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RECORD OF DECISION AND APPROVED KEMMERER  
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

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## *GLOSSARY*

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## Glossary

**Action Avoidance:** Utilizing guidance to allow an action only if all other options have been examined and it remains the only practicable solution.

**Administratively Unavailable for Oil and Gas Leasing:** An administrative decision to indefinitely postpone offering lands for lease subject to further National Environmental Policy Act analysis that demonstrates that the objectives for initially holding lands from lease offering can be alternatively met or no longer apply.

**Allotment:** An area of land designated and managed for grazing of livestock. Allotments are Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands, but may also include other federally managed, state-owned, and private lands. An allotment may include one or more separate pastures. Livestock numbers and periods of use are specified for each allotment. Allotments are classified by the following:

**Category I** – Improve Existing Resource Conditions

**Category M** – Maintain Existing Resource Conditions

**Category C** – Custodial Management.

**Analysis Area:** Any lands, regardless of jurisdiction, for which the BLM synthesizes, analyzes, and interprets data for information that relates to planning for BLM-administered lands.

**Animal Unit Month (AUM):** A standardized measurement of the amount of forage necessary for the sustenance of one cow unit or its equivalent for 1 month (approximately 800 pounds of forage).

**Best Management Practices (BMPs):** A suite of techniques that guide, or may be applied to, management actions to aid in achieving desired outcomes. BMPs often are developed in conjunction with land use plans, but they are not considered a land use plan decision unless the land use plan specifies that they are mandatory. They may be updated or modified without a plan amendment if they are not mandatory (BLM Manual Handbook H-1601-1).

**Big Game Crucial Winter Range:** Winter habitats on which wildlife species depend for survival. Because of severe weather conditions or other limiting factors, no alternative habitats would be available.

**Borrow Material:** A construction-related term that refers to unprocessed material excavated from a borrow pit for use as fill at another location.

**Checkerboard Land Pattern:** Alternating sections of federally owned lands and private or state lands on either side of the Union Pacific Railroad in Southwestern Wyoming. This pattern of land ownership looks like a checkerboard on maps, using different colors to show land status.

**Class I Wells:** Injection wells that are

- (1) Wells used by generators of hazardous waste or owners or operators of hazardous waste management facilities to inject hazardous waste beneath the lowermost formation containing, within ¼ mile of the well bore, an underground source of drinking water.
- (2) Other industrial and municipal disposal wells that inject fluid beneath the lowermost formation containing, within ¼ mile of the well bore, an underground source of drinking water.
- (3) Radioactive waste disposal wells that inject fluid below the lowermost formation containing an underground source of drinking water within ¼ mile of the well bore.

**Class II Wells:** Injection wells

- (1) That are brought to the surface in connection with natural gas storage operations, or conventional oil or natural gas production, and may be commingled with wastewaters from gas plants, which are an integral part of production operations, unless those waters are classified as a hazardous waste at the time of injection.
- (2) For enhanced recovery of oil or natural gas.
- (3) For storage of hydrocarbons that are liquid at standard temperature and pressure.

**Closed:** Generally denotes that an area is not available for a particular use or uses. Refer to specific definitions found in law, regulations, or policy guidance for application to individual programs.

**Commodity:** An economic good, such as a product of agriculture or mining.

**Comprehensive Weed Management Plan:** A plan for controlling invasive plant species that incorporates integrated weed management techniques and accounts for pertinent considerations, such as management actions and allocations affecting weeds.

**Constraint:** An assumption for analysis based on surface restrictions (alone or in combination) that may negatively influence the manner in which an oil and gas developer may operate on the land.

**Controlled Surface Use (CSU):** Surface occupancy or use will be restricted or prohibited unless the operator and surface managing agency arrive at an acceptable plan for mitigation of anticipated impacts. Identified resource values require special operational constraints that may modify the lease rights. CSU is used for operating guidance, not as a substitute for the no surface occupancy or timing limitation stipulations.

**Cultural Resource Inventory Levels:** A three-tiered process for discovering, recording, and evaluating cultural resources.

- (a) **Class I** - A compilation and analysis of all reasonably available cultural resource information, and a management-focused, interpretive, narrative overview, and synthesis of the data.
- (b) **Class II** - A sampling survey usually aimed at developing and testing a predictive model of cultural resource distribution.
- (c) **Class III** - An intensive on-the-ground survey to discover, record, and evaluate cultural resources within a specific geographic area.

**dB (decibel):** A unit of measurement of the loudness or strength of a signal. One decibel is considered the smallest difference in sound level that the human ear can discern. Decibels are a relative measurement derived from two signal levels: a reference input level and an observed output level. A decibel is the logarithm of the ratio of the two levels. One Bel is when the output signal is 10 times that of the input and 1 decibel is 1/10<sup>th</sup> of a Bel.

**Designated Roads and Trails:** Specific roads and trails on which some type of motorized vehicle use is allowed either seasonally or yearlong.

**Desired Future Condition:** Landscape conditions and management scenarios that should exist for a specific land area and for a specific resource (e.g., livestock grazing or wildlife) that meet the managing agency's vision statement and objectives for ecological, economic and social considerations.

**Dispersed Recreation:** Recreational activities are considered “dispersed” when they do not depend on developed facilities, such as campgrounds, playgrounds, or developed park areas. User density is often low relative to developed or intensive recreation. Activities thought of as examples of dispersed recreation include, but are limited to, primitive camping, hunting, hiking, and off-highway driving. Dispersed recreation is usually noncommercial.

**Dispersed Uses:** Certain activities occurring on BLM-administered lands that do not require specific authorizations and do not necessarily cause any appreciable disturbance or damage to the public lands. Camping, parking, picnicking, and recovering a harvested big game animal are examples of dispersed uses. These are activities that can normally be accomplished within a minimal distance of roads and vehicle trails. The public is allowed to pursue these activities *up to 300 feet away from roads* and trails, as long as such activities do not cause resource damage or create new roads or extend existing roads.

**Disruptive Activities:** Those authorized public land resource uses/activities that are likely to alter the behavior, displace, or cause excessive stress to existing animal or human populations occurring at a specific location and/or time. This term does not apply to the physical disturbance of the land surface, vegetation, or features.

**Ecological Site:** Land with a specific potential natural community and specific physical site characteristics, differing from other kinds of land in that the site has the ability to produce distinctive kinds and amounts of vegetation and to respond to management. Ecological sites are defined and described in terms related to soil, species composition, and annual production.

**Ephemeral Stream:** A stream that flows only in direct response to precipitation and whose channel is at all times above the water table. Confusion over the distinction between intermittent and ephemeral streams may be minimized by applying Meinzer’s suggestion that the term “ephemeral” be arbitrarily restricted to streams that do not flow continuously for at least 30 days (Prichard et al. 1998). Ephemeral streams support riparian areas when streamside vegetation reflects the presence of permanent subsurface water.

**Exceedance:** An event in which measurements of ambient air quality are above the national ambient air quality standard (NAAQS) or Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) standard set for a particular pollutant. For example, an annual average nitrogen dioxide value of 110 micrograms per cubic meter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) is an exceedance of both the NAAQS and Wyoming DEQ annual average standard for nitrogen dioxide of 100  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ .

