in the Project that is provided in Draft PA/EIS Appendix C Table 2.

AECOM sent letters in November 2011 to individuals identified on the NAHC contact list to provide information about the Project, solicit guidance about the scope and content of the PA/EIS, and invite the tribes' participation in the environmental review process. Following the letters, AECOM made phone calls to ensure receipt of the letter and to record any comments or concerns that individuals wished to share over the phone.

Tribes also were invited, on a government-to-government basis, to a general information meeting and site visit held on February 8, 2012. Additional letters providing BLM's eligibility determinations, findings of effect, and requesting consultation to develop a MOA were sent to tribes, the SHPO, and the ACHP.

### **5.2.2.3 Contacted Tribes**

Individuals from the following 15 tribes were contacted as part of these processes:

1. Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
2. Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians
3. Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
4. Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians
5. Chemehuevi Indian Tribe
6. Cocopah Indian Tribe
7. Colorado River Indian Tribes
8. Fort Mojave Indian Tribe
9. Fort Yuma Quechan Tribe
10. Morongo Band of Mission Indians
11. Ramona Band of Mission Indians
12. San Manual Band of Mission Indians
13. Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians
14. Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians
15. Twenty-nine Palms Band of Mission Indians

## **5.3 Implementation, Monitoring, and Enforcement**

### **5.3.1 Implementation**

The Lead Agencies will continue to involve and collaborate with the public during the implementation of the Proposed Action if it is approved. Opportunities to become involved during implementation and monitoring could include development of partnerships and community-based citizen working groups. Citizens and user groups within the vicinity of the Project are invited to become actively involved in implementation, monitoring, and enforcement of decisions. The Lead Agencies and citizens could collaboratively develop site-specific goals and objectives that mutually benefit public land resources, local communities, and the people who live, work, or play on the public lands.

### **5.3.2 Monitoring**

The BLM would monitor activities throughout the life of the Proposed Action to ensure that decisions are implemented in accordance with the approved ROD and ROW grant. Monitoring would be conducted to determine whether decisions, BMPs, and approved mitigation measures are achieving the desired effects. Effectiveness monitoring would provide an empirical data base on impacts of decisions and effectiveness of mitigation. Effectiveness monitoring also would be useful for improving analytical procedures for future impact analyses and for designing or improving mitigation and enhancement measures.

### **5.3.3 Enforcement and Adaptive Management**

Adaptive management has been incorporated into the mitigation measures adopted for the Proposed Action. Adaptive management is a system of management practices based on clearly identified outcomes, monitoring to determine if management actions are meeting outcomes, and,

if not, facilitating management changes that will best ensure that outcomes are met or to re-evaluate the outcomes. Procedures include:

1. Determining environmental effects of a project and identifying mitigation needs along with other permitting and regulatory requirements. Analysis should indicate where data are lacking and uncertainty exists with respect to the intended outcomes and the significance of this lack (see 40 CFR §1502.22);
2. Monitoring designed for adaptive management must be able to result in appropriate adjustments in project activities as the project is constructed and planned mitigation is installed;
3. Striving to ensure public input into and understanding of the principles of adaptive management;
4. Maintaining open channels of information to the public and affected regulatory and permitting agencies during the application of adaptive management, including transparency of the monitoring process that precedes adaptive management and the decision-making process that implements it. This involves: (a) identifying indicators of change, (b) assessing monitoring activities for accuracy and usefulness, and (c) making changes in tactics, activities and/or strategies; and
5. Providing post-activity opportunity for public and affected outside agency review of adaptive management practices, including practices that were exceptions to any resource management plans or that had permitting and other regulatory requirements not satisfied by prior coordination.

Adaptive management allows agencies, in their environmental reviews, to establish and analyze mitigation measures that are projected to result in the desired environmental outcomes, and identify those mitigation principles or measures that it would apply in the event the initial mitigation commitments are not implemented or effective.

## 5.4 Public Involvement

### 5.4.1 Scoping

A Notice of Intent to prepare this PA/EIS was published in the *Federal Register* (Volume 76, No. 167) on August 29, 2011, and California State Clearinghouse issued an NOP on October 3, 2011. The BLM held publicly noticed scoping meetings on September 20, 2011, at the University of California-Riverside, Palm Desert Campus and on October 19, 2011, in the Blythe City Council Chambers. The Final Scoping Report is included as Appendix B.

The BLM also established a website that describes the Project, the process, and various methods for providing public input, including the phone number where the BLM's Project Manager for the Project (Jeff Childers) may be reached, physical addresses where Project documents may be reviewed, and an e-mail address where comments may be sent electronically: [http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/palmsprings/Solar\\_Projects/McCoy.html](http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/palmsprings/Solar_Projects/McCoy.html).

## 5.4.2 Public Comment Process

The Draft PA/EIS will be circulated for a 90-day public comment period. All comments must be postmarked no later than 90 days from the date the Notice of Availability for the Draft PA/EIS published in the Federal Register by the USEPA.

Comments on the Draft PA/EIS may be submitted to BLM in any of the following ways:

U.S. Post    McCoy Solar Energy Project  
                  22835 Calle San Juan De Los Lagos  
                  Moreno Valley, California 92553

E-mail:        jchilders@blm.gov

Phone:        (951) 697-5308

Public meetings will be held in Blythe and Palm Springs, California, to allow comments to be presented to the Lead Agencies. Please see BLM's web page at [http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/palmsprings/Solar\\_Projects/McCoy.html](http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/palmsprings/Solar_Projects/McCoy.html) for information about the location, date, and time of these meetings. All substantive issues raised during the comment period will be considered, and modifications based on these comments may be made to develop the Final PA/EIS.

Additional hard copies or CD-ROM versions of the Draft PA/EIS may be obtained by contacting the Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office. The document also will be available on the Internet at: [http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/palmsprings/Solar\\_Projects/McCoy.html](http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/fo/palmsprings/Solar_Projects/McCoy.html).

## 5.5 Administrative Remedies

BLM and USEPA's Office of Federal Activities will publish separate NOAs for the Final PA/EIS in the Federal Register when the document is ready to be released to the public. The NOA to be published by the USEPA in the Federal Register will initiate a 30-day protest period on the Proposed PA to the Director of the BLM in accordance with 43 CFR §1610.5-2.

Following resolution of any protests, BLM will publish a ROD which may be accompanied by an Approved Plan Amendment. Publication and release of the ROD would serve as public notice of BLM's decision on the Project Application.

