

CHAPTER 6.0

Glossary

(Including Acronyms and Abbreviations)

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

ACTIVITY PLAN. A site-specific plan for the management of one or more resources, e.g., allotment management plan or habitat management plan. Activity plans provide the additional detail necessary to implement decisions made in the Resource Management Plan.

ALLOTMENT. An area of land designated and managed for livestock. It generally consists of BLM public lands but may include parcels of private, other federal and/or state-owned lands. The number of livestock and period of use are stipulated for each allotment. An allotment may consist of several pastures or be only one pasture.

AMP / Allotment Management Plan. A concisely written program of livestock grazing management, including supportive measures if required, designed to attain specific management goals in a grazing allotment. It is prepared with consultation, cooperation, and coordination with the permittee(s), lessee(s), or other affected parties.

AUM / Animal Unit Month. The amount of forage necessary for the complete sustenance of one cow, or its equivalent (one horse or five sheep, all over six months old) for one month; also, a unit of measurement of grazing privilege that represents the privilege of grazing one animal for a period of one month.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Sites, areas, structures, objects, or other evidence of prehistoric or historic human activities.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE. Geographic locale containing structures, artifacts, material remains, and/or other evidence(s) of past human activity.

BIOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT. A procedural step in the interagency consultation process under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act where the BLM submits a written summary of potential project impacts to threatened or endangered species to the USFWS for their evaluation.

BMP / Best Management Practice. A practice, or a combination of practices, determined by a state or a designated planning agency to be the most effective, practicable means of preventing or reducing the amount of pollution generated by nonpoint sources to a level compatible with water quality goals.

BLM PUBLIC LAND. As used in this document, these are lands where both the Surface and mineral estates are federally owned and administered by the BLM. Also see **FEDERAL LANDS.**

BLM SPLIT ESTATE LANDS. In this document, BLM split estate refers to areas where the surface is owned by private, state, or local government and the minerals are federally owned and administered by BLM. Also see **SPLIT ESTATE LANDS**.

CANDIDATE SPECIES. Candidate species are any species not yet officially listed, but which are undergoing a status review or are proposed for listing according to Federal Register notices published by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Commerce.

CLASSIFICATION. A formal action to classify the public land parcels into land use categories with different types of uses and intensity of use. Lands are classified as to multiple-use management or disposal. Classifications can segregate (i.e., not keep open) the affected lands from settlement, location, sale, selection, entry, lease, or other forms of disposal under the public land laws, including the mining and mineral leasing laws; and this segregative effect of each classification is governed by applicable laws and regulations.

CRITICAL HABITAT. Any habitat, which if lost, would appreciably decrease the likelihood of the survival and recovery of a threatened or endangered species, or a distinct segment of its population. Critical habitat may represent any portion of the present habitat of a listed species and may include additional areas for reasonable population expansion. Critical habitat must be officially designated as such by the Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Services.

CULTURAL RESOURCE. The fragile and nonrenewable remains of human activity, occupation, or endeavor reflected in districts, sites, structure, buildings, objectives artifacts, ruins, works of art, architecture, and natural features that were of importance in human events. These resources consist of (1) physical remains, (2) areas where significant human events occurred even though evidence of the event no longer remains, and (3) the environment immediately surrounding the resource.

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

DISPOSAL. Transfer of ownership of a tract of public land from the United States to another party.

DISPOSAL CRITERIA. Under the authority of Section 203 (a) of the federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), certain public lands may be sold if it is determined through land use planning that such lands meet the following disposal criteria:

- 1) such tract because of its location or other characteristics is difficult and uneconomic to manage as part of the public lands, and is not suitable for management by another federal department or agency; or
- 2) such tract was acquired for a specific purpose and the tract is no longer required for that or any other federal purpose; or

- 3) disposal of such tract will serve important public objectives, including but not limited to, expansion of communities and economic development, which cannot be achieved prudently or feasibly on land other than public land and which outweigh other public objectives and values including but not limited to recreation and scenic values, which would best be served by maintaining such tract in Federal ownership.

ENDANGERED SPECIES. Any species formally recognized by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service as in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

FEDERAL LANDS. As used in this document, lands owned by the United States, including mineral estates, without reference to how the lands were acquired or what federal agency administers them.

FEDERAL MINERAL ESTATE. See **BLM SPLIT ESTATE LANDS.**

FIRE FUEL. The living and dead vegetative material that can be consumed by fire.

FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN. A source document containing fire history, ecological impacts, and proposed fire actions for manageable units of public lands.

FIRE MANAGEMENT. The use of full suppression, limited suppression, and prescribed fire to achieve desired management objectives.

FLPMA. Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976: Public Law 94-579, which gives the BLM legal authority to establish public land policy, to establish guidelines for administering such policy and to provide for the management, protection, development, and enhancement of public land.

FORAGE. All browse and herbaceous foods that are available to grazing animals.

FULL SUPPRESSION. Taking aggressive action on all fires on or threatening the public lands with sufficient forces to contain the fire during the early burning period.