**Exclusion Area:** An area on public lands where a certain activity (or activities) is prohibited to ensure protection of other resource values present on the site. The term is frequently used in reference to lands/realty actions and proposals (e.g., rights-of-way, etc.), but is not unique to lands and realty program activities.

**Existing Roads and Trails:** Routes existing prior to the date the off-highway vehicle designation is announced in the *Federal Register*. These regularly used routes may have been constructed and maintained or may be two-track routes created and maintained by the passage of motor vehicles.

**Extensive Recreation Management Areas (ERMAs):** A public lands unit identified in land use plans containing all acreage not identified as a SRMA. Recreation management actions within an ERMA are limited to only those of a custodial nature.

**Fire Management Plan:** A plan that identifies appropriate strategies to achieve resource objectives, as well as identifies fire policy, objectives, and prescribed actions. A Fire Management Plan may include maps, charts, tables, and statistical data.

**Fire Regime Condition Class:** A classification of the amount of departure from the natural fire regime. The departure results in changes to one or more of the following ecological components: vegetation characteristics (e.g., species composition, structural stages, stand age, canopy closure, and mosaic pattern), fuel composition, fire frequency, severity, and pattern, and other associated disturbance (e.g., insect and disease mortality, grazing, and drought). The three condition classes are listed below.

(a) **Condition Class 1**

- The historic disturbance regime is largely intact and functioning (e.g., has not missed a fire-return interval)
- Potential intensity and severity of fire within historic range
- Effects of disease and insects within historic range
- Hydrologic functions within normal historic range
- Vegetation composition and structure resilient to disturbances
- Nonnative species currently not present or to a limited extent
- Low risk of loss for key ecosystem components

(b) **Condition Class 2**

- Moderate alterations to historic disturbance regime evident (e.g., missed one or more fire-return intervals)
- Effects of disease and insects pose an increased risk of loss of key community components
- Riparian areas and associated hydrologic function show measurable signs of adverse departure from historic conditions
- Vegetation composition and structure shifted toward conditions less resilient to disturbances
- Populations of nonnative species may have increased, increasing the risk of further increases following disturbance

(c) **Condition Class 3**

- Historic disturbance regime significantly altered; historic disturbance processes and impacts may be precluded (e.g., missed several fire-return intervals)
- Effects of disturbance (fire, insects, and disease) may cause significant or complete loss of key community components
- Hydrologic functions may be adversely altered; high potential for increased sedimentation and reduced streamflows
- Invasive nonnative species may be common and, in some cases, the dominant species on the landscape; disturbance will likely increase both the dominance and geographic extent of these invasive species
- Highly altered vegetation composition and structure predisposes community to disturbance events outside the range of historic availability; disturbance may have effects not observed or measured before

**Fire-Return Interval:** The number of years between two successive fire events at a specific site or area.

**Flaring/Venting:** The controlled burning (flare) or release (vent) of natural gas that cannot be processed for sale or use because of technical or economic reasons.

**Floodplain Connectivity:** Maintenance of lateral, longitudinal, and vertical pathways for biological and hydrological processes in the floodplain. Examples of failures to maintain connectivity could include culverts or levees that restrict flow in the floodplain and focus overbank flow into the channel.

**Flushing Livestock:** The holding of livestock in an invasive, nonnative species (INNS) seed-free area where they are fed an INNS seed-free diet for 72 hours, thus flushing INNS seed from the animals' digestive systems.

**Foreground-Middle Ground Zone:** An area that can be seen from a travel route for a distance of 3 miles (foreground) to 5 miles (middle ground) where management activities might be viewed. A distance from 5 to 15 miles is called the *Background Zone* and the area beyond 15 miles is called the *Seldom-Seen Zone*.

**Geologic Resources:** Resources associated with the scientific study of the Earth, including its composition, structure, physical properties, and history. Geologic resources commonly include the study of minerals (mineralogy) and rocks (petrology); the structure of the Earth (structural geology) and volcanic phenomena (volcanology); and landforms and the processes that produce them (geomorphology and glaciology).

**Goal:** A broad statement of a desired outcome. Goals usually are not quantifiable and may not have established timeframes for achievement.

**Guzzler:** A water development for wildlife.

**HABS/HAER:** The Historic American Buildings Survey/Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER) is an integral component of the federal government's commitment to historic preservation. The program documents important architectural, engineering, and industrial sites throughout the United States and its territories. A complete set of HABS/HAER documentation, comprising measured drawings, large-format photographs, and written history, plays a key role in accomplishing the mission of creating an archive of American architecture and engineering and in better understanding what historic resources tell us about America's diverse ethnic and cultural heritage. To insure that such evidence is not lost to future generations, the HABS/HAER collections are archived at the Library of Congress, where they are available to the public.

**Heavy Equipment Use:** This phrase is used in fire management and is relative to limiting fire suppression tactics. In this context it refers to not using dozers, skidders, or graders in areas where important resource values are in need of protection. Fire engines and water tenders used during suppression activities would be allowed.

**Held by Production:** Leases that become productive and do not terminate until all wells on the lease have ceased production are "held by production."

**Historic Property:** Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

**Impact Analysis for Planning (IMPLAN 2000) Model:** IMPLAN is a regional economic model that provides a mathematical accounting of the flow of money, goods, and services through a region's economy. The model provides estimates of how a specific economic activity translates into jobs and income for the region. It includes the "ripple effect" (also called the "multiplier effect") of changes in economic sectors that may not be directly impacted by management actions, but are linked to industries that are directly impacted. In IMPLAN, these ripple effects are termed indirect impacts (for changes in

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industries that sell inputs to the industries that are directly impacted) and induced impacts (for changes in household spending as household income increases or decreases due to the changes in production).

**Integrated Weed Management:** The use of all appropriate weed control measures, including fire and mechanical, chemical, biological, and cultural techniques, in an organized and coordinated manner on a site-specific basis.

**Intermittent Stream:** A stream that flows only at certain times of the year due to receiving water from springs or a surface source, such as melting snow in mountainous areas. Confusion over the distinction between intermittent and ephemeral streams may be minimized by applying Meinzer's suggestion that the term "intermittent" be arbitrarily restricted to streams that flow continuously for periods of at least 30 days (Prichard et al. 1998).

**Key Observation Point (KOP):** Term used in visual resource management for one or a series of points (displayed as lines) on a travel route or at a use area or potential use area, where the view of a management activity would be most revealing. Those used in the Kemmerer planning area include (refer to Map 66):

**Towns:** Afton, Alpine, Cokeville, Diamondville, Evanston, Frontier, Granger, Kemmerer, Lyman, Mountain View, and Thayne.