## 5.6 List of Preparers

Though individuals have primary responsibility for preparing sections of the PA/EIS, the document is an interdisciplinary team effort. In addition, internal review of the document occurs throughout preparation. Specialists at the BLM's Field Office, State Office, and Washington Office and throughout the Riverside County government review the analysis and supply information, as well as provide document preparation oversight. Contributions by individual preparers may be subject to revision by other BLM specialists and by management during internal review.

**TABLE 5-1  
LIST OF PREPARERS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Job Title</b>	<b>Primary Responsibility</b>
<b>BLM – Palm Spring-South Coast Field Office</b>		
Cook, Stewart	GIS Specialist	Mapping
Hill, Greg	NEPA Coordinator	OHV/Recreation/VRM
<b>BLM – California Desert District Office</b>		
Childers, Jeff	Planning and Environmental Coordinator	Land Use Planning and NEPA Compliance
Ludwig, Noel	Hydrologist	Water Resources
Marsden, Kim	Wildlife Biologist	Wildlife and Vegetation
Queen, Rolla	District Archaeologist	Cultural Resources
Tiffany Thomas	Archaeologist	Cultural Resources
<b>BLM – California State Office</b>		
Brink, Dianna	Rangeland Management Specialist	Rangeland, Grazing, Invasive Species, Weeds
Conrad-Saydah, Ashley	Renewable Energy Program Manager	Climate Change, Environmental Justice, (transmission)
Keeler, Jim	Off-highway vehicle coordinator	Recreation
Lund, Christina	State Botanist	Botany
McGinnis, Sandra	Planning and Environmental Coordinator	Planning, NEPA Compliance
Wick, Bob	Natural Resource Specialist - Wilderness	Wilderness Characteristics Inventory/VRM
<b>Environmental Science Associates</b>		
Arent, Vanessa	Associate II, M.S., Environmental Science	Energy Conservation
Barringhaus, Cory	Sr. Associate II, M.U.P. Urban Planning	Recreation and Public Access
Bray, Madeleine	RPA, M.A., Archaeology	Cultural Resources
Cordery, Ted	Biologist, B.S., Wildlife Management (TEC-Ecological, LLC)	Vegetation and Wildlife Resources, Wildland and Fire Ecology
Costa, Peter	Transportation Specialist; M.S., Urban Planning and Public Policy	Transportation and Traffic
Cover, Doug	Senior Director II, QEP	Air Resources, Noise, Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Global Climate Change
Duverge, Dylan	Geologist; M.S., Applied Geosciences	Visual Resources, Mineral Resources, Geology and Soils, Paleontological Resources
Eckard, Robert	Associate; Ph.D., Water Quality	Global Climate Change, Water Resources
Fagundes, Matt	Physical Sciences Resource Area Leader; B.S., Environmental Studies	Air Quality, Noise, Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Global Climate Change
Hudson, Pete	Senior Geologist/Hydrogeologist, PD, CEG	Water Resources
Hutchinson, Jack	Senior Transportation Engineer, P.E.	Transportation and Traffic
Jaeckel, David	B.A. Geography / Environmental Studies and Urban and Regional Studies	Mineral Resources, Geology and Soils, Paleontological Resources
Johnson, Jennifer	Director, J.D.	Proposed Action and Alternatives, Quality Assurance/Quality Control all sections
Kershaw, Carol	Lands and Realty Specialist (Red Rock Consulting, LLC)	Lands and Realty
Kostas, Alexandra	Associate; M.A., Urban Planning	Land Use and Planning, Multiple Use Classes, Public Services

**TABLE 5-1 (Continued)  
LIST OF PREPARERS**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Job Title</b>	<b>Primary Responsibility</b>
Environmental Science Associates (cont.)		
Moore, Julie	Health and Safety Specialist; M.S., Ecology	Hazards and Hazardous Materials; Transmission Line Safety and Nuisance
Onaka, Jun	Planning and Economics Specialist; Ph.D., Urban Planning (Onaka Planning & Economics)	Environmental Justice, Social and Economics
O'Sullivan, Terry	Natural Resources Specialist, B.S. Natural Resources Management (O'Sullivan Resources, LLC)	Special Designations
Scott, Janna	Senior Technical Associate, J.D.	Cumulative Projects, Quality Assurance/Quality Control all sections
Monica Strauss	RPA, Director, Senior Managing Archaeologist, M.A., Archaeology	Cultural Resources
Stumpf, Gary	Cultural Resources Specialist; M.A., Anthropology (Legacy Cultural Resource Consulting, LLC)	Cultural Resources

# CHAPTER 6

## Acronyms and Abbreviations

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°C	degrees Celsius
°F	degrees Fahrenheit
µg/L	micrograms per Liter
µg/m <sup>3</sup>	micrograms per cubic meter
AAQS	ambient air quality standards
AB 32	California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006
AB	Authorized Biologist
AC	alternating current
ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
ACS	American Community Survey
AD	<i>Anno Domini</i>
AADT	Annual Average Daily Traffic
AF	acre-foot
AFY	acre-feet per year
AIRFA	American Indian Religious Freedom Act
ALUC	Airport Land Use Commission
ALUCP	Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan
AM	Amplitude Modulated
amsl	above mean sea level
AO	Authorized Officer
APE	Area of Potential Effects
APLIC	Avian Power Line Interaction Committee
APM	Applicant Proposed Measure
APN	Assessor's Parcel Number
ARB	California Air Resources Board
ARPA	Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979
ASCE	American Society of Civil Engineers
ASTM	American Society for Testing Materials Standards
ATCM	Airborne Toxic Control Measure
ATV	all-terrain vehicle

BA	Biological Assessment
BC	Before Christ
BCC	Birds of Conservation Concern
BEA	United States Bureau of Economic Analysis
BGEPA	Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act
bgs	below ground surface
BLM	United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management
BM	Biological Monitor
BMPs	best management practices
BO	Biological Opinion
BOE	California State Board of Equalization
BRMIMP	Biological Resources Mitigation, Implementation, and Monitoring Plan
BRMMP	Biological Resources Mitigation and Monitoring Plan
BSPP	Blythe Solar Power Project
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAISO	California Independent System Operator
CAL FIRE	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
CalArp	California Accidental Release Program
CalEPA	California Environmental Protection Agency
Cal-IPC	California Invasive Plant Council
Cal-OSHA	California - Occupational Safety and Health Administration
Caltrans	California State Department of Transportation
CAMA	California-Arizona Maneuver Area
CBC	California Building Code
CBOC	California Burrowing Owl Consortium
CCD	Census County Division
CCH	Consortium of California Herbaria
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CCS	crypto-crystalline silicate
CDCA	California Desert Conservation Area
CDCA Plan	California Desert Conservation Area Plan of 1980, as amended
CDFA	California Department of Food and Agriculture
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game
CDHCS	California Department of Health Care Services
CDMG	California Division of Mines and Geology
CDOC	California Department of Conservation
CDPA	California Desert Protection Act of 1994
CDPH	California Department of Public Health
CdTe	cadmium telluride
CEC	California Energy Commission

CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CESA	California Endangered Species Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
cfs	cubic feet per second
CGS	California Geological Survey
CH <sub>4</sub>	methane
CHP	California Highway Patrol
CHRIS	California Historical Resources Information System
CMA	Congestion Management Agency
CMP	Congestion Management Program
CNDDB	California Natural Diversity Database
CNEL	Community Noise Equivalent Level
CNPS	California Native Plant Society
CO	carbon monoxide
CO <sub>2</sub>	carbon dioxide
CPM	Compliance Project Manager
CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission
CRHR	California Register of Historical Resources
CRS	Colorado River Substation
CRT	cathode ray tube
CSC	California Species of Special Concern
CSRL	California Soil Resource Lab
CT	census tract
CUP	Conditional Use Permit
CUPA	Certified Unified Program Authority
CVGB	Chuckwalla Valley Groundwater Basin
CWA	Clean Water Act
cy	cubic yards
DAS	data acquisition system
dB	Decibel
dBA	A-weighted decibels
DC	direct current
DOD	United States Department of Defense
DOE	United States Department of Energy
DOI	United States Department of Interior
DPM	diesel particulate matter
DPV1	Devers-Palo Verde No. 1 Transmission Line
DPV2	Devers-Palos Verde 2 Transmission Line

DRECP	California Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan
DTC/C-AMA	George S. Patton's World War II Desert Training Center/California-Arizona Maneuver Area
DTCCCL	Desert Training Center California-Arizona Area Cultural Landscape
DTSC	Department of Toxic Substances Control
DWMA	Desert Wildlife Management Area
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
EAP	Emergency Action Plan
ECCMP	Environmental and Construction Compliance Monitoring Plan
ECM	Environmental Compliance Manager
ECP	Eagle Conservation Plan
EDD	California Employment Development Department
EIC	Eastern Information Center
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EMF	Electric and Magnetic Field
EPAct	Energy Policy Act of 2005
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act of 1986
EPRI	Electric Power Research Institute
EPS	Emission Performance Standard
ESA	environmentally sensitive area or Environmental Science Associates
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FE	Federally listed as endangered
FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FESA	Federal Endangered Species Act
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FHSZ	Fire Hazard Severity Zone
FIRM	Flood Insurance Rate Map
FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act
FMAP	Fire Management Activity Plan
FR	Federal Register
FRA	Federal Responsibility Area
ft	foot
FT	Federally listed as threatened
FTA	Federal Transit Administration
FTE	full-time equivalent
FTHLICC	Flat-tailed Horned Lizard Interagency Coordinating Committee

FY	fiscal year
g	gravity
G	Gauss
gal	gallon
GCL	geosynthetic clay liner
GDP	gross domestic product
gen-tie	generation transmission
GHG	greenhouse gas
GIS	geographic information system
GLO	General Land Office
gpd	gallons per day
gpd/ft	gallons per day per foot
gpd/ft <sup>2</sup>	gallons per day per square foot
gpm	gallons per minute
GPS	global positioning system
GSEP	Genesis Solar Energy Project
GWP	global warming potential
H <sub>2</sub> S	hydrogen sulfide
HCP	habitat conservation plan
HDPE	high-density polyethylene
HFCs	hydrofluorocarbons
HMBP	Hazardous Materials Business Plan
hp	horsepower
HPTP	Historic Properties Treatment Plan
HWCL	Hazardous Waste Control Law
Hz	Hertz
I-10	Interstate-10
IBC	International Building Code
IEEE	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
IIPP	Injury and Illness Prevention Program
IM	Instructional Memorandum
in/mo	inches per month
in/sec	inches per second
in/yr	inches per year
IPCC	International Panel on Climate Change
kg	kilogram
KOPs	key observation points

kV	kilovolt
kW	kilowatt
kWh	kilowatt-hour
L <sub>90</sub>	The A-weighted noise level that is exceeded 90 percent of the time during the measurement period.
lbs	pounds
LCD	liquid crystal display
L <sub>dn</sub>	day-night average noise level
L <sub>eq</sub>	equivalent continuous sound level
LEPC	local emergency planning committee
LLC	Limited Liability Corporation
LOS	level of service
LRA	Local Responsibility Area
LTVA	Long-Term Visitor Area
m	meter
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level
MDAB	Mojave Desert Air Basin
MDAQMD	Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District
mg/L	milligrams per liter
mg/m <sup>3</sup>	milligrams per cubic meter
mi	mile
ml	milliliter
mm	millimeter
MM	Modified Mercalli
MMRCP	Mitigation Monitoring, Reporting, and Compliance Program
mph	miles per hour
MRDS	Mineral Resources Data System
MRZ	Mineral Resource Zone
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area
MSEP	McCoy Solar Energy Project
MW	megawatt
MWh	megawatt-hour
N <sub>2</sub> O	nitrous oxide
NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
NECO	Northern and Eastern Colorado Desert Coordinated Management Plan
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act

NERC	North American Electric Reliability Corporation
NFIP	National Flood Insurance Program
NFPA	National Fire Protection Association
NFWF	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NLCS	National Landscape Conservation System
NO	nitric oxide
NO <sub>2</sub>	nitrogen dioxide
NOA	Notice of Availability
NOI	Notice of Intent
NO <sub>x</sub>	nitrogen oxides
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NPPA	Native Plant Protection Act
NPS	United States National Park Service
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NREL	National Renewable Energy Laboratory
NSPS	New Source Performance Standard
NSR	New Source Review
NTP	Notice to Proceed
NWIS	National Water Information System
O&M	operation and maintenance
O <sub>2</sub>	oxygen
O <sub>3</sub>	ozone
OEHHA	Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
OHV	off-highway vehicle
OSHA	United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration
PA	Plan Amendment
PAR	Property Analysis Record
PCPI	per capita personal income
PCS	power conversion station
PDC	Power Distribution Center
PEIS	Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement
PFCs	perfluorocarbons
PFYC	Potential Fossil Yield Classification
PGA	peak ground acceleration
PL	Public Law
PM	particulate matter
PM10	particulate matter less than 10 microns in diameter

