

Social Science in BLM Planning

- Helps reconcile differing perspectives
- Helps to inform planning decisions
- Can include:
 - Economic, Political, Cultural
 - Social structure of communities, regions, and the Nation as a whole
 - Social values, beliefs, and attitudes
 - How people interact with the landscape
 - Sense-of-place issues



Social Science in BLM Planning

- Information for analysis depends upon the specific issues
- The following information is usually considered:
 - Demography and social indicators
 - Social organization and institutions
 - Attitudes and Values
 - Human Geography
 - Economic Value
 - Employment, Income, Subsistence
 - Public Finance and Government Services
 - Environmental Justice



Incorporation of socio-economic information in BLM planning

BLM Planning Phase	Social Science Activity
Scoping	Identify social and economic issues
Inventory data	Collect necessary social and economic data
Analysis of the Management Situation	Social and economic assessment, including existing conditions and trends and the impacts of continuing current management
Formulate Alternatives	Identify social and economic opportunities and constraints
Effects of Alternatives	Analyze the social and economic effects of the alternatives

Socio-Economic Analysis

- **Baseline**
 - Characterize existing condition and trends in local communities and the wider region that may affect and be affected by land use planning decisions
- **Impact Analysis**
 - Characterize impacts to existing conditions and trends from each of the alternatives
- **Mitigation**
 - Identify measures that may reduce or avoid potential adverse economic or social effects of the alternatives, and maximize the positive effects