**Historic sites:** National Historic Trails, Gateway Site, The Pinegrove, Rocky Gap, The Rock Slide, Nancy Hill Grave, Alfred Corum Grave, Emigrant Springs Dempsey, Sublette Historic Mining Town, Johnston Scout Rock, Emigrant Springs Slate Creek, Cumberland Mine and Town, Bridger Antelope Trap, Carter Historic Rail Road Town, Fort Bridger, Lincoln Highway, Piedmont Kilns, Aspen Rail Road Station, Hilliard Kilns and Rail Road Station, The Needles

**Roads:** Fossil Butte Road, Pine Creek Road, Igo Speedway, Coal Creek Road, Dempsey Ridge Road, Smiths Fork Road

**County Roads:** 103,151,173,180,204,207,209,221,233,265,271,283,285,306,311,314,316

**State Highways:** SR 89, SR 150, SR 189, SR 232, SR 233, SR 240, SR 372, SR 410, SR 412, SR 413, SR 414

**U.S. Highways:** US 30, US 189

**Interstate Highway:** I-80

**Campgrounds:** Fontenelle, Weeping Rock, Tailrace, Slate Creek

**Other Recreation Areas:**

- Fossil Butte National Monument has 5 KOPs, one at each corner and the visitor center.
- Viva Naughton cross-country ski trail.
- Wyoming Range snowmobile trail P and the part of snowmobile trail B that is located on BLM administered land.
- The west shoreline of Fontenelle Reservoir.

**Land-Tenure Adjustment:** This term refers to a change in land ownership patterns, or legal status, to improve their administrative manageability and/or their usefulness to the public.

**Leasable Minerals:** Those minerals or materials subject to lease by the federal government under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920. Leasable minerals include coal, phosphate, asphalt, sulphur, potassium, oil shale, and sodium minerals, including trona. Oil and gas, as well as geothermal resources, also are included.

**Lek:** A traditional courtship display area attended by male sage-grouse in or adjacent to sagebrush dominated habitat. Designation of the site as a lek requires observation of two or more male sage-grouse engaged in courtship displays. In addition new leks must be confirmed by a survey conducted during the appropriate time of day and during the strutting season. Observation of sign of strutting activity can also be used to confirm a suspected lek.

**Lek Complex:** A group of leks in close proximity between which male sage-grouse may be expected to interchange from one day to the next. A specific distance criteria does not yet exist.

**Lek Count:** A census technique that documents the actual number of male sage-grouse observed on a particular lek or complex of leks using the methods described below.

**Lek Survey:** A monitoring technique designed primarily to determine whether leks are active or inactive and obtaining accurate counts of the numbers of males attending is secondary.

**Annual status – Each year a lek will be determined to be in one of the following status categories:**

**Active:** Any lek that has been attended by male sage-grouse during the strutting season. Presence can be documented by observation of birds using the site or by signs of strutting activity.

**Inactive:** Leks where it is known that there was no strutting activity through the course of a strutting season. A single visit, or even several visits, without strutting sage-grouse being seen is not adequate documentation to designate a lek as inactive. This designation requires either an absence of birds on the lek during multiple ground visits under ideal conditions throughout the strutting season or a ground check of the exact lek site late in the strutting season that fails to find any sign (droppings/feathers) of strutting activity.

**Unknown:** Leks that have not been documented either active or inactive during the course of a strutting season.

Based on annual status a lek may be put into one of the following categories for management purposes:

**Occupied Lek:** A lek that has been active during at least one strutting season within the last ten years. Management protection will be afforded to occupied leks.

**Undetermined Lek:** Any lek that has not been documented as being active in the last ten years but does not have sufficient documentation to be designated unoccupied. Management protection will be afforded to undetermined leks until their status has been documented as unoccupied.

**Unoccupied Lek (formerly termed “historical lek”):** There are two types of unoccupied leks, “destroyed” or “abandoned.” Management protection will not be afforded to unoccupied leks.

**Abandoned lek:** A lek in otherwise suitable habitat that has not been active during a consecutive ten-year period. Before a lek is designated “abandoned” it must be confirmed as “inactive” (see above criteria) in at least four non-consecutive strutting seasons spanning the ten years. Once designated “abandoned”, the site should be surveyed at least once every ten years to determine whether or not the lek has been reoccupied.

**Destroyed lek:** A formerly active lek site and surrounding sagebrush habitat that has been destroyed and no longer capable of supporting sage-grouse breeding activity. A lek site that has been strip-mined, paved, converted to cropland or undergone other long-term habitat type conversion is considered destroyed. Destroyed leks do not require monitoring unless the site is reclaimed to suitable sage-grouse habitat.

**Migratory population:** Sage-grouse that move more than 6.2 miles (10 km) between two or three seasonal ranges (Connelly et al. 2003).

**Non-migratory population:** Sage-grouse that do not move more than 6.2 miles (10 km) between seasonal ranges (Connelly et al. 2003).

**Winter Concentration Area:** An area where large numbers of sage-grouse have been documented to consistently use specific landscapes for winter habitat. Habitat characteristics include sagebrush that is generally 10-14 inches (25-36 cm) above the snow and sagebrush canopy cover above the snow that ranges from 10 to 30 percent. Topography tends to be on flat to generally southwest facing slopes or on ridges where sagebrush height may be less than 10 inches (25 cm) but the snow is routinely blown clear by wind. Winter concentration areas do not include all winter habitats used by sage-grouse, nor are they limited to more narrow “severe winter relief” habitats (a survival range). Delineation of these concentration areas is based on determination of the presence of winter habitat characteristics confirmed by repeated observations and/or sign of large numbers of sage-grouse. The definition of “large” is dependent on whether the overall population is large or small. In core population areas frequent observations of groups of 50+ sage-grouse meet the definition while in marginal populations group size may be 25+. Consultation and coordination with the WGFD is required when delineating winter concentration areas.

**Livestock Conversion:** Changing the kind of livestock allowed to graze an allotment, such as from sheep to cattle.

**Locatable Minerals:** The minerals are subject to exploration, development, and disposal by staking mining claims as authorized by the Mining Law of 1872, as amended. Such minerals include deposits of metallic minerals, such as gold, silver, and other uncommon materials, not subject to lease or sale.

**Mechanical Transport:** Any nonmotorized vehicle, device, or contrivance for moving people or material over land, water, snow, or air that has moving parts. This includes, but is not limited to, sailboats, sailboards, hang gliders, parachutes, bicycles, game carriers, hand carts, wheel barrows, and wagons. The term does not include wheel chairs, nor does it include horses or other pack stock, skis, snowshoes, nonmotorized river craft, including, but not limited to, drift boats, rafts, and canoes, or sleds, travois, or similar devices without moving parts. The terms “mechanical transport” and “motor vehicle” are not synonymous.

**Mechanized Vehicle Use:** The use of land by any nonmotorized vehicle (e.g., mountain bikes). Refer to definition for Mechanical Transport.

**Mineral Materials (Salable Minerals):** Materials such as common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, pumice, pumicite, and clay that are not obtainable under the mining or leasing laws, but can be acquired through sale or free use permit under the Materials Act of 1947, as amended.

**Mineral Withdrawal:** A formal order that withholds federal lands and minerals from entry under the Mining Law of 1872, as amended, and closes the area to mineral location (i.e., staking mining claims) and development.

**Mitigation:**

- (a) Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain 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.

**National Historic Trail (NHT) Class:** The BLM NHT classification system takes into consideration all aspects of NHTs as historic properties, including settings and the other relevant qualities of integrity, and provides overall evaluations of relatively long segments of trail. NHT variants in the planning area are composed of the physical traces left by wagons and draft animals, the scenery visible from the trails, associated sites such as emigrant camps and graves, locations where important events were documented, and landmarks used by emigrants to navigate along the trails. Defined segments are classified Class 1 through Class 4, based on their condition and degree of integrity.