PM2.5	particulate matter less than 2.5 microns in diameter
POD	Plan of Development
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
ppm	parts per million
PRC	Public Resources Code
PRPA	Paleontologic Resources Preservation Act
PSD	Prevention of Significant Deterioration
PSSCFO	Palm Springs South Coast Field Office
PTNCL	Prehistoric Trails Network Cultural Landscape
PUP	Public Use Permit
PV	photovoltaic
PVGB	Palo Verde Groundwater Basin
PVID	Palo Verde Irrigation District
PVMGB	Palo Verde Mesa Groundwater Basin
PVVG	Palo Verde Valley Groundwater Basin
PVVTA	Palo Verde Valley Transit Agency
R	State characterized as rare
RCFD	Riverside County Fire Department
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976
RCTC	Riverside County Transportation Commission
REAT	Renewable Energy Action Team
RMP	Resource Management Plan
ROD	Record of Decision
ROW	right-of-way
RPS	Renewables Portfolio Standard
RQ	reportable quantity
RV	recreational vehicle
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SARA	Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986
SCADA	supervisory control and data acquisition
SCE	Southern California Edison
SDG&E	San Diego Gas and Electric Company
SDWA	Safe Drinking Water Act
SE	State listed as endangered
SERC	state emergency response commission
SEZ	Solar Energy Zone
SF	Standard form
SF <sub>6</sub>	sulfur hexafluoride
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer

SLRU	Sensitivity Level Rating Units
SMARA	Surface Mining and Reclamation Act
SO <sub>2</sub>	sulfur dioxide
SO <sub>4</sub>	sulfate
SOPs	standard operating procedures
SO <sub>x</sub>	sulfur oxides
SPCC	Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures
SQRU	Scenic Quality Rating Units
SRA	State Responsibility Area
ST	State listed as threatened
SWPPP	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TCR	The Climate Registry
TDS	Total Dissolved Solids
TNC	The Nature Conservancy
TSCA	Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976
TQ	threshold quantity
UL	Underwriters Laboratory
U.S.	United States
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USC	United States Code
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USDOT	United States Department of Transportation
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFS	United States Forest Service
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
UST	underground storage tank
UXO	unexploded ordnance
UV	ultraviolet
V	volts
VdB	velocity decibel
VMT	vehicle miles traveled
VOC	volatile organic compound
VRI	Visual Resource Inventory
VRM	Visual Resource Management

W	watts
WAPA	Western Area Power Administration
WDR	Waste Discharge Requirement
WEAP	Worker Environmental Awareness Program
WECC	Western Electricity Coordinating Council
WHMA	Wildlife Habitat Management Area
WIU	Wilderness Inventory Unit
WL	Watch List
W/m <sup>2</sup>	watts per square meter
WNV	West Nile Virus
WRCC	Western Regional Climate Center
WSA	Wilderness Study Area
yr	year

# CHAPTER 7

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## Glossary

### A

**Adjacent:** Defined by ASTM E1527-00 as any real property the border of which is contiguous or partially contiguous with that of the site or would be contiguous or partially contiguous with that of the site but for a street, road, or other public thoroughfare separating them.

**Air Basin:** A regional area defined for state air quality management purposes based on considerations that include topographic features that influence meteorology and pollutant transport patterns, and political jurisdiction boundaries that influence the design and implementation of air quality management programs.

**Air Quality Control Region:** A regional area defined for federal air quality management purposes based on considerations that include topographic features that influence meteorology and pollutant transport patterns, and political jurisdiction boundaries that influence the design and implementation of air quality management programs.

**Alluvium:** a fine-grained fertile soil consisting of mud, silt, and sand deposited by flowing water on flood plains, in river beds, and in estuaries.

**Alluvial Fan:** Fan shaped material of water deposited material.

**Ambient Air Quality Standards (AAQS):** A combination of air pollutant concentrations, exposure durations, and exposure frequencies that are established as thresholds above which adverse impacts to public health and welfare may be expected. Ambient air quality standards are set on a national level by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Ambient air quality standards are set on a state level by public health or environmental protection agencies as authorized by state law.

**Ambient Air:** Outdoor air in locations accessible to the general public.

**Archaeological district:** A significant concentration, linkage, or continuity of sites, buildings, or features important in history or prehistory. There can be discontinuous districts composed of resources that are not in close proximity to one another

**Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC):** A designated area on public lands where special management attention is required: (1) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to fish and wildlife; (2) to protect important historic, cultural, or scenic values, or other natural systems or processes; or (3) to protect life and safety from natural hazards.

**Attainment Area:** An area that has air quality as good as or better than a national or state ambient air quality standard. A single geographic area may be an attainment area for one pollutant and a non-attainment area for others.

## B

**Basic Elements:** The four design elements (form, line, color, and texture), which determine how the character of a landscape is perceived.

## C

**Cancer:** A class of diseases characterized by uncontrolled growth of somatic cells. Cancers are typically caused by one of three mechanisms: chemically induced mutations or other changes to cellular DNA; radiation induced damage to cellular chromosomes; or viral infections that introduce new DNA into cells.

**Carbon Monoxide (CO):** A colorless, odorless gas that is toxic because it reduces the oxygen-carrying capacity of the blood.

**Characteristic:** A distinguishing trait, feature, or quality.

**Characteristic Landscape:** The established landscape within an area being viewed. This does not necessarily mean a naturalistic character. It could refer to an agricultural setting, an urban landscape, a primarily natural environment, or a combination of these types.

**Climate:** A statistical description of daily, seasonal, or annual weather conditions based on recent or long-term weather data. Climate descriptions typically emphasize average, maximum, and minimum conditions for temperature, precipitation, humidity, wind, cloud cover, and sunlight intensity patterns; statistics on the frequency and intensity of tornado, hurricane, or other severe storm events may also be included.

**Community Noise Equivalent Level (CNEL):** A 24-hour average noise level rating with a 5 dB penalty factor applied to evening noise levels and a 10 dB penalty factor applied to nighttime noise levels. The CNEL value is very similar to the Day-Night Average Sound Level (Ldn) value, but includes an additional weighting factor for noise during evening hours.

**Contrast:** Opposition or unlikeness of different forms, lines, colors, or textures in a landscape.

**Contrast Rating:** A method of analyzing the potential visual impacts of proposed management activities.

**Corrosive Soils:** Potential soil-induced electrochemical or chemical action that could corrode or deteriorate concrete, reinforcing steel in concrete structures, and bare-metal structures.

**Cretaceous:** In geologic history the third and final period of the Mesozoic era, from 144 million to 65 million years ago, during which extensive marine chalk beds formed.

**Criteria Pollutant:** An air pollutant for which there is a national ambient air quality standard (carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, sulfur dioxide, inhalable particulate matter, fine particulate matter, or airborne lead particles).

