

## APPENDIX E GLOSSARY

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**Act** – the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*

**Action** – all activities or programs of any kind authorized, funded, or carried out, in whole or in part, by Federal agencies in the United States or upon the high seas. Examples include, but are not limited to: (a) actions intended to conserve listed species or their habitat; (b) the promulgation of regulations; (c) the granting of licenses, contracts, leases, easements, rights-of-way, permits, or grants-in-aid; or (d) actions directly or indirectly causing modifications to the land, water, or air. [50 CFR § 402.02]

**Action area** – all areas to be affected directly or indirectly by the Federal action and not merely the immediate area involved in the action. [50 CFR § 402.02]

**Active (Breeding Area/Pair/Nest)** - defined by the presence of: 1. an incubating bald eagle(s), eggs, or young, 2. a nest constructed during the current breeding season, 3. fresh nesting material in a previously existing nest. An active breeding area/nest also is occupied. Equivalent to *Occupied* is *Breeding*.

**Affect/effect** – to affect (verb) is to bring about a change (“The proposed action is likely to adversely affect piping plovers nesting on the shoreline”). The effect (usually a noun) is the result (“The proposed highway is likely to have the following effects on the Florida scrub jay”). “Affect” appears throughout section 7 regulations and documents in the phrases “may affect” and “likely to adversely affect.” “Effect” appears throughout section 7 regulations and documents in the phrases “adverse effects,” “beneficial effects,” “effects of the action,” and “no effect.” [Proper grammatical usage]

**Alternate nest** – a bald eagle nest not used during the current breeding attempt. Alternate nests in the breeding area extended the same habitat protection as “active” nests. Nests will receive buffer zone protection if they have been active within the preceding 5 years.

**Anticipated/allowable/authorized** – in incidental take statements, the Services determine the amount or extent of incidental take “anticipated” (expected) due to the proposed action or an action modified by reasonable and prudent alternatives. When writing incidental take statements, use only the phrase “anticipated” rather than “allowable” or “authorized,” as the Services do not allow or authorize (formally permit) incidental take under section 7. [Clarification of usage]

**Applicant** – any person (an individual, corporation, partnership, trust, association, or any other private entity; or any officer, employee, agent, department, or instrumentality of the Federal Government, of any State, municipality, or political subdivision of a State, or of any foreign government; and State, municipality, or political subdivision of a State; or any other entity subject to the jurisdiction of the United States) [ESA § 3(12)] who requires formal approval or authorization from a Federal agency as a prerequisite to conducting the action. [50 CFR § 402.02]

**Appreciably diminish the value** – to considerably reduce the capability of designated or proposed critical habitat to satisfy requirements essential to both the survival and recovery of a listed species. [Clarification of usage]

**Best reliable scientific and commercial data** – to assure the quality of the biological, ecological, and other information used in the implementation of the Act, it is the policy of the Services to: (1) evaluate all scientific and other information used to ensure that it is reliable, credible, and represents the best scientific and commercial data available; (2) gather and impartially evaluate biological, ecological, and other information disputing official positions, decisions, and actions proposed or taken by the Services; (3) document their evaluation of comprehensive, technical information regarding the status and habitat requirements for a species throughout its range, whether it supports or does not support a position being proposed as an official agency position; (4) use primary and original source of information as the basis for recommendations; (5) retain these sources referenced in the official document as part of the administrative record supporting the action; (6) collect, evaluate, and complete all reviews of biological, ecological, and other relevant information within the schedules established by the Act, appropriate regulations, and applicable policies; and (7) require management-level review of documents developed and drafted by Services biologists to verify and assure the quality of the science used to establish official positions, decisions, and actions taken by the Services during their implementation of the Act. [59 FR 34271 (July 1, 1994)]

**Biological assessment** – information prepared by, or under the direction of, a Federal agency to determine whether a proposed action is likely to: (1) adversely affect listed species or designated critical habitat; (2) jeopardize the continued existence of species that are proposed for listing; or (3) adversely modify proposed critical habitat. Biological assessments must be prepared for “major construction activities.” See 50 CFR § 402.02. The outcome of this biological assessment determines whether formal consultation or a conference is necessary. [50 CFR § 402.02, 50 CFR § 402.12]

**Biological opinion** – document which includes: (1) the opinion of the Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service as to whether or not a Federal action is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species, or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat; (2) a summary of the information on which the opinion is based; and (3) a detailed discussion of the effects of the action on listed species or designated critical habitat. [50 CFR § 402.02, 50 CFR § 402.14(h)]

**Candidate species** – plant and animal taxa considered for possible addition to the List of Endangered and Threatened Species. These are taxa for which the Fish and Wildlife Service has on file sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threat(s) to support issuance of a proposal to list, but issuance of a proposal rule is currently precluded by higher priority listing activities. [61 FR 7596-7613 (February 28, 1996)]

**Communal winter roost** – an area usually less than 10 acres in size that contains a minimum of six eagles on any given night within 100 m (328 ft) of each other.