**Class 1 Trail: Undiminished Trail Trace and Setting.** Under this category, the trail traces and associated sites all retain integrity of location, setting, feeling, and association. Class 1 segments are the best examples of trail in the planning area because they readily convey the historic sense of the period of the trail's significant use. Class 1 segments retain excellent integrity of location, because the physical traces and sites remain in their historically documented locations. The form, structure, and style of wagon ruts reflect integrity of association, because they are sufficiently intact to convey a direct link to historic events. The overall settings contribute to the eligibility of the site so they impart a sense of their historic period of use, and contribute to the integrity of feeling that allows an observer to imagine the emigrant experience on the trail. There may be developments on the landscape, within a Class 1 segment, but they do not detract from overall the feeling or sense of the historic period.

**Class 2 Trail: Good Trail and Setting.** Trail traces and related sites in this category retain good integrity of location and association because they are physically intact. The historic settings generally retain the existing character of the landscape. Although Class 2 segments may contain some developments, they do not attract the attention of the casual observer and they do not dominate the setting sufficiently to detract from the feeling or sense of the period of the trail's significant use. Trail segments may be assessed as contributing to the trail's overall National Register eligibility because of their integrity of location and association, but the integrity of setting may be considered contributing or non-contributing depending on the degree of visibility of existing developments. If important historical events occurred within a particular trail segment, they are considered as supplemental values.

**Class 3 Trail: Compromised Historic Setting.** Class 3 trail traces and related sites retain some integrity of location and association, but the historic setting contains developments that detract from the feeling or sense of the period of the trail's significant use. Generally, the setting is not an important aspect of integrity that contributes to the segment's National Register eligibility.

**Class 4 Trail: No Trail Trace or Sites.** Under this category, the trail's physical trace no longer exists because of its destruction by natural forces or human developments. Regardless of the condition of the surrounding landscape, the historic setting is no longer relevant to these segments in terms of management actions. However, because the trail did exist in these segments at one time, there is a probability for the presence of trail related sites which could require management of settings, if identified. Where trail traces are destroyed and no sites are documented, none of the qualities of integrity are retained in these segments that do not contribute to the trail's eligibility and no special management actions are proposed for destroyed trail segments.

**Native Species Status:** Native Species Status (NSS) refers to the population status of species native to the area in which their habitats occur. The NSSs are divided into the following categories:

### **NSS1 Native Species Status 1**

- Populations are greatly restricted or declining, extirpation appears possible; or ongoing significant loss of habitat.

### **NSS2 Native Species Status 2**

- Populations are declining, extirpation appears possible; habitat is restricted or vulnerable, but no recent or ongoing significant loss; species may be sensitive to human disturbance  
OR
- Populations are declining or restricted in numbers and (or) distribution, extirpation is not imminent; ongoing significant loss of habitat.

### **NSS3 Native Species Status 3**

- Populations are greatly restricted or declining, extirpation appears possible; habitat is not restricted, vulnerable, but no loss; species is not sensitive to human disturbance  
OR
- Populations are declining or restricted in numbers and (or) distribution, extirpation is not imminent; habitat is restricted or vulnerable, but no recent or ongoing significant loss species may be sensitive to human disturbance.  
OR
- Species is widely distributed; population status or trends are unknown, but are suspected to be stable; ongoing significant loss of habitat.

### **NSS4 Native Species Status 4**

- Populations are greatly restricted or declining, extirpation appears possible; habitat is stable and not restricted.  
OR
- Populations are declining or restricted in numbers and (or) distribution, extirpation is not imminent; habitat is not restricted, vulnerable, but no loss; species is not sensitive to human disturbance  
OR
- Species is widely distributed, population status or trends are unknown, but are suspected to be stable; habitat is restricted or vulnerable, but no recent or ongoing significant loss; species may be sensitive to human disturbance  
OR
- Populations that are stable or increasing and not restricted in numbers and (or) distribution; ongoing significant loss of habitat.

**Necessary Tasks:** Necessary tasks are actions that support commercial or industrial uses of the public lands and which need to be accomplished by a person or organization seeking or holding an authorization from the BLM. These include tasks that are sometimes accomplished without formal written approval or in advance of receiving an authorization.

**No Surface Occupancy (NSO):** This is a term used to prohibit the physical presence of oil and gas operations and associated facilities on the surface of Public Lands in a specified area to protect sensitive surface resource values. The NSO provision is reserved for use in fluid mineral land use planning and allocation decisions and lease stipulations. Other terms, such as restricted area, avoidance area, exclusion area, etc., are used with non-fluid mineral functions.

**Objective:** A description of a desired condition for a resource. Objectives can be quantified and measured and, where possible, have established timeframes for achievement.

**Off-Road Travel:** Off-road travel means travel off of existing roads and trails, or driving cross-country.

**Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV):** Any motorized vehicle capable of, or designed for, travel on or immediately over land, water, or other natural terrain, excluding (1) any nonamphibious registered motorboat; (2) any military, fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle being used for emergency purposes; (3) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by the authorized officer, or otherwise officially approved; (4) vehicles in official use; and (5) any combat or combat support vehicle when used in times of national defense emergencies.

**Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Management Designations:** Designations apply to all off-road vehicles and over-snow vehicles regardless of the purposes for which they are being used. Emergency vehicles are excluded. The OHV designation definitions have been developed in cooperation with representatives of the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, and the BLM state and field office personnel. The BLM recognizes the differences between OHVs and over-snow vehicles in terms of use and impact. (See section 3.6.7 Off-highway Vehicles.)

**Closed:** Vehicle travel is prohibited in the area. Access by means other than motorized vehicle is permitted. This designation is used if closure to all vehicular use is necessary to protect resources, to ensure visitor safety, or to reduce conflicts.

**Open:** Vehicle travel is permitted in the area (both on and off roads) if the vehicle is operated responsibly in a manner not causing, or unlikely to cause, significant undue damage to or disturbance of the soil, wildlife, wildlife habitats, improvements, cultural or vegetative resources, or other authorized uses of the public lands. These areas are used for intensive OHV use where there are no compelling resource needs, user conflicts, or public safety issues to warrant limiting cross-country travel.

**Limited:**

- a. Vehicle travel is permitted only on roads and vehicle routes that were in existence prior to the date of designation in the *Federal Register*. Vehicle travel off of existing vehicle routes is permitted only to accomplish necessary tasks and only if such travel does not result in resource damage. Random travel from existing vehicle routes is not allowed. Creation of new routes or extensions and (or) widening of existing routes are not allowed without prior written agency approval.
- b. Vehicle travel is permitted only on roads and vehicle routes designated by the BLM. In areas where final designation has not been completed, vehicle travel is limited to existing roads and vehicle routes as described above. Designations are posted as follows:
  1. Vehicle route is open to vehicular travel.
  2. Vehicle route is closed to vehicular travel.
- c. Vehicle travel is limited by number or type of vehicle. Designations are posted as follows:
  1. Vehicle route limited to four-wheel drive vehicles only.
  2. Vehicle route limited to motorbikes only.
  3. Area is closed to over-snow vehicles.
- d. Vehicle travel is limited to licensed or permitted use.
- e. Vehicle travel is limited to time or season of use.
- f. Where specialized restrictions are necessary to meet resource management objectives, other limitations also may be developed.