**Critical Habitat:** Habitat designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under §4 of the Endangered Species Act and under the following criteria: 1) specific areas within the geographical area occupied by the species at the time it is listed, on which are found those physical or biological features essential to the conservation of the species and that may require special management of protection; or 2) specific areas outside the geographical area by the species at the time it is listed but that are considered essential to the conservation of the species.

**Cultural Landscape:** A geographic area, including both natural and cultural resources, associated with a historic event, activity, group, or person; or, a geographic area that has been assigned cultural or social meaning by associated cultural groups.

**Cultural Modification:** Any man-caused change in the land form, water form, vegetation, or the addition of a structure which creates a visual contrast in the basic elements (form, line, color, texture) of the naturalistic character of a landscape.

**Cultural Resource:** A location of human activity, occupation, or use identifiable through field inventory, historical documentation, or oral evidence. Cultural resources include archaeological and historical sites, structures, buildings, objects, artifacts, works of art, architecture, and natural features that were important in past human events. They may consist of physical remains or areas where significant human events occurred, even though evidence of the events no longer remains. And they may include definite locations of traditional, cultural, or religious importance to specified social or cultural groups.

**Cultural Resource Data:** Cultural resource information embodied in material remains such as artifacts, features, organic materials, and other remnants of past activities. An important aspect of data is context, a concept that refers to the relationships among these types of materials and the situations in which they are found.

**Cultural Resource Data Recovery:** The professional application of scientific techniques of controlled observation, collection, excavation, and/or removal of physical remains, including analysis, interpretation, explanation, and preservation of recovered remains and associated records in an appropriate curatorial facility used as a means of protection. Data recovery may sometimes employ professional collection of such data as oral histories, genealogies, folklore, and related information to portray the social significance of the affected resources. Such data recovery is sometimes used as a measure to mitigate the adverse impacts of a ground-disturbing project or activity.

**Cultural Resource Integrity:** The condition of a cultural property, its capacity to yield scientific data, and its ability to convey its historical significance. Integrity may reflect the authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival or physical characteristics that existed during its historic or prehistoric period, or its expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time.

**Cultural Resource Inventory (Survey):** A descriptive listing and documentation, including photographs and maps of cultural resources. Included in an inventory are the processes of locating, identifying, and recording sites, structures, buildings, objects, and districts through library and archival research, information from persons knowledgeable about cultural resources, and on-the-ground surveys of varying intensity.

**Class I:** A professionally prepared study that compiles, analyzes, and synthesizes all available data on an area's cultural resources. Information sources for this study include

published and unpublished documents, BLM inventory records, institutional site files, and state and National Register files. Class I inventories may have prehistoric, historic, and ethnological and sociological elements. These inventories are periodically updated to include new data from other studies and Class II and III inventories.

**Class II:** A professionally conducted, statistically based sample survey designed to describe the probable density, diversity, and distribution of cultural properties in a large area. This survey is achieved by projecting the results of an intensive survey carried out over limited parts of the target area. Within individual sample units, survey aims, methods, and intensities are the same as those applied in Class III inventories. To improve statistical reliability, Class II inventories may be conducted in several phases with different sample designs.

**Class III:** A professionally conducted intensive survey of an entire target area aimed at locating and recording all visible cultural properties. In a Class III survey, trained observers commonly conduct systematic inspections by walking a series of close interval parallel transects until they have thoroughly examined an area.

**Cultural Resource Values:** The irreplaceable qualities that are embodied in cultural resources, such as scientific information about prehistory and history, cultural significance to Native Americans and other groups, and the potential to enhance public education and enjoyment of the Nation's rich cultural heritage.

**Cultural Site:** A physical location of past human activities or events, more commonly referred to as an archaeological site or a historic property. Such sites vary greatly in size and range from the location of a single cultural resource object to a cluster of cultural resource structures with associated objects and features.

## D

**Day/Night Average Sound Level (Ldn):** A 24-hour average noise level rating with a 10 dB penalty factor applied to nighttime noise levels. The Ldn value is very similar to the CNEL value, but does not include any weighting factor for noise during evening hours.

**Decibel (dB):** A generic term for measurement units based on the logarithm of the ratio between a measured value and a reference value. Decibel scales are most commonly associated with acoustics (using air pressure fluctuation data); but decibel scales sometimes are used for ground-borne vibrations or various electronic signal measurements.

**Desert Pavement:** A surface covering of closely packed rock fragments of pebble or cobble size found on desert soils.

**Desert Wildlife Management Area (DWMA):** areas established in the NECO Plan to address the recovery of the desert tortoise. They are intended to be areas where viable desert tortoise populations can be maintained (Category I habitat).

**Distance Zones:** A subdivision of the landscape as viewed from an observer position. The subdivision (zones) includes foreground-middleground, background, and seldom seen.

## E

**Enhancement:** A management action designed to improve visual quality.

**Equivalent Average Sound Pressure Level (Leq):** The decibel level of a constant noise source that would have the same total acoustical energy over the same time interval as the actual time-varying noise condition being measured or estimated. Leq values must be associated with an explicit or implicit averaging time in order to have practical meaning.

**Erosion:** A natural process whereby soil and highly weathered rock materials are worn away and transported to another area, most commonly by wind or water.

**Ethnographic Resources:** Resources representing the heritage of a particular ethnic or cultural group, such as Native Americans or African, European, Latino, or Asian immigrants. They may include traditional resource-collecting areas, ceremonial sites, value-imbued landscape features, cemeteries, shrines, or ethnic neighborhoods and structures.

**Excavation:** The scientific examination of an archaeological site through layer-by-layer removal and study of the contents within prescribed surface units, e.g. square meters.

**Expansive Soils:** A soil which significantly changes its volume in horizontal and vertical planes with changes in moisture content.

## F

**Fault (active):** A fault that has had surface displacement during Holocene time (last 11,000 years).

**Fault (potentially active):** A Quaternary-age (last 1.8 million years) fault that lacks evidence of Holocene-age displacement.

**Fluvial:** Of, relating to, or occurring in a river.

**Form:** The mass or shape of an object or objects which appear unified, such as a vegetative opening in a forest, a cliff formation, or a water tank.

## G

**Geomorphic Province:** Naturally defined geologic regions that display a distinct landscape or landform.

**Greenhouse Gas (GHG):** A gaseous compound that absorbs infrared radiation and re-radiates a portion of that back toward the earth's surface, thus trapping heat and warming the earth's atmosphere.

