

Glossary

The glossary defines key terms and concepts in the CCNM RMP. It is intended to increase understanding of the document by clarifying terms that are unique to environmental documentation or those with several potential meanings.

Alternative – One of at least two proposed means of accomplishing planning objectives.

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) – An area of BLM-administered land where special management attention is needed 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 provide safety from natural hazards.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) – Methods, measures, or practices designed to prevent or reduce water pollution. Not limited to structural and nonstructural controls, and procedures for operations and maintenance. Usually, BMPs are applied as a system of practices rather than a single practice.

BLM-Sensitive Species – See SENSITIVE SPECIES.



Cadastral Survey – A survey relating to land boundaries and subdivisions, made to create units suitable for transfer or to define the limitations of title. It is derived from the word “cadastre,” meaning a public record, survey, or map of the value, extent, and ownership of land as a basis of taxation.

California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) – The California state agency that manages California’s fish, wildlife, and plant resources, and the habitats upon which they depend, for their ecological values and for their use and enjoyment by the public.

Category 1 – Taxa for which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has substantial information on hand to support proposing the species for listing as threatened or endangered. Listing proposals are either being prepared or have been delayed by higher priority listing work.

Category 2 – Taxa for which FWS has information to indicate that listing is possibly appropriate. Additional information is being collected.

California Coastal National Monument (CCNM) – All unappropriated or unreserved lands and interest in lands owned or controlled by the United States, in the form of islands, rocks, exposed reefs, and pinnacles above mean high tide within 12 nautical miles of the shoreline of the State of California. These lands are scattered throughout the CCNM corridor.

CCNM Corridor – The geographic area in which the rocks and islands that make up the monument are located. This is the area (delineated by Presidential Proclamation No. 7264 that established the CCNM on January 11, 2000) that extends 12 nautical miles off of the shoreline of the State of California and encompasses more than 14,600 square nautical miles. Also referred to as the “monument corridor,” this is not the CCNM.

CCNM Planning Area – The geographic area covered by the RMP, including all lands regardless of jurisdiction. This area consists of the CCNM corridor plus the California Coastal Commission’s Coastal Zone. Delineation of a planning area extending beyond the CCNM boundary helps ensure that the resource values and public use of the CCNM are considered in their proper context as components of California’s coastal ecosystems. BLM planning guidance promotes delineation of planning areas at a geographic scale to ensure that issues are addressed in their entirety and to encourage public involvement.

Cooperating Agency – Assists the lead federal agency in developing the environmental analysis for a proposed major action. U.S. Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA define a cooperating agency as any agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise for proposals covered by NEPA. Any North American Indian tribe or federal, state, or local government jurisdiction with such qualifications may become a cooperating agency by agreement with the lead agency. Cooperating agency status is generally formalized through a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between BLM and the cooperating agency.

Consistency – Under the FLPMA, the adherence of BLM resource management plans to the terms, conditions, and decisions of officially approved and

adopted resource related plans, or in their absence, with policies and programs of other federal agencies, state and local governments and Indian tribes, so long as the plans are also consistent with the purposes, policies and programs of federal laws and regulations applicable to BLM-administered lands.

Critical Habitat – Under the Endangered Species Act, (1) the specific areas within the geographic area occupied by a federally listed species on which are found physical and biological features essential to the conservation of the species, and that may require special management considerations or protection; and (2) specific areas outside the geographic area occupied by a listed species when it is determined that such areas are essential for the conservation of the species.

Cultural Resource – Any definite location of past human activity identifiable through field survey, historical documentation, or oral evidence. Includes archaeological or architectural sites, structures, or places; and places of traditional cultural or religious importance to specified groups whether or not represented by physical remains.

Cultural Resource Data – Cultural resource information embodied in material remains and manifested in studies, notes, records, diaries, analyses, and published and unpublished manuscripts.

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. The three classes, or levels, of cultural resource inventories (surveys) are:

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.

Disposition – A transaction that leads to the transfer of title of public lands, and/or resources upon or in these lands, from the Federal Government.

Disturbance – A natural or human-induced environmental change that alters one or more of the floral, faunal, or microbial communities within the ecosystem. Disturbance to wildlife is anything that causes them to deviate from their normal activities such that it makes it difficult to complete their life cycles.

Ecological Health – The condition of an ecosystem in which processes and functions are adequate to maintain diversity of biotic communities commensurate with those initially found there.

Effect – Interpreted under NEPA to indicate reasonably foreseeable effects from a proposed project to ecological, aesthetic, historic, cultural, economic, social, or health, or other resources. Impacts may be beneficial or detrimental (adverse), or possibly both. Impacts may be considered as direct, indirect, or cumulative:

Direct. Caused by an action occurring at the same time and place.

Indirect. Caused by the proposed action and occurring later in time or farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable.

Cumulative. Resulting from the incremental effect of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions.

Endangered Species – Any species defined through the Endangered Species Act as being in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range and published in the Federal Register.