The BLM may place other limitations, as necessary, to protect other resources, particularly in areas that motorized OHV enthusiasts use intensely or where they participate in competitive events.

**Old-Growth Forest:** Old-growth forests are ecosystems distinguished by old trees and related structural features. Old growth encompasses the later stages of stand development that typically differs from earlier

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stages in several ways, including tree size, accumulation of large dead woody material, number of canopy layers, species composition, and ecosystem function. Old-growth forest is typically distinguished by the following:

- Large-sized trees of specific species
- Wide variation in age classes and stocking levels
- Accumulations of large-sized dead standing and fallen trees
- Decadence in the form of broken or deformed tops and boles
- Multiple canopy layers
- Canopy interspaces and understory patchiness.

### Old-Growth Forest Classifications for Engelmann Spruce, Douglas Fir, and Limber Pine

	Live Trees (Warm/Moist Environment)	Dead Trees (Warm/Moist Environment)	Live Trees (Cold/Dry Environment)	Dead Trees (Cold/Dry Environment)
Diameter Breast Height (DBH) (inches)	> or equal 20	–	> or equal 15	–
Trees/Acre	> or equal 25	–	> or equal 15	–
Age	> or equal 220	–	> or equal 150 to 180	–
Variation in Tree Diameter	Yes	–	Yes	–
Tree Decadence	Evident dead, broken, or deformed tops and (or) bole or root rot	–	> or equal 2; DBH 14; evident dead, broken, or deformed tops and (or) bole or root rot	–
Multiple Tree Canopy Layers	Yes	–	Yes	–
Standing DBH (inches)/Height (feet)	–	> or equal 12/15	–	> or equal 10/15
Standing Trees/Acre	–	> or equal 2	–	2 to 4
Down Diameter (inches)	–	> or equal 12	–	> or equal 8 or > 6
Down Pieces/Acre – Length	–	> or equal 1 – 8 feet	–	> or equal 16 to 8 feet or 100 pieces > 8 feet
	Live Trees (Higher Productivity Site)	Dead Trees (Higher Productivity Site)	Live Trees (Lower Productivity Site)	Dead Trees (Lower Productivity Site)
DBH (inches)	24	–	18	–
Trees/Acre	> or equal 15	–	10	–
Age	> or equal 200	–	200	–
Variation in Tree Diameter	Yes	–	Yes	–
Tree Decadence	Evident dead, broken, or deformed tops and (or) bole or root rot	–	> or equal 2; DBH 15; evident dead, broken, or deformed tops and (or) bole or root rot	–
Multiple Tree Canopy Layers	Yes	–	Yes	–
Standing DBH (inches)/Height (feet)	–	> or equal 20/20	–	16/10
Standing Trees/Acre	–	> or equal 1	–	0 to 3
Down Diameter (inches)	–	> or equal 12	–	> or equal 15
Down Pieces/Acre – Length	–	> or equal 0 to 16 feet	–	Infrequent 4 - > or equal 8 feet

**Old-Growth Forest Classifications for Engelmann Spruce, Douglas Fir, and Limber Pine (Continued)**

	Live Trees (Lower Timberline)	Dead Trees (Lower Timberline)	Live Trees (Montaine Woodlands)	Dead Trees (Lower Productivity Site)
DBH (inches)	> or equal 16	–	> or equal 1	–
Trees/Acre	> or equal 10	–	10	–
Age	> or equal 250	–	500	–
Variation in Tree Diameter	Yes	–	Yes	–
Tree Decadence	Evident dead, broken, or deformed tops and (or) bole or root rot	–	Evident dead, broken, or deformed tops and (or) bole or root rot	–
Multiple Tree Canopy Layers	Yes	–	No	–
Standing DBH (inches)/Height (feet)	–	N/A	–	N/A
Standing Trees/Acre	–	Few	–	Few
Down Diameter (inches)	–	N/A	–	N/A
Down Pieces/Acre – Length	–	Rare	–	Rare

**Old-Growth Forest Classifications for Lodgepole Pine, Aspen, and Rocky Mountain Juniper**

	Lodgepole pine (SAF Cover Type 218)		Aspen (SAF Cover Type 217)		Rocky Mountain Juniper <sup>1</sup> (SAF Cover Type 220)	
	Live Trees	Dead Trees	Live Trees	Dead Trees	Live Trees	Dead Trees
DBH (inches)	> or equal 11	–	> or equal 12	–	12	–
Trees/Acre	> or equal 25	–	> or equal 10 dry to 20 mesic	–	12	–
Age	> or equal 140	–	100	–	200	–
Variation in Tree Diameter	Yes	–	Yes	–	Yes	–
Tree Decadence (Trees/Acre – DBH [inches])	> or equal 2 to 11; evident dead, broken, or deformed tops and (or) bole or root rot	–	N/A	–	N/A	–
Multiple Tree Canopy Layers	Yes	–	Yes	–	N/A	–
Standing DBH/height feet	–	> or equal 11	–	> or equal 10/15	–	12/5
Standing Trees/Acre	–	5	–	2	–	> or equal .05
Down Diameter (inches)	–	> or equal 11	–	> or equal 8	–	> or equal 10
Down Pieces/Acre – Length	–	> or equal 50 to > or equal 8 feet	–	> or equal 10 – 10 feet	–	> or equal 2 to 5 feet

<sup>1</sup>Extrapolated old growth characteristics from Pinyon-Juniper Old Growth Characteristics

> greater than  
 DBH Diameter Breast Height  
 N/A not available

## **Glossary**

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**Open:** Generally denotes that an area is available for a particular use or uses. Refer to specific program definitions found in law, regulations, or policy guidance for application to individual programs.

**Overgrazing:** Continued heavy grazing that exceeds the recovery capacity of the forage plants and creates deterioration of the grazing lands (Valentine 1990).

**Perennial Stream:** A stream that flows continuously. Perennial streams generally are associated with a water table in the localities through which they flow (Prichard et al. 1998).

**Pest:** With the exception of vascular plants classified as invasive nonnative plant species, a pest can be any biological life form that poses a threat to human or ecological health and welfare. For the purposes of this planning effort, an “animal pest” is any vertebrate or invertebrate animal subject to control by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). APHIS is currently BLM’s authorized agent for controlling “animal pests.” For this reason, “animal pests” will be considered a subset of Pest.

**Planning Area:** A geographic area for which land use and resource management plans are developed and maintained.

**Poor Topsoils:** Soils that are highly erosive and (or) have low reclamation potential.

**Prairie Dog Complex:** A cluster of two or more prairie dog towns within 3 km of each other (Clark and Stromberg 1987, Luce 2003) and bounded by either natural or artificial barriers (Whicker and Detling 1988) that effectively isolate one cluster of colonies from interacting/interchanging with another. Prairie dogs may commonly move among colonies of a cluster, and thereby foster reproductive/genetic viability, but exhibit little emigration/immigration between clusters. A cluster may include some currently unoccupied, though physically suitable (i.e., vegetation, soils, topography etc.), lands immediately adjacent to occupied colonies that support other prairie dog-associated (ecosystem function) obligate or facultative species (e.g., swift fox, mountain plover, burrowing owl, etc.).

