

DRAFT BLM CO-NM REGIONAL MITIGATION GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Regional Mitigation Goals ¹	Regional Mitigation Objectives: In order to avoid, minimize, rectify, reduce, eliminate over time, or compensate for direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts to resources requiring mitigation, the following objectives and time lines are proposed:	Applicable SEZs	BLM Mitigation Sites
<p><u>Goal 1:</u> Healthy watersheds and landscapes support ecological processes that maintain ecosystem resiliency and integrity to support natural abundance and diversity of terrestrial and aquatic populations and communities.</p>	<p><u>Objective 1 for Goal 1:</u> Preserve, restore, enhance, conserve, or acquire equivalent acreage of winterfat-saltbush-blue grama grasslands habitat and shrubland ecosystem in the San Luis Valley and Taos Plateau for landscape lost through development on the SEZ to 80% of cover and composition of primary plant species within 5-10 years of initiation of land disturbing development on the SEZ.</p> <p><u>Objective 2 for Goal 1:</u> Preserve, create, enhance, and/or acquire playa, wet meadow, emergent and riparian habitats to attract migratory birds to sustain avian populations in the San Luis Valley and Taos Plateau landscape and offset “lake” effect impacts of SEZ development within 1-5 years of initiation of SEZ land disturbing activities.</p> <p><u>Objective 3 for Goal 1:</u> Preserve and/or restore winterfat-saltbush-blue grama grasslands habitat and shrubland ecosystem to sustain a natural abundance and diversity of terrestrial wildlife populations in the San Luis Valley and Taos Plateau landscape within 5-10 years of initiation of land disturbing development on the SEZ.</p>	<p>Antonito SE Los Mogotes E DeTilla Gulch</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rio Grande Corridor • Closed Basin Wetlands • West Fork Old Spanish Trail • Mogotes-Conejos • Limekiln Greenie • Taos Plateau Pronghorn Assemblage • Taos Plateau Big Game Migration • Cerro del Aire • Sangres Foothills • Trickle Mountain – Saguache Creek • Poncha Pass • Tracy-Biedell • McIntire-Simpson • Brownie Hills • Cumbres-Toltec

¹ Guidance: Not yet drafted for sites – see BLM SLV & BLM Taos RMP summarized goals at: http://www.blm.gov/co/st/en/fo/slvfo/solar/solar_regional_mitigation.html.

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<p><u>Goal 2:</u> Sufficient acreage of high quality habitats is spatially distributed across the landscape providing all necessary habitat components to support life history requirements to maintain a natural abundance and diversity of migratory birds and special status species, avoiding the need for future listing.</p>	<p>Same Objectives as Goal 1.</p>	<p>Antonito SE Los Mogotes E DeTilla Gulch</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rio Grande Corridor • Closed Basin Wetlands • West Fork Old Spanish Trail • Mogotes-Conejos • Limekiln Greenie • Taos Plateau Pronghorn Assemblage • Taos Plateau Big Game Migration • Cerro del Aire • Sangres Foothills • Trickle Mountain – Saguache Creek • Poncha Pass • Tracy-Biedell • McIntire-Simpson • Cumbres-Toltec
<p><u>Goal 3:</u> Sufficient acreage of upland vegetation, riparian and wetland communities providing functioning ecological processes across the landscape to support healthy watersheds and viable and resilient populations of native species.</p>	<p>Same Objectives as Goal 1.</p>	<p>Antonito SE Los Mogotes E De Tilla Gulch</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rio Grande Corridor • Closed Basin Wetlands • West Fork Old Spanish Trail • Mogotes-Conejos • Limekiln Greenie • Taos Plateau Pronghorn Assemblage • Taos Plateau Big Game Migration • Cerro del Aire • Sangres Foothills • Trickle Mountain – Saguache Creek • Poncha Pass • Tracy-Biedell • McIntire-Simpson • Brownie Hills • Cumbres-Toltec