**Concentration area** – a general term referring to that portion of an animal’s home range where several individuals typically gather collectively to optimize some life requirement (i.e., food, water, cover, protection from predators, social proximity for mating, etc.) of the species afforded by a specific habitat locality. For bald eagles, concentration areas may include communal winter roosts with a favorable microclimate, communal feeding sites with a concentrated food source, migratory staging or assembly sites, etc.

**Conference** – a process of early interagency cooperation involving formal or informal discussions between a Federal agency and the Services pursuant to section 7(a)(4) of the Act regarding the likely impact of an action on proposed species or proposed critical habitat. Conferences are: (1) required for proposed Federal actions likely to jeopardize proposed species, or destroy or adversely modify proposed critical habitat; (2) designed to help Federal agencies identify and resolve potential conflicts between an action and species conservation early in a project’s planning; and (3) designed to develop recommendations to minimize or avoid adverse effects to proposed species or proposed critical habitat. [50 CFR § 402.02, 50 CFR § 402.10]

**Conservation** – the terms “conserve,” “conserving,” and “conservation” mean to use and the use of all methods and procedures which are necessary to bring any endangered species or threatened species to the point at which the measures provided pursuant to [the] Act are no longer necessary. Such methods and procedures include, but are not limited to, all activities associated with scientific resources management such as research, census, law enforcement, habitat acquisition and maintenance, propagation, live trapping, and transplantation, and in the extraordinary case where population pressures within a given ecosystem cannot be otherwise relieved, may include regulated taking. [ESA § 3(3)]

**Conservation measures** – are actions to benefit or promote the recovery of listed species that are included by the Federal agency as an integral part of the proposed action. These actions will be taken by the Federal agency or applicant, and serve to minimize or compensate for, project effects on the species under review. These may include actions taken prior to the initiation of consultation, or actions which the Federal agency or applicant have committed to complete in a biological assessment or similar document.

**Conservation recommendations** – the Services’ non-binding suggestions resulting from formal or informal consultation that: (1) identify discretionary measures a Federal agency can take to minimize or avoid the adverse effects of a proposed action on listed or proposed species, or designated or proposed critical habitat; (2) identify studies, monitoring, or research to develop new information on listed or proposed species, or designated or proposed critical habitat; and (3) include suggestions on how an action agency can assist species conservation as part of their action and in furtherance of their authorities under section 7(a)(1) of the Act. [50 CFR § 402.02]

**Constituent elements** – physical and biological features of designated or proposed critical habitat essential to the conservation of the species, including, but not limited to: (1) space for individual and population growth, and for normal behavior; (2) food, water, air, light, minerals, or other nutritional or physiological requirements; (3) cover or shelter; (4) sites for breeding, reproduction, rearing of offspring, germination, or seed dispersal; and (5) habitats that are protected from disturbance or are representative of the historic geographic and ecological distributions of a species. [ESA § 3(5)(A)(i), 50 CFR § 424.12(b)]

**Controlled surface use (CSU)** – stipulation applied on all or portions of a lease where use and occupancy is allowed (unless restricted by another stipulation), but identified resource values require special operational constraints that may alter the lease terms. The CSU is not a substitute for the NSO, which totally prohibits surface occupancy, or for timing stipulations which limit when operations may occur.

**Critical habitat** – for listed species consists of: (1) the specific areas within the geographical area occupied by the species, at the time it is listed in accordance with the provisions of section 4 of the Act, on which are found those physical or biological features (constituent elements), (a) essential to the conservation of the species and (b) which may require special management

considerations or protection; and (2) specific areas outside the geographical area occupied by the species at the time it is listed in accordance with the provisions of section 4 of the Act, upon a determination by the Secretary that such areas are essential for the conservation of the species. [ESA§ 3(5)(A)] Designated critical habitats are described in 50 CFR § 17 and 226. No critical habitat has been delineated for the bald eagle.