## H

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

**Hazardous Air Pollutant (HAP):** Air pollutants which have been specifically designated by relevant federal or state authorities as being hazardous to human health. Most HAP compounds are designated due to concerns related to: carcinogenic, mutagenic, or teratogenic properties; severe acute toxic effects; or ionizing radiation released during radioactive decay processes.

**Hertz (Hz):** A standard unit for describing acoustical frequencies measured as the number of air pressure fluctuation cycles per second. For most people, the audible range of acoustical frequencies is from 20 Hz to 20,000 Hz.

**Historical Site:** A location that was used or occupied after the arrival of Europeans in North America (ca. A.D. 1492). Such sites may consist of physical remains at archaeological sites or areas where significant human events occurred, even though evidence of the events no longer remains. They may have been used by people of either European or Native American descent.

**Holocene:** Of, denoting, or formed in the second and most recent epoch of the Quaternary period, which began 10,000 years ago at the end of the Pleistocene.

**Hydrocarbons:** Any organic compound containing only carbon and hydrogen, such as the alkanes, alkenes, alkynes, terpenes, and arenes.

**Hydrocompaction:** Generally is limited to young soils that were deposited rapidly in a saturated state, most commonly by a flash flood. The soils dry quickly, leaving an unconsolidated, low density deposit with a high percentage of voids.

## I

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

**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).

**Indigenous:** Being of native origin (such as indigenous peoples or indigenous cultural features).

**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.

**Invasive Species:** An exotic species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health (Executive Order 13122, 2/3/99).

**Isolate:** Non-linear, isolated archaeological features without associated artifacts.

## K

**Key Observation Point (KOP):** One or a series of points on a travel route or at a use area or a potential use area, where the view of a management activity would be most revealing.

## L

**Landscape Character:** The arrangement of a particular landscape as formed by the variety and intensity of the landscape features and the four basic elements of form, line, color, and texture. These factors give the area a distinctive quality which distinguishes it from its immediate surroundings.

**Landscape Features:** The land and water form, vegetation, and structures which compose the characteristic landscape.

**Landslide:** A slope failure that involves downslope displacement and movement of material, either triggered by static (i.e., gravity) or dynamic (i.e., earthquake) forces.

**Leasable Minerals:** Minerals whose extraction from federally managed land requires a lease and the payment of royalties. Leasable minerals include coal, oil and gas, oil shale and tar sands, potash, phosphate, sodium, and geothermal steam.

**Line:** The path, real or imagined, that the eye follows when perceiving abrupt differences in form, color, or texture. Within landscapes, lines may be found as ridges, skylines, structures, changes in vegetative types, or individual trees and branches.

**Liquefaction:** A condition in which a saturated cohesionless soil may lose shear strength because of a sudden increase in pore water pressure caused by an earthquake.

**Locatable Minerals:** Minerals subject to exploration, development, and disposal by staking mining claims as authorized by the Mining Law of 1872, as amended. This includes deposits of gold, silver, and other uncommon minerals not subject to lease or sale.

## M

**Maintenance Area:** An area that currently meets federal ambient air quality standards but which was previously designated as a nonattainment area. Federal agency actions occurring in a maintenance area are still subject to Clean Air Act conformity review requirements.

**Management Activity:** A surface disturbing activity undertaken on the landscape for the purpose of harvesting, traversing, transporting, protecting, changing, replenishing, or otherwise using resources.

**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU):** A written but noncontractual agreement between two or more agencies or other parties to take a certain course of action.

**Mineral Material Disposal:** The sale of sand, gravel, decorative rock, or other materials defined in 43 CFR 3600.

**Mining Claim:** A mining claim is a selected parcel of Federal Land, valuable for a specific mineral deposit or deposits, for which a right of possession has been asserted under the General Mining Law. This right is restricted to the development and extraction of a mineral deposit. The rights granted by a mining claim protect against a challenge by the United States and other claimants only after the discovery of a valuable mineral deposit. The two types of mining claims

are lode and placer. In addition, mill sites and tunnel sites may be located to provide support facilities for lode and placer mining.

**Mitigation:** Mitigation includes: (a) Avoiding the impacts altogether by not taking an action or parts of an action, (b) Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation, (c) Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment, (d) Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action, (e) Compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments (40 CFR §1508.20).

## N

**National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES):** The NPDES permit program has been delegated in California to the State Water Resources Control Board. These sections of the CWA require that an applicant for a federal license or permit that allows activities resulting in a discharge to waters of the United States must obtain a state certification that the discharge complies with other provisions of the Clean Water Act.

**National Register District:** A group of significant archaeological, historical, or architectural sites, within a defined geographic area, that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. See National Register of Historic Places.

**National Register of Historic Places:** The official list, established by the National Historic Preservation Act, of the Nation's cultural resources worthy of preservation. The National Register lists archeological, historic, and architectural properties (i.e. districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects) nominated for their local, state, or national significance by state and federal agencies and approved by the National Register Staff. The National Park Service maintains the National Register.

**National Scenic Trail:** One of the three categories of national trails defined in the National Trails System Act of 1968 that can only be established by act of Congress and are administered by federal agencies, although part or all of their land base may be owned and managed by others. National Scenic Trails are existing regional and local trails recognized by either the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of the Interior upon application.

**Native American:** Indigenous peoples of the western hemisphere.

**Nitric Oxide (NO):** A colorless toxic gas formed primarily by combustion processes that oxidize atmospheric nitrogen gas or nitrogen compounds found in the fuel. A precursor of ozone, nitrogen dioxide, numerous types of photochemically generated nitrate particles (including PAN), and atmospheric nitrous and nitric acids. Most nitric oxide formed by combustion processes is converted into nitrogen dioxide by subsequent oxidation in the atmosphere over a period that may range from several hours to a few days.

**Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>):** A toxic reddish gas formed by oxidation of nitric oxide. Nitrogen dioxide is a strong respiratory and eye irritant. Most nitric oxide formed by combustion processes is converted into nitrogen dioxide by subsequent oxidation in the atmosphere. Nitrogen dioxide is a criteria pollutant in its own right, and is a precursor of ozone, numerous types of photochemically generated nitrate particles (including PAN), and atmospheric nitrous and nitric acids.

**Nitrogen Oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>):** A group term meaning the combination of nitric oxide and nitrogen dioxide; other trace oxides of nitrogen may also be included in instrument-based NO<sub>x</sub> measurements. A precursor of ozone, photochemically generated nitrate particles (including PAN), and atmospheric nitrous and nitric acids.