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<p><u>Goal 4:</u> Significant cultural resources are identified, preserved, and protected to ensure that they are available for appropriate uses by present and future generations.</p> <p>Imminent threats are reduced and potential conflicts from natural or human-caused deterioration or potential conflict with other resource uses are resolved by ensuring that all authorizations for land use and resource use comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.</p> <p>National historic trail routes and historic settings, remnants, and artifacts are identified and protected for public use and enjoyment.</p>	<p><u>Objective 1 for Goal 4:</u> Enhance and/or protect NHT and other cultural resources in the San Luis Valley–Taos Plateau for communities affected by public land solar energy development and to avoid adverse effects to traditional cultural properties.</p> <p><u>Objective 2 for Goal 4:</u> Rectify and enhance visual resources, including high contrasts in the San Luis Valley-Taos Plateau.</p> <p><u>Objective 3 for Goal 4:</u> (Hispano Cultural Landscape only): Enhance cultural heritage education & Sangre de Cristo & Northern Rio Grande NHA values by increasing regional & national knowledge of the Spanish & Mexican land grant and hispano settlement patterns the San Luis Valley and Taos Plateau landscape. Map and document land grant era acequia - long lot settlement areas (as identified by A. Valdez, October, 2014) roughly proportional to SEZ area developed within 2-5 years of project initiation.</p>	<p>Antonito SE Los Mogotes E De Tilla Gulch</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed Basin Wetlands • West Fork Old Spanish Trail • Limekiln Greenie • Sangres Foothills • Trickle Mountain – Saguache Creek • Cumbres-Toltec
<p><u>Goal 5:</u> Enhance and rectify visual quality in the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area</p>	<p><u>Objective 1 for Goal 5:</u> Rectify and enhance visual quality within 1-5 years of initiation of land disturbing development on the SEZ.</p>	<p>De Tilla Antonito SE Los Mogotes E</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fourmile Traditional Cultural Landscape • Hispano Cultural Landscape

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<p><u>Goal 6:</u> Air quality conditions near households and communities maintain EPA NAAQS and criteria pollutant standards, retain low contribution to ambient dust, promote Great Sand Dunes NP Class I Airshed Protected area visibility goals, and foster federal greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals</p>	<p><u>Objective 1 for Goal 6:</u> To improve and protect and conserve watershed/groundwater and air quality; protect thru acquisition and ACEC designations sensitive and significant cultural features.</p> <p><u>Objective 2 for Goal 6:</u> Enter into a land trade with Costilla County for campsite development (Box Canyon Dam) to protect and conserve watershed & air quality by relocating possible recreational facility development in sensitive areas (streambank and riparian).</p> <p><u>Objective 3 for Goal 6:</u> Apply mitigation measures to disturbed soils and/or reduce fugitive dust on an area roughly proportional to SEZ area developed within 1 to 5 years of project initiation.</p>	<p>De Tilla Gulch Antonito SE Los Mogotes E</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mogotes-Conejos • Sangres Foothills

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<p>Goal 7: Disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority and low-income populations are avoided in the landscape.</p>	<p><u>Objective 1 for Goal 7:</u> Restore and rectify disturbed soils and/or reduce fugitive dust on an area roughly proportional to SEZ area developed within 1 to 5 years of project initiation.</p> <p><u>Objective 2 for Goal 7:</u> Enhancement of grazing opportunities by fencing to create reserve common allotments.</p> <p><u>Objective 3 for Goal 7:</u> Environmental Justice (EJ) (grazing, recreational opportunities, air & water maintenance).</p> <p><u>Objective 4 for Goal 7:</u> Restore Baca National Wildlife Refuge disturbed agricultural circles for wildlife habitat.</p> <p><u>Objective 5 for Goal 7:</u> Conserve watershed & air quality (EJ).</p>	<p>Los Mogotes E. Antonito SE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rio Grande Corridor • Closed Basin Wetlands • West Fork Old Spanish Trail • Taos Plateau Pronghorn Assemblage • Taos Plateau Big Game Migration • McIntire-Simpson • Cumbres-Toltec