GRAZING PREFERENCE. A superior or priority position against others for the purpose of receiving a grazing permit or lease. This priority is attached or controlled by a permittee or lessee.

GRAZING LEASE. A document authorizing use of the public lands outside an established grazing district for the purpose of grazing livestock.

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 WASTES. Those materials defined in Section 101 (14) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 and listed in 40 CFR.

HISTORIC. Refers to period wherein non-native cultural activities took place, based primarily upon European roots, having no origin in traditional native American culture(s).

HYDROCARBONS. Organic chemical compounds of hydrogen and carbon atoms that form the basis of all petroleum products, including oil and gas.

INHOLDING. A parcel of privately-owned land surrounded by BLM public land.

INTERDISCIPLINARY. Characterized by interactive participation or cooperation of two or more disciplines or fields of study.

LEASABLE MINERALS. Those minerals or materials that can be leased from the federal government. Includes oil and gas, coal, phosphate, sodium, potash, oil shale, and geothermal resources.

LEASE (MINERAL). A contract between an owner of mineral rights and another, granting the latter the right to search for and produce gas, hydrocarbons, or other mineral substances upon payment of an agreed-upon rental, and royalties based on production.

LIMITED SUPPRESSION. A deviation from normal fire suppression that is based on a fire land use decision or is practiced where controlling fire is extremely difficult or where the values-at-risk do not warrant the expense associated with normal suppression procedures.

LOCATABLE MINERALS. Minerals or materials subject to disposal and development through the Mining Law of 1872 (as amended). Generally includes metallic minerals such as gold, silver and other materials not subject to lease or sale (some bentonites, limestone, talc, some zeolites, etc.).

MANAGEMENT AREA. A discrete portion of the total planning area that has common features, problems, and/or management needs that lends itself to specific management decisions.

MINERAL ESTATE. See **FEDERAL MINERAL ESTATE.**

MONITORING. Specific studies which evaluate the effectiveness of actions taken toward achieving management objectives.

MULTIPLE USE. The management of the public land and its various resource values so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people; making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; the use of some land for less than all of the resources; a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including, but not limited to, recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific, and historical values, and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources without permanent impairment of the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment with consideration being given to the relative values of the resources and not necessarily to the combination of uses that will give the greatest economic return or the combination of uses that will give the greatest economic return or the greatest unit output. Multiple

use management by the BLM is in accordance with Section 102 (a) (7) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

NDDB / Natural Diversity Data Base. A program in the Department of Fish and Game, the NDDB inventories the locations of the state's rarest species and natural communities. Its goal is to help conserve California's biotic diversity by providing government agencies and the private sector with information to assist in land-use decisions and resource management.

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

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE (OHV) DESIGNATION. See **VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION.**

OHV / Off-Highway-Vehicle. Generally, any motorized vehicle designed for cross-country travel over any type of natural terrain. A off-highway-vehicle is defined in California Vehicle Code Sections 38006 and 38012 and generally includes dirt and dual purpose motorcycles, dune buggies, jeeps, 4-wheel drive vehicles, snowmobiles, and all-terrain vehicles (ATVs). OHV and ORV (off-road vehicle) are considered synonymous and refer to any motorized vehicle used for travel in areas normally considered inaccessible to conventional highway vehicles. Go-carts, quarter midgets, dragsters, motocross motorcycles, bicycles, horses, and motorhomes are not considered OHVs.

ONA / Outstanding Natural Area. Area of outstanding scenic splendor or natural wonder that merits special attention and care in management to ensure its preservation in a natural condition. A type of Area of Critical Environmental Concern.

PALEONTOLOGY. The study of life in past geologic time, based on fossil plants and animals, and including phylogeny, their relationships to existing plants, animals, and environments, and the chronology of the Earth's history.

PREHISTORIC. Refers to period wherein Native American cultural activities took place which were not yet influenced by contact with historic non-native culture(s).

PRESCRIBED BURNING. The application of fire to wildland fuels under such conditions of weather, fuels, and topography that specific objectives are accomplished safely.

PUBLIC LAND. See **BLM PUBLIC LAND.**

RANGE IMPROVEMENT. Any activity or program on or relating to rangelands which is designed to improve production of forage, change vegetation composition, control patterns of use, provide water, stabilize soil and water conditions, and provide habitat for livestock, wild free-roaming horses and burros, and wildlife. The term includes but is not limited to structures, treatment projects, and use of mechanical means to accomplish the desired result.

RAPTOR. Birds of prey with sharp talons and strongly curved beaks; e.g., hawks, owls, eagles, and falcons.

RECREATION AND PUBLIC PURPOSES / R&PP. R&PP refers to both the Recreation and Public Purposes Act (43 USC 869) and the uses to be made of public land transferred under the act. The objective of the R&PP Act is to meet the needs of state and local government agencies and nonprofit organizations by leasing or conveying public land required for recreation and public purposes uses. Examples of uses made of R&PP lands are parks, schools, religious facilities, and camps for youth groups.