**Non-native Species:** See Invasive Species and Noxious Weed.

**Noxious Weed:** According to the Federal Noxious Weed Act (PL 93-629), a weed that causes disease or has other adverse effects on man or his environment and therefore is detrimental to the agricultural and commerce of the United States and to the public health.

**Nonattainment Area:** An area that does not meet a federal or state ambient air quality standard. Federal agency actions occurring in a federal nonattainment area are subject to Clean Air Act conformity review requirements.

## O

**Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV):** Any vehicle capable of or designed for travel on or immediately over land, water, or other natural terrain, deriving motive power from any source other than muscle. OHVs exclude: 1) any non-amphibious registered motorboat; 2), any fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle while being used for official or emergency purposes; 3) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by a permit, lease, license, agreement, or contract issued by an authorized officer or otherwise approved; 4) vehicles in official use; and 5) any combat or combat support vehicle when used in times of national defense emergencies.

**Organic Compounds:** Compounds of carbon containing hydrogen and possibly other elements (such as oxygen, sulfur, or nitrogen). Major subgroups of organic compounds include hydrocarbons, alcohols, aldehydes, carboxylic acids, esters, ethers, and ketones. Organic compounds do not include crystalline or amorphous forms of elemental carbon (graphite, diamond, carbon black, etc.), the simple oxides of carbon (carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide), metallic carbides, or metallic carbonates.

**Overdraft condition:** A condition in which the total volume of water being extracted from the groundwater basin would be greater than the total recharge provided to the basin.

**Ozone (O<sub>3</sub>):** A compound consisting of three oxygen atoms. Ozone is a major constituent of photochemical smog that is formed primarily through chemical reactions in the atmosphere involving reactive organic compounds, nitrogen oxides, and ultraviolet light. Ozone is a toxic chemical that damages various types of plant and animal tissues and which causes chemical oxidation damage to various materials. Ozone is a respiratory irritant, and appears to increase susceptibility to respiratory infections. A natural layer of ozone in the upper atmosphere absorbs high energy ultraviolet radiation, reducing the intensity and spectrum of ultraviolet light that reaches the earth's surface.

## P

**Paleontological Resources (Fossils):** The physical remains of plants and animals preserved in soils and sedimentary rock formations. Paleontological resources are for understanding past environments, environmental change, and the evolution of life.

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

**Paleozoic Era:** An era of geologic time (600 million to 280 million years ago) between the Late Precambrian and the Mesozoic eras and comprising the Cambrian, Ordovician, Silurian, Devonian, Mississippian, Pennsylvanian, and Permian periods.

**Particulate Matter:** Solid or liquid material having size, shape, and density characteristics that allow the material to remain suspended in the atmosphere for more than a few minutes. Particulate matter can be characterized by chemical characteristics, physical form, or aerodynamic properties. Categories based on aerodynamic properties are commonly described as being size categories, although physical size is not used to define the categories. Many components of suspended particulate matter are respiratory irritants. Some components (such as crystalline or fibrous minerals) are primarily physical irritants. Other components are chemical irritants (such as sulfates, nitrates, and various organic chemicals). Suspended particulate matter also can contain compounds (such as heavy metals and various organic compounds) that are systemic toxins or necrotic agents. Suspended particulate matter or compounds adsorbed on the surface of particles can also be carcinogenic or mutagenic chemicals. See PM10 and PM2.5.

**Peak Ground Acceleration (PGA):** A common measure of ground motion during an earthquake. The PGA for a given component of motion is the largest value of horizontal acceleration obtained from a seismograph. PGA is expressed as the percentage of the acceleration due to gravity ( $g$ ), which is approximately 980 centimeters per second squared. Unlike measures of magnitude, which provide a single measure of earthquake energy, PGA varies from place to place, and is dependent on the distance from the epicenter and the character of the underlying geology (e.g. hard bedrock, soft sediments, or artificial fills).

**Peak Particle Velocity:** A measure of ground-borne vibrations. Physical movement distances are typically measured in thousandths of an inch, and occur over a tiny fraction of a second. But the normal convention for presenting that data is to convert it into units of inches per second.

**Petroglyph:** Pictures, symbols, or other art work pecked, carved, or incised on natural rock surfaces.

**pH (parts hydrogen):** a measure of the acidity or basicity of a water-based solution. Pure water is considered neutral with a pH of 7, while solutions with a pH less than 7 are said to be acidic and solutions with a pH greater than 7 are basic or alkaline.

**Physiographic Province:** An extensive portion of the landscape normally encompassing many hundreds of square miles, which portrays similar qualities of soil, rock, slope, and vegetation of the same geomorphic origin (Fenneman 1946; Sahrhaftig 1975).

**Pleistocene (Ice Age):** An epoch in the Quarternary period of geologic history lasting from 1.8 million to 10,000 years ago. The Pleistocene was an epoch of multiple glaciation, during which continental glaciers covered nearly one fifth of the earth's land.

**Pliocene:** The Pliocene Epoch is the period in the geologic timescale that extends from 5.332 million to 2.588 million years before present.

**PM10 (inhalable particulate matter):** A fractional sampling of suspended particulate matter that approximates the extent to which suspended particles with aerodynamic equivalent diameters

smaller than 50 microns penetrate to the lower respiratory tract (tracheo-bronchial airways and alveoli in the lungs). In a regulatory context, PM10 is any suspended particulate matter collected by a certified sampling device having a 50 percent collection efficiency for particles with aerodynamic equivalent diameters of 9.5 to 10.5 microns and an maximum aerodynamic diameter collection limit less than 50 microns. Collection efficiencies are greater than 50 percent for particles with aerodynamic diameters smaller than 10 microns and less than 50 percent for particles with aerodynamic diameters larger than 10 microns.

**PM2.5 (fine particulate matter):** A fractional sampling of suspended particulate matter that approximates the extent to which suspended particles with aerodynamic equivalent diameters smaller than 6 microns penetrate into the alveoli in the lungs. In a regulatory context, PM2.5 is any suspended particulate matter collected by a certified sampling device having a 50 percent collection efficiency for particles with aerodynamic equivalent diameters of 2.0 to 2.5 microns and an maximum aerodynamic diameter collection limit less than 6 microns. Collection efficiencies are greater than 50 percent for particles with aerodynamic diameters smaller than 2.5 microns and less than 50 percent for particles with aerodynamic diameters larger than 2.5 microns.

**Precursor:** A compound or category of pollutant that undergoes chemical reactions in the atmosphere to produce or catalyze the production of another type of air pollutant.

**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).

**Protocol Agreement (Protocol):** A modified version of the NPA, adapted to the unique requirements of managing cultural resources on public lands in California, and is used as the primary management guidance for BLM offices in the state.