**Prescribed Burning:** Controlled application of fire to wildland fuels in either their natural or modified state under specified environmental conditions that allow the fire to be confined to a predetermined area and at the same time to produce the fire intensity and rate of spread required to attain planned resource management objectives.

**Prescribed Fire:** The introduction of fire to an area under regulated conditions for specific management purposes.

**Priority Fish Species:** Priority fish species are species considered to be sport fish and native species.

**Probable Fossil Yield Classification:** Geologic units in the planning area are classified according to the Probable Fossil Yield Classification, usually at the formation or member level, according to the probability of yielding resources of concern to land managers, primarily vertebrate fossils. The classification uses a ranking of 1 through 5, with Class 5 assigned to units with a high potential for fossils. Within the planning area, Class 4 and Class 5 geologic formations account for approximately 50 percent of the total acreage, including all ownerships. About 35 percent of public land in the planning area is underlain by Class 4 and Class 5 formations. The classifications are described below.

**Class 1.** Igneous and metamorphic geologic units, or units with highly disturbed preservational environments that are not likely to contain recognizable fossil remains. Management concern is negligible for Class 1 resources and mitigation requirements are rare.

**Class 2.** Sedimentary geologic units that are not likely to contain vertebrate fossils or significant nonvertebrate fossils. Management concern is low for Class 2 resources and mitigation requirements are not likely.

**Class 3.** Fossiliferous sedimentary geologic units where fossil content varies in significance, abundance, and predictable occurrence, or units of unknown fossil potential. Management concern may extend across the entire range of management. Ground-disturbing activities require sufficient assessment to determine whether significant resources occur in the area of the proposed action.

**Class 4.** Class 4 units are Class 5 units with a lowered risk of human-caused adverse impacts or lowered risk of natural degradation. Ground-disturbing activities require assessment to determine whether significant resources occur in the area of the proposed action and whether those actions will impact the resource. Mitigation may include full monitoring of significant localities.

**Class 5.** Highly fossiliferous geologic units that regularly produce vertebrate fossils or significant nonvertebrate fossils and that are at risk of natural degradation or human-caused adverse impacts. Class 5 areas receive the highest level of management focus. Mitigation of ground-disturbing actions is required and may be intense. Areas of special interest may be designated and intensely managed.

**Produced Water:** Produced water is groundwater removed to facilitate the extraction of minerals, such as coal, oil, or gas.

**Proper Functioning Condition:** See Riparian/Wetland Functionality Classification

**Proper Grazing:** Proper grazing is the practice of managing forage use by grazing animals at a sustainable level that maintains rangeland health. Proper grazing will maintain or increase plant cover, including residue, which acts to slow down or reduce runoff, increase water infiltration, and keep erosion and sedimentation at or above acceptable levels within the potential of ecological sites within a given geographic area (e.g., watershed, grazing allotment, etc.).

**Rangeland:** Land on which the native vegetation is predominantly grasses, grass-like plants, forbs, or shrubs suitable for grazing or browsing. This includes lands revegetated naturally or artificially when routine management of that vegetation is accomplished mainly through manipulation of grazing. Rangelands include natural grasslands, savannas, shrublands, most deserts, tundra, alpine communities, coastal marshes, and wet meadows.

**Rangeland Health:** The degree to which the integrity of the soil and ecological processes of rangeland ecosystems are sustained. Rangeland health exists when ecological processes are functioning properly to maintain the structure, organization and activity of the system over time.

**Range Improvement Project:** A structural improvement requiring placement or construction to facilitate management or control distribution and movement of grazing or browsing animals. Such improvements may include, but are not limited to, fences, wells, troughs, reservoirs, water catchments, pipelines, and cattleguards. The project also may include a practice or treatment that improves rangeland condition and or resource production for multiple use. Nonstructural types of projects may include, but are not limited to, seeding and plant control through chemical, mechanical, and biological means or through prescribed burning.

**Raptor:** A bird of prey with sharp talons and a strongly curved beak, such as hawks, falcons, owls, vultures, and eagles.

**Reasonable Foreseeable Development (RFD) Scenario:** An RFD Scenario for oil and gas is a long-term projection (scenario) of oil and gas exploration, development, production, and reclamation activity. The RFD covers oil and gas activity in a defined area for a specified period of time. The RFD projects a baseline scenario of activity assuming all potentially productive areas can be open under standard lease terms and conditions, except those areas designated as closed to leasing by law, regulation or executive order. The baseline RFD scenario provides the mechanism to analyze the effects that discretionary management decisions have on oil and gas activity. The RFD also provides basic information that is analyzed in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document under various alternatives (BLM 2004).

**Unconstrained RFD Scenario:** The baseline RFD scenario. No management prescriptions management proposed conditions and (or) restrictions are applied when projecting future activities. Where legislatively imposed restrictions are applied to analyzed lands, those restrictions are considered when projecting future activities.

**Constrained RFD Scenario:** An RFD scenario projected for each proposed alternative. Management prescriptions proposed for each alternative are considered when projecting future activities under the RFD scenario for each alternative. Where legislatively imposed restrictions are applied to analyzed lands, those restrictions are considered when projecting future activities for each alternative.

**Recreation Management Areas:** Recreation management areas are units within a planning area guiding recreation management on public lands having similar recreation-related issues and concerns. There are two types of recreation management areas, extensive and special.

**Extensive Recreation Management Areas (ERMAs):** These are areas where dispersed recreation is encouraged and where visitors have a freedom of recreational choice with minimal regulatory constraint.

**Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs):** A public lands unit identified in land use plans to direct recreation funding and personnel to fulfill commitments made to provide specific, structured recreation opportunities (i.e., activity, experience, and benefit opportunities). Both land use plan decisions and subsequent implementing actions for recreation in each SRMA are geared to a strategically identified primary market—destination, community, or undeveloped.

**Reserve Pit:** A pit that is intrinsically related to well drilling and is used to hold drilling fluids and cuttings during the well drilling.

**Resource Damage:** This type of damage is defined as leaving signs of vehicle use, such as wheel ruts in wet meadows, visual scars on hillsides, or soil erosion. Additional examples include surface disturbance that causes the loss of vegetative cover, degradation of wildlife habitats, the creation of new roads, and the introduction of noxious weeds. Damage to vegetation also includes crushing or uprooting trees and shrubs. The determination of whether resource damage has occurred is at the discretion of Field Managers and law enforcement personnel.

**Restricted Disposal:** Parcels identified for restricted disposal may be disposed of under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act (by example), may limit the disposal to a particular type of entity capable of preserving the resource values, or may include the use of covenants in the deed or land-sale patent to ensure the resource values are protected.

**Riparian/Wetland Functionality Classification:**

**Desired Plant Community (DPC):** Of the several plant communities that may occupy a site, the DPC is the community that has been identified through a management plan to best meet the plan's objectives for the site. At a minimum, it must protect the site.

**Functional At-Risk:** Riparian/wetland areas that are in functional condition, but an existing soil, water, or vegetation attribute makes them susceptible to degradation.