**Critical roost** – roosts which exhibit traditional use for five or more years and contain at least 15 eagles per night for at least 14 nights per season.

**Crucial habitat** – a term describing any particular seasonal range, or habitat component, which has been documented as the determining factor in a population’s ability to maintain itself at a certain level over the long term. In Wyoming, this often refers to winter range or habitat. The use of the term crucial habitat is strongly discouraged when referring to endangered or threatened species so as to avoid confusion with the legal definition of *critical habitat* tied to these species. In common usage, the term “crucial habitat” refers to those portions of a population’s range utilized to a greater than normal/average extent during any important period, or utilized during the most severe seasonal conditions as a reserve, or survival, habitat.

**Cumulative effects** – are those effects of future State or private activities, not involving Federal activities, that are reasonable certain to occur within the action area of the Federal action subject to consultation. [50 CFR § 402.02] This definition applies only to section 7 analyses and should not be confused with the broader use of this term in the National Environmental Policy Act or other environmental laws.

**Designated non-Federal representative** – the person, agency, or organization designated by the Federal agency as its representative to conduct informal consultation or prepare a biological assessment. The non-Federal representative must be designated by giving written notice to the Director. If a permit or license applicant is involved and is not the designated non-Federal representative, then the applicant and the Federal agency must agree on the choice of the designated non-Federal representative. [50 CFR § 402.02, 50 CFR § 402.08]

**Destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat** – a direct or indirect alteration that appreciably diminishes the value of critical habitat for both the survival and recovery of a listed species. Such alterations include, but are not limited to, alterations adversely modifying any of those physical or biological features that were the basis for determining the habitat to be critical. [50 CFR § 402.02]

**Director** – the Assistant Administrator for Fisheries for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration; or the Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Director; or their respective authorized representative. [50 CFR § 402.02]

**Distinct population segment** – “population,” or “distinct population segment,” are terms with specific meaning when used for listing, delisting, and reclassification purposes to describe a discrete vertebrate stock that may be added or deleted from the list of endangered and threatened species. The use of the term “distinct population segment” will be consistent with the Services’ population policy. [61 FR 4722-4725 (February 7, 1996)]

**Early consultation** – a preliminary consultation requested by a Federal agency on behalf of a prospective permit or license applicant prior to the filing of an application for a Federal permit or license. [50 CFR § 402.11]

**Effects of the action** – the direct and indirect effects of an action on the species or critical habitat, together with the effects of other activities that are interrelated or interdependent with that action. These effects are considered along with the environmental baseline and the predicted cumulative effects to determine the overall effects to the species for purposes of preparing a biological opinion on the proposed action. [50 CFR § 402.02] The environmental baseline covers past and present impacts of all Federal actions within the action area. This includes the effects of existing Federal projects that have not yet come in for their section 7 consultation.

**Endangered species** – any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. [ESA § 3(6)]

**Environmental baseline** – the past and present impacts of all Federal, State, or private actions and other human activities in an action area, the anticipated impacts of all proposed Federal projects in an action area that have already undergone formal or early section 7 consultation, and the impact of State or private actions that are contemporaneous with the consultation in process. [50 CFR § 402.02]

**ESA** – the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, 16 V.S.C. 1531 et seq.

**Essential habitat** – habitat of an endangered, threatened, or proposed species that has not been declared critical but is recognized as important to the continued existence of that species.

**Federal agency** – any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States. [ESA §3(7)]

**Fish or wildlife** – any member of the animal kingdom, including without limitation any mammal, fish, bird (including any migratory, nonmigratory, or endangered bird for which protection is also afforded by treaty or other international agreement), amphibian, reptile, mollusk, crustacean, arthropod, or other invertebrate, and includes any part, product, egg, or offspring thereof, or the dead body or parts thereof. [ESA § 3(8)]

**Foraging area** – a general term referring to that portion of an animal’s home range used by the animal to obtain food for sustenance. A foraging area may or may not be defended by the animal. The boundaries of a foraging area are fluid and usually indefinite, and often vary during the course of a season or year. For bald eagles, foraging areas may include riparian zones with open water for aquatic food sources, big game winter ranges for carrion, municipal landfills for garbage, etc. For habitat management purposes, an individual site plan may designate a specific foraging area, or zone.