## Q

**Quaternary Age:** The most recent of the three periods of the Cenozoic Era in the geologic time scale of the ICS. It follows the Tertiary Period, spanning  $2.588 \pm 0.005$  million years ago to the present. The Quaternary includes two geologic epochs: the Pleistocene and the Holocene Epochs.

## R

**Rehabilitation:** A management alternative and/or practice which restores landscapes to a desired scenic quality.

**Riparian:** Situated on or pertaining to the bank of a river, stream, or other body of water. Normally describes plants of all types that grow rooted in the water table or sub-irrigation zone of streams, ponds, and springs.

**Road:** A linear route declared a road by the owner, managed for use by low-clearance vehicles having four or more wheels, and maintained for regular and continuous use.

**Route:** "Routes" represents a group or set of roads, trails, and primitive roads that represents less than 100 percent of the BLM transportation system. Generically, components of the transportation system are described as routes.

## S

**Saleable Minerals:** Common variety minerals on the public lands, such as sand and gravel, which are used mainly for construction and are disposed by sales or special permits to local governments. See also Mineral Material Disposal.

**Scale:** The proportionate size relationship between an object and the surroundings in which the object is placed.

**Scenery:** The aggregate of features that give character to a landscape.

**Scenic Area:** An area whose landscape character exhibits a high degree of variety and harmony among the basic elements which results in a pleasant landscape to view.

**Scenic Quality:** The relative worth of a landscape from a visual perception point of view.

**Scenic Quality Evaluation Key Factors:** The seven factors (land form, vegetation, water, color, adjacent scenery, scarcity, and cultural modifications) used to evaluate the scenic quality of a landscape.

**Scenic Quality Ratings:** The relative scenic quality (A, B, or C) assigned a landscape by applying the scenic quality evaluation key factors; scenic quality A being the highest rating, B a moderate rating, and C the lowest rating.

**Scenic Values:** See Scenic Quality and Scenic Quality Ratings.

**Secretary of the Interior:** The U.S. Department of the Interior is in charge of the nation's internal affairs. The Secretary serves on the President's cabinet and appoints citizens to the National Park Foundation board.

**Sedimentary Rocks:** Rocks, such as sandstone, limestone, and shale, that are formed from sediments or transported fragments deposited in water.

**Sensitivity Levels:** Measures (e.g., high, medium, and low) of public concern for scenic quality.

**Settlement:** A process by which soils decrease in volume. Earthquake induced settlement results when relatively unconsolidated granular materials experience vibration associated with seismic events. Local settlement can occur when areas containing compressible soils are subject to foundation or fill loads.

**Special Status Species:** Federal- or state-listed species, candidate or proposed species for listing, or species otherwise considered sensitive or threatened by state and federal agencies.

**State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO):** The official within and authorized by each state at the request of the Secretary of the Interior to act as liaison for the National Historic Preservation Act.

**State Implementation Plan (SIP):** Legally enforceable plans adopted by states and submitted to EPA for approval, which identify the actions and programs to be undertaken by the State and its subdivisions to achieve and maintain national ambient air quality standards in a time frame mandated by the Clean Air Act.

**State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB):** Created in 1967, joint authority of water allocation and water quality protection enables the SWRCB to provide comprehensive protection for California's waters. The mission of the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards is to develop and enforce water quality objectives and implementation plans that will best protect the State's waters, recognizing local differences in climate, topography, geology, and hydrology.

**Stratigraphy:** The order and relative position of strata (a layer of rock in the ground) and their relationship to the geological time scale.

**Subsurface:** Of or pertaining to rock or mineral deposits which generally are found below the ground surface.

**Sulfur Dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>):** A pungent, colorless, and toxic oxide of sulfur formed primarily by the combustion of fossil fuels. It is a respiratory irritant, especially for asthmatics. A criteria pollutant in its own right, and a precursor of sulfate particles and atmospheric sulfuric acid.

## T

**Tertiary:** The Tertiary Period marks the beginning of the Cenozoic Era. It began 65 million years ago and lasted more than 63 million years, until 1.8 million years ago. The Tertiary is made up of 5 epochs: the Paleocene Epoch, the Eocene Epoch, the Oligocene Epoch, the Miocene Epoch, and the Pliocene Epoch.

**Texture:** The visual manifestations of the interplay of light and shadow created by the variations in the surface of an object or landscape.

**Toxic:** Poisonous. Exerting an adverse physiological effect on the normal functioning of an organism's tissues or organs through chemical or biochemical mechanisms following physical contact or absorption.

**Traditional Cultural Properties:** Areas associated with the cultural practices or beliefs of a living community. These sites are rooted in the community's history and are important in maintaining cultural identity.

**Trail:** A linear route managed for human-powered, stock, or off-highway vehicle forms of transportation or for historical or heritage values. Trails are not generally managed for use by four-wheel drive or high-clearance vehicles.

## V

**Vandalism (Cultural Resource):** Malicious damage or the unauthorized collecting, excavating, or defacing of cultural resources. §6 of the Archaeological Resources Protection Act states that "no person may excavate, remove, damage, or otherwise alter or deface any archaeological resource located on public lands or Indian lands...unless such activity is pursuant to a permit issued under section 4 of this Act."

**Variables:** Factors influencing visual perception including distance, angle of observation, time, size or scale, season of the year, light, and atmospheric conditions.

**Variety:** The state or quality of being varied and having the absence of monotony or sameness.

**Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT):** The cumulative amount of vehicle travel within a specified or implied geographical area over a given period of time.

**Viewshed:** The landscape that can be directly seen under favorable atmospheric conditions, from a viewpoint or along a transportation corridor. Protection, rehabilitation, or enhancement is desirable and possible.

**Visual Contrast:** See Contrast.

**Visual Quality:** See Scenic Quality.

**Visual Resources:** The visible physical features on a landscape (e.g., land, water, vegetation, animals, structures, and other features).

**Visual Resource Management 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 Resource Management (VRM):** The inventory and planning actions taken to identify visual values and to establish objectives for managing those values; and the management actions taken to achieve the visual management objectives.

**Visual Values:** See Scenic Quality.

## W

**Wetlands:** Permanently wet or intermittently water-covered areas, such as swamps, marshes, bogs, potholes, swales, and glades.

**Wilderness Area:** An area formally designated by Congress as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System as defined in the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 891), §2(c).

**Wilderness Study Area:** A roadless area or island that has been inventoried and found to have wilderness characteristics as described in §603 of FLPMA and §2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 891). The source for both of these is BLM's IMP and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review (December 1979).

# CHAPTER 8

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