**Potential Natural Community (PNC):** The biotic community that would become established if all successional sequences were completed without interference by humans under the present environmental conditions. Natural disturbances are inherent in development. PNCs can include naturalized nonnative species.

**Proper Functioning Condition:** A riparian or wetland area is considered to be in proper functioning condition when adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris is present to do the following:

- Dissipate stream energy associated with high water flows, thereby reducing erosion and improving water quality
- Filter sediment, capture bedload, and aid floodplain development
- Improve floodwater retention and groundwater recharge
- Develop root masses that stabilize stream banks against cutting action
- Develop diverse ponding and channel characteristics to provide the habitats and the water depth, duration, and temperature necessary for fish production, waterfowl breeding, and other uses
- Support greater biodiversity.

**Nonfunctional:** Riparian or wetland areas that clearly are not providing adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris to dissipate stream energy associated with high flows and, thus, are not reducing erosion, improving water quality, and so on, as listed above. The absence of certain physical attributes, such as a floodplain where one should be, is an indicator of nonfunctioning conditions.

**Unknown:** Riparian or wetland areas that the BLM lacks sufficient information on to make any form of determination.

**Rights-of-Way (ROW):** An ROW grant is an authorization to use a specific piece of public land for a specific project, such as roads, pipelines, transmission lines, and communication sites. The grant authorizes rights and privileges for a specific use of the land for a specific period of time.

**ROW Avoidance Areas:** Areas where negative routing factors exist. ROW either will not be granted in these areas or—if granted—will be subject to stringent terms and conditions. In other words, ROW would be *restricted* (but not necessarily prohibited) in these avoidance areas.

**Salable Minerals (Mineral Materials):** Common variety of minerals on public lands, such as sand and gravel, used mainly for construction. Salable minerals are disposed of by sales to the public or free-use permits to government agencies or nonprofit organizations.

**Seasonal Ranges:** The Wyoming Game and Fish Department has identified various ranges for big game species. These ranges are defined as follows:

**Summer or Spring-Summer-Fall:** A population or portion of a population of animals uses the documented habitats within this range annually from the end of previous winter to the onset of persistent winter conditions.

**Severe Winter Relief:** A documented survival range, which may or may not be considered a crucial range area as defined above. It is used to a great extent, but only in extremely severe winters. It may lack habitat characteristics that would make it attractive or capable of supporting major portions of the population during normal years, but is used by and allows at least a significant portion of the population to survive the occasional extremely severe winter.

**Winter:** A population or portion of a population of animals uses the documented suitable habitat sites annually within this range in substantial numbers during the winter period only.

**Winter/Yearlong:** A population or a portion of a population of animals makes general use of the documented suitable habitat sites within this range on a year-round basis. During the winter months there is a significant influx of additional animals into the area from other seasonal ranges.

**Yearlong:** A population or substantial portion of a population of animals makes general use of the suitable documented habitat sites within the range on a year-round basis. On occasion, animals may leave the area under severe conditions.

**Parturition Areas:** Documented birthing areas, commonly used by females, that include calving areas, fawning areas, and lambing grounds. These areas may be used as nurseries by some big game species.

**Section 106 of National Historic Preservation Act:** “The head of any Federal agency having direct or indirect jurisdiction over a proposed federal or federally assisted undertaking in any state and the head of any federal department or independent agency having authority to license any undertaking shall, prior to the approval of the expenditure of any federal funds on the undertaking or prior to the issuance of any license, as the case may be, take into account the effect of the undertaking on any district, site, building, structure, or object that is included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register. The head of any such federal agency shall afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation established under Title II of this Act a reasonable opportunity to comment with regard to such undertaking” (16 United States Code 47 df).

**Sensitive Sites or Resources:** Sensitive sites or resources refer to significant cultural resources that are eligible or may be eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

**Sensitive Species:** Species designated as sensitive by the BLM State Director include species that are under status review, have small or declining populations, live in unique habitats, or require special management (BLM 2001). BLM Manual 6840 provides policy and guidance for special status species management. The BLM Wyoming Sensitive Species Policy and List are provided in a memorandum updated annually. Primary goals of the BLM Wyoming policy include maintaining vulnerable species and habitat components in functional BLM ecosystems and preventing a need for species listing under the Endangered Species Act.

**Seral Stage:** One of a series of plant communities that follows another in time on a specific ecological site.

**Setting:** Setting is the physical environment of a historic property and how the property evokes a sense of feeling and association with past events. Accordingly, setting refers to the character of the place in

which the property played its historic role. It involves how, not just where, the property is situated and its relationship to surrounding features and open space. These features and their relationships should be considered not only within the exact boundaries of the property, but also between the property and its surroundings.

**Significant Cultural Sites:** The planning area contains sites that are identified for special management objectives because of their unusual historical, cultural, scientific, or traditional values among the many other sites in the planning area that are evaluated eligible to the National Register of Historic Places. The significant cultural sites currently identified are the Bridger Antelope Trap, Emigrant Spring/Slate Creek, Emigrant Spring/Dempsey, Johnston Scout Rock, Alfred Corum and Nancy Hill Graves, Pine Grove Emigrant Camp, Rocky Gap Trail Interpretive Site, Bear River Divide Trail Interpretive Site, and Gateway Petroglyphs viewshed. As other sites meeting these criteria or values are identified, BLM may elect to include them as significant cultural sites.

**Snowmobile:** Motor vehicle with a revolving tread in the rear and steerable skis in the front, for traveling over snow.

**Soil Crust, Biological:** A mosaic of bacteria, algae, lichens, mosses, and microfungi that weave through the top few centimeters of soil, forming a matrix that stabilizes and protects soil surfaces from erosive forces. Crusts are well adapted to severe growing conditions, but poorly adapted to compressional disturbances from vehicles, people, or animals. Once soil crusts are damaged or destroyed, they recover very slowly, especially in arid climates (BLM 2001c).

**Soil Crust, Chemical:** Firm layer on the soil surface generally formed from the deposition of inorganic chemicals like sodium or calcium chloride that precipitate from irrigation water or soil water lower in the profile. These crusts typically reduce water infiltration and prevent seedling emergence.

**Soil Crust, Physical:** Firm layer on the soil surface, generally formed in coarse sandy soils with low organic matter content, high salinity, and high alkalinity. Physical crusts may form when exposed to raindrop splash on bare soil or as a result of compaction. Soils with physical crusting typically reduce water infiltration and can prevent seedling emergence (BLM 2001c).

**Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs):** A public lands unit identified in land use plans to direct recreation funding and personnel to fulfill commitments made to provide specific, structured recreation opportunities (i.e., activity, experience, and benefit opportunities). Both land use plan decisions and subsequent implementing actions for recreation in each SRMA are geared to a strategically identified primary market—destination, community, or undeveloped.

**Special Status Species:** Special status species are species proposed for listing, officially listed as threatened or endangered, or are candidates for listing as threatened or endangered under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act; those listed by a state in a category, such as threatened or endangered, implying potential endangerment or extinction; and those designated by the State Director as sensitive (BLM 2001).

**Split-Estate:** Surface land and mineral estate of a given area under different ownerships. Frequently, the surface will be privately owned and the minerals federally owned.