**Formal consultation** – a process between the Services and a Federal agency or applicant that: (1) determines whether a proposed Federal action is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat; (2) begins with a Federal agency’s written request and submittal of a complete initiation package; and (3) concludes with the issuance of a biological opinion and incidental take statement by either of the Services. If a proposed Federal action may affect a listed species or designated critical habitat, formal consultation is required (except when the Services concur, in writing, that a proposed action “is not likely to adversely affect” listed species or designated critical habitat). [50 CFR § 402.02, 50 CFR § 402.14]

**FWS** – the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Habitat alteration** – any removal of trees, snags, or understory (includes such activities as timber harvest, firewood cutting of standing snags, or clearing and treatment of vegetation). Habitat alterations also include projects dealing with wetland and aquatic habitats such as levee building, channeling, dredging, gravel removal, or wetland draining. Livestock use that significantly impacts the habitat or occurs at a level that would prevent habitat or prey base objectives being obtained are included in habitat alterations.

**Habitat conservation plan** – under section 10(a)(2)(A) of the Act, a planning document that is a mandatory component of an incidental take permit application, also known as a Conservation Plan.

**Incidental take** – take of listed fish or wildlife species that results from, but is not the purpose of, carrying out an otherwise lawful activity conducted by a Federal agency or applicant [50 CFR § 402.02]

**Indirect effects** – those effects that are caused by or will result from the proposed action and are later in time, but are still reasonable certain to occur. [50 CFR § 402.02]

**Informal consultation** – an optional process that includes all discussions and correspondence between the Services and a Federal agency or designated non-Federal representative, prior to formal consultation, to determine whether a proposed Federal action may affect listed species or critical habitat. This process allows the Federal agency to utilize the Services’ expertise to evaluate the agency’s assessment of potential effects or to suggest possible modifications to the proposed action which could avoid potentially adverse effects. If a proposed Federal action may affect a listed species or designated critical habitat, formal consultation is required (except when the Services concur, in writing, that a proposed action “is not likely to adversely affect” listed species or designated critical habitat). [50 CFR § 402.02, 50 CFR § 402.13]

**Interdependent actions** – actions having no independent utility apart from the proposed action. [50 CFR § 402.02]

**Interrelated actions** – actions that are part of a larger action and depend on the larger action for their justification. [50 CFR § 402.02]

**Is likely to adversely affect** – the appropriate finding in a biological assessment (or conclusion during informal consultation) if any adverse effect to listed species may occur as a direct or indirect result of the proposed action or its interrelated or interdependent actions, and the effect is not: discountable, insignificant, or beneficial (see definition of “is not likely to adversely affect”). In the event the overall effect of the proposed action is beneficial to the listed species, but is also likely to cause some adverse effects, then the proposed action “is likely to adversely affect” the listed species. If incidental take is anticipated to occur as a result of the proposed action, an “is likely to adversely affect” determination should be made. AN “is likely to adversely affect” determination requires the initiation of formal section 7 consultation. [Clarification of usage]

**Is likely to jeopardize proposed species/adversely modify proposed critical habitat** – the appropriate conclusion when the action agency or the Services identify situations where the proposed action is likely to jeopardize the proposed species or adversely modify the proposed critical habitat. If this conclusion is reached, conference is required. [Clarification of usage]

**Is not likely to adversely affect** – the appropriate conclusion when effects on listed species are expected to be discountable, insignificant, or completely beneficial. **Beneficial effects** are contemporaneous positive effects without any adverse effects to the species. **Insignificant effects** relate to the size of the impact and should never reach the scale where take occurs. **Discountable effects** are those extremely unlikely to occur. Based on best judgment, a person would not: (1) be able to meaningfully measure, detect, or evaluate insignificant effects; or (2) expect discountable effects to occur. [Clarification of usage] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Jeopardize the continued existence of** – to engage in an action that reasonably would be expected, directly or indirectly, to reduce appreciably the likelihood of both the survival and recovery of a listed species in the wild by reducing the reproduction, numbers, or distribution of that species. [50 CFR § 402.02] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Letter** – refers to all written correspondence, such as letters, memoranda, or electronic mail messages, relating to a formal or informal consultation. [Clarification of usage] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Listed species** – any species of fish, wildlife, or plant which has been determined to be endangered or threatened under section 4 of the Act. [50 CFR § 402.02] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Major construction activity** – a construction project (or other undertaking having similar physical effects) which is a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of human environment as referred to in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA, 42 V.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). [50 CFR § 402.02] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**May affect** – the appropriate conclusion when a proposed action may pose effects on listed species or designated critical habitat. When the Federal agency proposing the action determines that a “may affect” situation exists, then they must either initiate formal consultation or seek written concurrence from the Services that the action “is not likely to adversely affect” [see definition above] listed species. [Clarification of usage] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Minor change rule** – when preparing incidental take statements, the Services must specify reasonable and prudent measures and their implementing terms and conditions to minimize the impacts of incidental take that do not alter the basic design, location, scope, duration, or timing of the action, and that involve only minor changes. [50 CFR § 402.14(i)(2)] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Nest** – any platform within the breeding area that may have been built or used by a bald eagle, usually as a focus for reproductive behavior and activity. Bald eagle nests are usually built by mated pairs, are made of sticks, and are situated in trees. Nests may be constructed by single eagles or other species and composed exclusively or in part of grass, forbs, or man-made material and situated on cliffs, man-made structures (windmills, utility poles), or the ground.