RIGHT-OF-WAY GRANT / ROW. A right attached to the land for use by another party (i.e., utility lines, road, etc.).

RIPARIAN. Situated on or pertaining to the bank of a river, stream, or other body of water. Normally used to refer to the plants of all types that grow rooted in the water table of streams, ponds, and springs.

RNA / Research Natural Area. An area that is established and maintained for the primary purpose of research and education because the land has one or more of the following characteristics: a typical representation of a common plant or animal association; an unusual plant or animal association; a threatened or endangered plant or animal species; a typical representation of common geologic, soil, or water features; or outstanding or unusual geologic, soil, or water features.

SALABLE MINERALS. Minerals that may be sold under the Material Sale Act of 1947, as amended. Included are common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, and clay.

SCOPING PROCESS. An early and public process for determining the nature, significance, and range of issues to be addressed related to a proposed action.

SEASON OF USE. The part of the year in which livestock are authorized to graze in a given area.

SENSITIVE SPECIES. Species that are not yet listed as endangered or threatened, but that are undergoing a status review. This may include animals whose populations are consistently and widely dispersed or whose ranges are restricted to a few localities, so that any major habitat change could lead to extinction. A species that is particularly sensitive to some external disturbance factors.

SIGNIFICANCE. A high degree of importance as indicated by either quantitative measurements or qualitative judgments. Significance may be determined by evaluating characteristics pertaining to location extent, consequences, and duration.

SPECIAL RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA / SRMA. An area where special management or intensive recreation management is needed. Recreation activity plans are required, and greater managerial investment in facilities or supervision can be anticipated.

SPLIT ESTATE LANDS. A given area where the surface and mineral estates are in different ownerships. Also see **BLM SPLIT ESTATE LANDS.**

SUSTAINED YIELD. The achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of a high level annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the public land consistent with multiple use. This term is most commonly associated with forest management and the provisions of an undiminished or "even flow" average annual production of wood fiber over decades. It is also applicable to the management of all renewable resources including forage, wildlife, water, recreation, or any value that can be managed for renewal and sustained productivity. It is dependent on the application of multiple use management in a way that assumes the maintenance of the land's productivity.

THREATENED SPECIES. Any species formally recognized by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service as likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

TREND. The direction of change in range condition over a period of time, expressed as upward, downward, or static. The factors that influence trend are changes in plant composition, abundance of young plants, plant residues, plant vigor, and the condition of the soil surface.

208 WATER PLAN. A water quality management plan developed by an agency of each state. In California, the Department of Environmental Quality developed the plan. Called "208" from the section number of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972 and 1977 (also called the Clean Water Act). Section 208 of that act specifies how a continuing process of water quality management is to be used to meet the goals of the law and how boundaries of area wide regions are to be determined. It establishes procedures to be used by each state in designating an agency to develop the plan and identifies issues to be addressed in the plan.

UTILIZATION. The portion of the current year's production that is consumed or destroyed by grazing animals. The term may refer either to a single species or to the vegetation as a whole.

VEGETATION TYPE. A grouping of similar vegetation based on structure, a product of the complex of climatic factors effective in a region.

VEHICLE ROUTE DESIGNATION. Executive Order 11644 requires that all public land be designated for appropriate levels of OHV use in one of three possible categories: Open, Limited, or Closed. These categories are defined as follows:

Open: Means an area where all types of vehicle use is permitted at all times, anywhere in the area subject to the operating regulations and vehicle standards set forth in Subparts 8341 and 8342 of 43 CFR.

Limited: Means an area restricted at certain times, in certain areas, and/or to certain vehicular use. These restrictions may be of any type, but can generally be accompanied within the following types of categories: Numbers of vehicles; types of vehicles; time or

season of vehicle use; permitted or licensed use only; use on existing roads and trails; use on designated roads and trails; and other restrictions.

Closed: Means an area where off-highway vehicle use is prohibited. Use of off-highway vehicles in closed areas may be allowed for certain reasons if specifically approved.

Exclusions (from Executive Order 11644 as amended by Executive Order 11989) are any military, fire, emergency or law enforcement vehicles while being used for emergency purposes, any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized or otherwise officially approved, vehicles in official use and any combat support vehicle in time of national defense emergencies.

VIEWSHED. The landscape that can be directly seen under favorable atmospheric conditions from a viewpoint or along a transportation corridor.

VRM / Visual Resource Management. The planning, designing, and implementation of management objectives for maintaining scenic value and visual quality on public lands.

WATERSHED. A total area of land above a given point on a waterway that contributes runoff water to the flow at that point.

WETLAND. Lands where at least periodic inundation or saturation with water (either from the surface or subsurface) is the dominant factor determining the natural soil development and/or the types of plant and animal communities living there. These include the entire zones associated with streams, lakes, ponds, springs, canals, and seeps.

WITHDRAWAL. A formalized action restricting specified land from operation or disposal under specified laws, either mineral laws or land disposal laws, or both. Can also be used to transfer jurisdiction of land to another federal agency.