Endemic – Native to a well-defined geographic area and restricted to that area.

Entry – An application to acquire title to public lands.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) – A formal, analytical document required by NEPA that considers significant environmental impacts expected from implementation of a major federal action.

Environmental Justice – The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income in developing, implementing, and enforcing environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

Exchange – A type of disposition. An exchange is a transaction whereby the Federal government receives land or interests in lands in exchange for other land or interest in lands. Exchanges are equal value for equal value, not acre for acre.

Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) – The act that: (1) established, for the BLM, standards for managing the public lands including land use planning, sales, withdrawals, acquisitions, and exchanges; (2) authorized the setting up of local advisory councils representing major citizens groups interested in land use planning and management, (3) established criteria for reviewing proposed wilderness areas, and (4) provided guidelines for other aspects of public land management such as grazing.



Interim Management – Temporary management of the monument conducted until such a time as resource areas are designated and management actions are in place for all rocks and islands.

Intertidal Zone – The area exposed at low tides and inundated at high tides; defined as the area between extreme low tide and extreme high tide. The extent of the intertidal zone is variable based on local conditions such as exposure to wave action. The intertidal zone is host to a variety of biota that are adapted to the varying amounts of inundation, the composition of which changes depending on position in the intertidal zone (e.g., some species are only found in the low intertidal or high intertidal zones).

Invasive Species – Plant or wildlife species that were either absent or present only in small amounts in undisturbed portions of a specific site’s original habitat but that invade and/or proliferate following disturbance or continued overuse. Invasive species often have a deleterious effect on natural resources and/or human uses of these resources.

Landscape – A heterogeneous land area with interacting ecosystems that are repeated in similar form throughout.

Landscape Features – The land and water form, vegetation, and structures that compose the characteristic landscape.

Land Use Allocations – Allocations that define allowable uses/activities, restricted uses/activities, and prohibited uses/activities. They may be expressed in terms of area such as acres or miles. Each allocation is associated with a specific management objective.

Land Use Authorization – BLM’s authorizing through rights-of-way, leases, land use permits, and easements of uses of the public land.

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.

Locatable Minerals – “Handrock” minerals, including—but not limited to—copper, lead, zinc, magnesium, nickel, tungsten, gold, silver, bentonite, barite, feldspar, fluorspar, and uranium.

Location – Applies to “locatable minerals” under the Mining Law of 1872 and refers to “whatever are recognized as mineral by the standard authorities, whether metallic or other substances, and are found in sufficient quantity to justify their location under the Mining Law...”.

Management Actions/Direction – Measures planned to achieve the stated objectives.

Management Activity – An activity undertaken for the purpose of harvesting, traversing, transporting, protecting, changing, replenishing, or otherwise using resources.

Management Situation Analysis (MSA) – Step 4 in BLM’s resource management planning process. An MSA describes a planning area’s current public land management and suggests opportunities to better manage this land.

Management Zones – Designated resources areas where specific management actions/measures will be applied.

Mean High Tide – The average of all high tides. Mean high tide varies by location based on local tidal patterns.

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

Mineral Withdrawal – Removal or withholding of public mineral estate by statute, Executive Order, Secretarial Order, or Public Land Order from operation of the public mining laws.

Monitoring – The process of collecting information to evaluate if objectives and anticipated or assumed results of a management plan are being realized or if implementation is proceeding as planned.

Monument Corridor – See CCNM CORRIDOR.

Multiple Use – A combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that considers long-term needs for renewable and nonrenewable resources including recreation, wildlife, rangeland, timber, minerals, and watershed protection, along with scenic, scientific, and cultural values.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) – The federal law, effective January 1, 1970, that established a national policy for the environment and requires federal agencies: (1) to become aware of the environmental ramifications of their proposed actions, (2) to fully disclose to the public proposed federal actions and provide a mechanism for public input to federal decision making, and (3) to prepare environmental impact statements for every major action that would significantly affect the quality of the human environment.

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as Amended (NHPA) – A federal statute that established a federal program to further the efforts of private agencies and individuals in preserving the Nation's historic and cultural foundations. The NHPA: (1) authorized the NRHP, (2) established the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and a National Trust Fund to administer grants for historic preservation, and (3) authorized the development of regulations to require federal agencies to consider the effects of federally assisted activities on properties included on or eligible for the NRHP.

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

Nonpoint Source Pollution (Water) – Pollution sources that are diffuse and do not have a single point of origin or are not introduced into a receiving water body from a specific outlet. These pollutants are generally carried off

the land by storm water runoff from such sources as farming, forestry, mining, urban land uses, construction, and land disposal.

Noxious Plant – An unwanted plant specified by federal or state laws as being undesirable and requiring control. Noxious weeds are usually nonnatives and highly invasive.

Objectives – Expressions of the desired end results of management efforts.