**NMFS** – the National Marine Fisheries Service. Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**No effect** – the appropriate conclusion when the action agency determines its proposed action will not affect a listed species or designated critical habitat. [Clarification of usage] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**No Surface Occupancy (NSO)** – stipulation applied only when the other three standard stipulations are determined, during the planning process, to be inadequate to sufficiently protect the public interest or as an alternative to no leasing. The NSO prohibits the use or occupancy of the land surface for fluid mineral exploration or development to protect identified resource values. The NSO stipulation includes former stipulations which may have been worded as: “No Surface Use/Occupancy,” “No Surface Disturbance,” “Conditional NSO,” and “Surface Disturbance or Surface Occupancy Restriction (by location).” The NSO requires the legal description of the specific geographical area covered.

**Occupied (Habitat/Breeding Area/Nest)** – habitat/breeding area/territory/nest defined by the presence of a pair of bald eagles during the breeding season. Equivalent to Occupied-non-Breeding, Occupied-Breeding, or Occupied-Breeding Status Unknown.

**Occupied critical habitat** – critical habitat that contains individuals of the species at the time of the project analysis. A species does not have to occupy critical habitat throughout the year for the habitat to be considered occupied (e.g. migratory birds). Subsequent events affecting the species may result in this habitat becoming unoccupied. [Clarification of usage] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Plant** – any member of the plant kingdom, including seeds, roots, and other parts thereof. (ESA § 3(14)) Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Population** – “population,” or “distinct population segment,” are terms with specific meaning when used for listing, delisting, and reclassification purposes to describe a discrete vertebrate stock that may be added or deleted from the list of endangered and threatened species. The term “population” will be confined to those distinct population segments officially listed, or eligible for listing, consistent with section 4(a) of the Act and the Services’ population policy. [61 FR 4722-4725 (February 7, 1996).] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Preliminary biological opinion** – the opinion issued as a result of early consultation. [50 CFR § 402.02] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Programmatic consultation** – consultation addressing an agency’s multiple actions on a program, regional, or other basis. [Clarification of usage] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Proposed critical habitat** – habitat proposed in the Federal Register to be designated as critical habitat, or habitat proposed to be added to an existing critical habitat designation, under section 4 of the Act for any listed or proposed species. [50 CFR § 402.02] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Proposed species** – any species of fish, wildlife, or plant that is proposed in the Federal Register to be listed under section 4 of the Act. [50 CFR § 402.02] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Reasonable and prudent alternatives** – recommended alternative actions identified during formal consultation that can be implemented in a manner consistent with the intended purpose of action, that can be implemented consistent with the scope of the Federal agency’s legal authority and jurisdiction, that are economically and technologically feasible, and that the Director believes would avoid the likelihood of jeopardizing the continued existence of listed species or the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. [50 CFR § 402.02] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Reasonable and prudent measures** – actions the Director believes necessary or appropriate to minimize the impacts, i.e., amount or extent, of incidental take. [50 CFR § 402.02] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Recovery** – improvement in the status of listed species to the point at which listing is no longer appropriate under the criteria set out in section 4(a)(1) of the Act. [50 CFR § 402.02] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Recovery unit** – management subsets of the listed species that are created to establish recovery goals or carrying out management actions. To lessen confusion in the context of section 7 and other Endangered Species Act activities, a subset of an animal or plant species that needs to be identified for recovery management purposes will be called a “recovery unit” instead of a “population.” [Clarification of usage] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Roost/roost site** – any perch site location where an eagle spends the night.