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<p><u>Goal 8:</u> Surface water and groundwater quantity and quality, and watershed functions, result in compliance with Clean Water Act and other applicable water quality requirements, which maintain or improve sufficient water to support people, economies, wildlife, and ecological systems.</p>	<p><u>Objective 1 for Goal 8:</u> Replace or offset groundwater recharge area lost due to solar development within 1-5 years of SEZ development.</p> <p><u>Objective 2 for Goal 8:</u> Enhance groundwater recharge and protection through creation of additional wetlands within 1-5 years of SEZ development.</p> <p><u>Objective 3 for Goal 8:</u> Enhance, rectify and protect surface water quality by constructing stream rehabilitation and erosion control structures to reduce, avoid, eliminate, minimize soil erosion within 1-5 years of SEZ development.</p> <p><u>Objective 4 for Goal 8:</u> Enhance groundwater recharge & protection by applying water to wetlands within 1-5 years of SEZ development.</p> <p><u>Objective 5 for Goal 8:</u> Acquire augmentation water for Blanca Wetlands wells, to protect wetlands habitat within 1-5 years of SEZ development.</p> <p><u>Objective 6 for Goal 8:</u> Construct infrastructure improvements (i.e. ditches, dykes, headgates, etc.) to maximize wetlands habitats by maximizing existing water rights/water use efficiencies within 5-10 years of SEZ development.</p> <p><u>Objective 7 for Goal 8:</u> Water right acquisition and enhancements to attract migratory birds within 5-10 years of SEZ development.</p> <p><u>Objective 8 for Goal 8:</u> Acquire augmentation water for McIntire Simpson wells and re-drill McIntire Simpson wells to produce adjudicated amount to create more wetlands within 1-5 years of SEZ development.</p> <p><u>Objective 9 for Goal 8:</u> Land trade with Costilla County for campsite development (Little Box Canyon Dam) to conserve watershed & air quality within 1-5 years of SEZ development.</p>	<p>Antonito SE Los Mogotes E DeTilla Gulch</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rio Grande Corridor • Closed Basin Wetlands • West Fork Old Spanish Trail • Mogotes-Conejos • Limekiln Greenie • Taos Plateau Pronghorn Assemblage • Taos Plateau Big Game Migration • Sangres Foothills • Trickle Mountain – Saguache Creek • Poncha Pass • Tracy-Biedell • McIntire-Simpson • Brownie Hills
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<p><u>Goal 9:</u> Soil health exhibits functional, biological and physical characteristics that are appropriate to soil type, climate and landform, and retain soil conditions including soil stability, land cover, and characteristics that meet BLM's land health standards, contribute to public health and safety, avoid damages to natural site characteristics, and contribute to economic productivity and ecological sustainability.</p>	<p><u>Objective 1 for Goal 9:</u> Preserve, restore, enhance, conserve, protect, or acquire equivalent acreage of winterfat-saltbush-blue grama grasslands habitat and shrubland ecosystem in the San Luis Valley and Taos Plateau for landscape lost through development on the SEZ to 80% of cover and composition of primary plant species within 5-10 years of initiation of land disturbing development on the SEZ.</p> <p><u>Objective 2 for Goal 9:</u> Restore and rectify disturbed soils and/or reduce fugitive dust on an area roughly proportional to SEZ area developed within 1 to 5 years of project initiation, through re-vegetating ag circles, dust abatement efforts on dirt roads.</p> <p><u>Objective 3 for Goal 9:</u> Protect and enhance soil conditions on an area roughly proportional to developed SEZ area within 1 to 5 years of project initiation, by constructing stream rehabilitation and erosion control structures; rehabilitating roads/routes, and expanding ACEC protections.</p> <p><u>Objective 4 for Goal 9:</u> Protect and retain soil conditions by constructing stream rehabilitation and erosion control structures.</p> <p><u>Objective 5 for Goal 9:</u> Rehabilitate TMP- unauthorized routes (rip/reseed), and install erosion control structures.</p> <p><u>Objective 6 for Goal 9:</u> Restore Baca NWR disturbed ag circles for wildlife habitat.</p> <p><u>Objective 7 for Goal 9:</u> Riparian and upland habitat restoration/</p> <p><u>Objective 8 for Goal 9:</u> Augment law enforcement capabilities to increase Travel Management Plan compliance.</p> <p><u>Objective 9 for Goal 9:</u> Expand Los Mogotes ACEC during RMP revision prioritizing winterfat -grassland habitat for viable wildlife populations.</p> <p><u>Objective 10 for Goal 9:</u> Establish conservation easement or land acquisition to expand existing protected grassland and shrubland habitat.</p>	<p>Antonito SE Los Mogotes E DeTilla Gulch</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rio Grande Corridor • Closed Basin Wetlands • West Fork Old Spanish Trail • Mogotes-Conejos • Limekiln Greenie • Taos Plateau Pronghorn Assemblage • Taos Plateau Big Game Migration • Sangres Foothills • Trickle Mountain – Saguache Creek • Tracy-Biedell • McIntire-Simpson • Brownie Hills • Cumbres-Toltec
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