**Standard Practices:** These practices are applied to surface-disturbing activities and are statements of guidelines and techniques for establishing statewide (or national) consistency in avoiding and mitigating environmental impacts and resource conflicts. These practices have been developed through field experience, planning analyses, and legal or regulatory directives. They emphasize the responsibility of the

Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to ensure that good construction practices are used on public lands, and that they apply to all surface-disturbing activities (BLM 2007a).

**State-Listed Species:** Species proposed for listing or listed by a state in a category implying, but not limited to, potential endangerment or extinction. Listing is either by legislation or regulation.

**Stipulation:** The least restrictive condition or requirement attached to a lease or contract that meets a resource protection objective.

**Surface-disturbing Activity:** An action created through mechanized or mechanical means that would cause soil mixing or result in alteration or removal of soil or vegetation and expose the mineral soil to erosive processes. Used in the literal context of actual, physical disturbance and movement or removal of the land surface and vegetation. Examples of surface disturbance include construction of well pads, pits, reservoirs, pipelines, and facilities (e.g., parking lot and tanks).

**Surface Water Classes and Uses:** The following water classes are a hierarchical categorization of waters according to existing and designated uses. Except for Class 1 waters, each classification is protected for its specified uses plus all the uses contained in each lower classification. Class 1 designations are based on value determinations rather than use support and are protected for all uses in existence at the time of or after designation. There are four major classes of surface water in Wyoming with various subcategories within each class (see “Wyoming Surface Water Classification List” for current listing).

- (a) Class 1, Outstanding Waters. Class 1 waters are those surface waters in which no further water quality degradation by point source discharges other than from dams will be allowed. Nonpoint sources of pollution shall be controlled through implementing appropriate best management practices. Pursuant to Section 7 of these regulations, the water quality and physical and biological integrity that existed on the water at the time of designation will be maintained and protected. In designating Class 1 waters, the Environmental Quality Council shall consider water quality, aesthetic, scenic, recreational, ecological, agricultural, botanical, zoological, municipal, industrial, historical, geological, cultural, archeological, fish and wildlife, the presence of substantial quantities of developable water, and other values of present and future benefit to the people.
- (b) Class 2, Fisheries and Drinking Water. Class 2 waters are waters, other than those designated as Class 1, that are known to support fish or drinking water supplies or where those uses are attainable. Class 2 waters may be perennial, intermittent, or ephemeral. Five subcategories of Class 2 waters exist.
- (c) Class 3, Aquatic Life Other than Fish. Class 3 waters are waters other than those designated as Class 1 that are intermittent, ephemeral, or isolated waters, and because of natural habitat conditions, do not support nor have the potential to support fish populations or spawning or certain perennial waters that lack the natural water quality to support fish (e.g., geothermal areas). Class 3 waters provide support for invertebrates, amphibians, or other flora and fauna that inhabit waters of the state at some stage of their life-cycles. Uses designated on Class 3 waters include aquatic life other than fish, recreation, wildlife, industry, agriculture, and scenic value. Generally, waters suitable for this classification have wetland characteristics; such characteristics will be a primary indicator used in identifying Class 3 waters. There are four subcategories of Class 3 waters.
- (d) Class 4, Agriculture, Industry, Recreation, and Wildlife. Class 4 waters are waters other than those designated as Class 1 where it has been determined that aquatic life uses are not attainable pursuant to the provisions of Section 33 of these regulations. Uses designated on Class 4 waters include recreation, wildlife, industry, agriculture, and scenic value (Wyoming DEQ 2002).

**Timing Limitation:** A restriction on the use and (or) activities on the land surface for a specified time to mitigate anticipated impacts or achieve an identified level of resource protection. The restriction may be the result of lease stipulations, surface management agency review and environmental analysis of an action, Notice to Lessees, Onshore Orders, or regulations.

**Traditional Cultural Property (TCP):** A cultural property that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places because of its association with a living community's cultural practices or beliefs that (a) are rooted in that community's history; and (b) are important in maintaining the community's continuing cultural identity (BLM 2007b).

**Trails:** The term "trails," when used in the phrase "roads and trails" in association with off-highway vehicle designations, means motor vehicle trails only. These include distinct two-track vehicle trails or single-track motorcycle trails created by the passage of motor vehicles and which receive continuous use. Cow paths, foot trails, mountain bike trails, and game trails are not motor vehicle trails and motor vehicle travel is not allowed on them. Vehicle traces created by the unauthorized passage of a few motor vehicles are not legal motor vehicle trails.

**Vegetative Diversity:** The variety of vegetative types in an area, including species, the genetic differences among species and populations, the communities and ecosystems in which vegetation types occur, and the structure and seral stage of these communities. Vegetative diversity includes rare as well as common vegetative types, and typically supports a diverse array of animal species and communities.

**Viewshed:** A viewshed is used in Visual Resource Management to describe "...landscape that can be seen under favorable atmospheric conditions from a viewpoint (key observation point) or along a transportation corridor" (BLM 1984).

**Visual Resources:** The visible physical features of a landscape (topography, water, vegetation, animals, structures, and other features) that constitute the scenery of an area.

**Visual Resource Management (VRM) Classes:**

**Class I.** The objective of this class is to maintain a landscape setting that appears unaltered by humans. It is applied to wilderness areas, some natural areas, wild portions of wild and scenic rivers, and other similar situations in which management activities are to be restricted.

**Class II.** The objective of this class is to design proposed alterations so as 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 the attention of the casual observer. Any changes must repeat the basic elements 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 design proposed alterations so as to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. Contrasts to the basic elements (form, line, color, and texture) caused by a management activity may be evident and begin to attract attention in the characteristic landscape; however, the changes should remain subordinate to the existing characteristic landscape.

**Class IV.** The objective of this class is to provide for management activities that require major modification of the existing character of the landscape. Contrasts may attract attention and be a dominant feature of the landscape in terms of scale; however, changes should repeat the basic elements (form, line, color, and texture) inherent in the characteristic landscape.

**Rehabilitation Area.** Change is needed or change may add acceptable visual variety to an area. This class applies to areas where the naturalistic character has been disturbed to a point at which rehabilitation is needed to bring it back into character with the surrounding landscape. This class would apply to areas identified in the scenic evaluation where the quality class has been reduced because of unacceptable cultural modification. The contrast is inharmonious with the characteristic landscape. It also may be applied to areas having the potential for enhancement; i.e., add acceptable visual variety to an area or site. It should be considered an interim or short-term classification until one of the other VRM class objectives can be reached through rehabilitation or enhancement. The desired VRM class should be identified.

**Wildfire:** Any natural fire ignition occurring on wildland that neither meets management objectives nor occurs within a prescribed fire area, thus requiring a suppression response.

**Wildlife-disturbing Activity:** Authorized activities that may cause displacement of or excessive stress to wildlife during critical life stages or during periods of severe weather conditions. Wildlife-disturbing activities include human presence, noise, and activities using motorized vehicles or equipment.

**Withdrawal:** Removal or withholding of public lands, by statute or Secretarial order, from operation of some or all of the public land laws. A mineral withdrawal includes public lands potentially valuable for leasable minerals, precluding the disposal of the lands, except with a mineral reservation clause, unless the lands are found not to contain a valuable deposit of minerals. A mineral withdrawal is the closing of an area to mineral location and development activities.

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