**Section 4** – the section of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, outlining procedures and criteria for: (1) identifying and listing threatened and endangered species; (2) identifying, designating, and revising critical habitat; (3) developing and revising recovery plans; and (4) monitoring species removed from the list of threatened or endangered species. [ESA §4] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Section 7** – the section of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, outlining procedures for interagency cooperation to conserve federally listed species and designated critical habitats. Section 7(a)(1) requires Federal agencies to consult with the Services to ensure that they are not undertaking, funding, permitting, or authorizing actions likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat. Other paragraphs of this section establish the requirement to conduct conferences on proposed species; allow applicants to initiate early consultation; require FWS and NMFS to prepare biological opinions and issue incidental take statements. Section 7 also establishes procedures for seeking exemptions from the requirements of section 7(a)(2) from the Endangered Species Committee. [ESA §7].

**Section 7 consultation** – the various section 7 processes, including both consultation and conference if proposed species are involved. [50 CFR §402].

**Section 9** – the section of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, that prohibits the taking of endangered species of fish and wildlife. Additional prohibitions include: (1) import or export of endangered species or products made from endangered species; (2) interstate or foreign commerce in listed species or their products; and (3) possession of unlawfully taken endangered species. [ESA §9].

**Section 10** – the section of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, that provides exceptions to section 9 prohibitions. The exceptions most relevant to section 7 consultations are takings allowed by two kinds of permits issued by the Services: (1) scientific take permits and (2) incidental take permits. The Services can issue permits to take listed species for scientific purposes, or to enhance the propagation or survival of listed species. The Services can also issue permits to take listed species incidental to otherwise legal activity. [ESA §10].

**Service(s)** – the Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service (or both).

**Species** – includes any subspecies of fish or wildlife or plants, and any distinct population segment of any species of vertebrate fish or wildlife which interbreeds when mature. [ESA §3(16)].

**Suitable (habitat/breeding area/territory/nest):** Term indicating unoccupied sites that may support nesting bald eagles in the future. Suitable may be applied to breeding area/territory/nest or habitat with a history of use and / or contains characteristics within normal range of those currently occupied.

**Survival** – For determination of jeopardy/adverse modification: the species' persistence as listed or as a recovery unit, beyond the conditions leading to its endangerment, with sufficient resilience to allow for the potential recovery from endangerment. Said another way, survival is the condition in which a species continues to exist into the future while retaining the potential for recovery. This condition is characterized by a species with a sufficient populations, represented by all necessary age classes, genetic heterogeneity, and number of sexually mature individuals producing viable offspring, which exists in an environment providing all requirements for completion of the species' entire life cycle, including reproduction, sustenance, and shelter. [Clarification of usage].

**Take** – to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect or attempt to engage in any such conduct. [ESA §3(19)] **Harm** is further defined by FWS to include significant habitat modification or degradation that results in death or injury to listed species by significantly impairing behavioral patterns such as breeding, feeding, or sheltering. **Harass** is defined by FWS as actions that create the likelihood of injury to listed species to such an extent as to significantly disrupt normal behavior patterns which include, but are not limited to, breeding, feeding or sheltering. [50 CFR §17.3]

**Threatened species** – any species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range. [ESA §3(20)] Final ESA Section 7 Consultation Handbook, March 1998.

**Timing limitation stipulation (TLS)** – stipulation that prohibits surface use during specified time periods, on all or portions of the lease, to protect identified resource values. It may not apply to the operations and maintenance of production facilities unless it is found during the leasing phase that there is a continued need for such mitigation and that less stringent, project specific mitigation measures are insufficient.

**Unoccupied critical habitat** – critical habitat not occupied (i.e., not permanently or seasonally occupied) by the listed species at the time of the project analysis. The habitat may be suitable, but the species has been extirpated species, but restorable to suitability with proper management, if the area is necessary to either stabilize the population or assure eventual recovery of a listed species. Some designated, unoccupied habitat may never be occupied by the species, but was

designated since it is essential for conserving the species because it maintains factors constituting the species' habitat. For example, critical habitat may be designated for an upstream area maintaining the hydrology of the species' habitat downstream. [Clarification of usage].

**Vital roost:** Any communal roost that does not meet criteria for critical status but has local or regional importance.

**Wildlife** – See “fish or wildlife”.

**Winter roost** – any bald eagle roost that does not meet the criteria for communal winter roost but has local or regional significance in terms of public interest, unique features or importance to the total population of bald eagles as determined by the appropriate BLM biologist(s).