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) – Any motorized track or wheeled vehicle designed for cross country travel over natural terrain. OHVs exclude: (1) any non-amphibious registered motorboat; (2) any fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle while being used for official or emergency purposes; and (3) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by a permit, lease, license, agreement, or contract issued by an authorized officer or otherwise approved. (The term “off-highway vehicle” is used in place of the term “off-road vehicle” to comply with the purposes of Executive Orders 11644 and 11989. The definition for both terms is the same.)

Particulate Matter – Fine liquid (other than water) or solid particles suspended in the air, consisting of dust, smoke, fumes, and compounds containing sulfur, nitrogen, and metals.

Passive Recreation – Activities that do not directly or adversely affect monument resources, such as wildlife viewing, photography and painting, and appropriate water sports (including swimming, kayaking, and sailing), from the mainland or adjacent waters.

Patent – A document that conveys legal title to public lands to the patentee. Public domain lands are patented, while acquired lands are deeded by the Government.

Permit – A revocable authorization to use public lands for a specified purpose for up to 3 years.

Proposed Threatened or Endangered Species – Plant or animal species proposed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to be biologically appropriate for listing as threatened or endangered and that is published in the Federal Register. It is not a final designation.

Record of Decision – A document signed by a responsible official recording a decision that was preceded by preparation of an environmental impact statement.

Recreation – The enjoyment of scenery, water, primitive or natural landscape, wildlife, natural phenomena, and archeological and historical sites in one’s leisure time.

Resource Management Plan (RMP) – A BLM planning document that is prepared in accord with Section 202 of the FLPMA and that presents systematic guidelines for making resource management decisions for a resource area. An RMP is based on an analysis of an area’s resources, their existing manage-



ment, and their capability for alternative uses. RMPs are issue-oriented and developed by an interdisciplinary team with public participation.

Right-of-Way – A permit or an easement that authorizes the use of public lands for specified purposes—such as pipelines, roads, telephone lines, electric lines, communication sites, reservoirs—and the lands covered by such an easement or permit, within a specific time frame, usually with an option of renewing.

Saleable Minerals – Saleable minerals are sand, gravel, stone, soil, and other common-variety mineral materials disposed of through sales at not less than their appraised price or through free-use permits (e.g., sand and gravel to a county roads department).

Scoping – An early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed in an environmental impact statement and the significant issues related to a proposed action.

Sea Stacks – Tiny islands of volcanic rock left standing after waves have eroded the shoreline.

Section 404 Permit – A permit required by the Clean Water Act, under specified circumstances, when dredge or fill material is placed in the waters of the United States, including wetlands.

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

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

Sensitive Areas – Sites hosting significant populations of nesting or roosting seabirds or marine mammals.

Special Management Areas – Areas that may need special management, such as management as an ACEC, RNA, environmental education area, or other special category.

Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) – An area where a commitment has been made to provide specific recreation activity and experience opportunities. These areas usually require a high level of recreation investment and/or management. They include recreation sites, but recreation sites alone do not constitute SRMAs.

Special-Status Species – Plant or animal species falling in any of the following categories:

- Threatened or endangered species,
- Proposed threatened or endangered species,
- Candidate species,
- State-listed species,

BLM sensitive species, and
BLM assessment species.

State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) – The state official authorized to act as a liaison to the Secretary of the Interior for purposes of implementing the NHPA.

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

Threatened Species – Any species defined through the Endangered Species Act as likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range, as published in the Federal Register.

Vegetation – The collective plant cover, including terrestrial vegetation such as herbaceous plants, trees, and grasses and intertidal vegetation such as seaweeds, algae, and lichens.

Valid Existing Right – A legally binding property right of a person or entity at a particular point in time.

Viable Population – A wildlife or plant population that contains an adequate number of reproductive individuals to appropriately ensure the long-term existence of the species.

Viewshed – The entire area visible from a viewpoint.

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

Visual Resource Management Classes – Categories assigned to public lands based on scenic quality, sensitivity level, and distance zones. Each class has an objective that prescribes the amount of modification allowed in the landscape. The four classes are:

Class I: The objective of this class is to preserve the existing character of the landscape. This class provides for natural ecological changes; however, it does not preclude very limited management activities. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be very low and must not attract attention.

Class II: The objective of this class is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be low. Management activities may be seen, but should not attract attention of the casual observer. Any change must repeat the basic element of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.

Class III: The objective of this class is to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be moderate. Management activities may attract attention but should not dominate the view of the casual observer. Changes should repeat the basic elements found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.

Class IV: The objective of this class is to provide for management activities that require major modifications of the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape can be high. These man-

agement activities may dominate the view and be the major focus of the viewer attention. However, every attempt should be made to minimize the impact of these activities through careful location, minimal disturbance, and repeating the basic elements of the characteristic landscape.

Water Quality – The chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of water.

Wetlands or Wetland Habitat – Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include—but are not limited to—swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.

Wilderness Study Area (WSA) – A roadless area that has been inventoried and found to be wilderness in character, has few human developments, and provides outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation, as described in Section 603 of the FLPMA and in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Withdrawal – An action that restricts the disposition of public lands and that holds them for a specific public purpose.



