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## CHAPTER 2 –RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

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### 2.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains objectives and decisions that form the WD’s RMP. This chapter is intended to provide land use planning and management direction at a broad scale and to guide future actions for the life of the plan. The regulations for making and modifying land use plan decisions are found in 43 CFR 1600. Land use plan decisions consist of (1) desired outcomes (goals and objectives) and (2) allowable uses and management actions.

#### 2.1.1 Purpose and Need for the Resource Management Plan

The purpose of the RMP is to provide a single, comprehensive land use plan that will guide management of the public lands and uses administered by the WD consistent with laws, regulations, policy and guidance. The RMP incorporates new information and data, addresses land use issues and conflicts, and specifies where and under what circumstances particular resources, activities, and uses will be managed on BLM-administered public lands. Public lands addressed in the RMP will be managed on the basis of multiple use and sustained yield, while preventing unnecessary or undue degradation of the lands, including the protection of natural and cultural resources, in accordance with the Federal Land Policy Management Act (FLPMA). The RMP generally does not include a description of how particular programs or projects will be implemented or prioritized; those decisions are deferred to implementation-level planning.

BLM land use planning requirements are established by FLPMA Sections 201 and 202 and 43 CFR 1600. Regulatory and resource conditions have changed, as well as public demands and uses, which warrant revisiting decisions in the 1982 MFPs and 1999 Lands Amendments. Many new laws, regulations, and policies have created additional public land management considerations. As a result, some of the decisions in the MFP and amendments are no longer valid or have been superseded by requirements that did not exist when they were prepared. Likewise, user demands and uses have evolved causing new impacts, requiring new management direction.

#### 2.1.2 Planning Issues

Issue identification is the first step of the nine-step BLM planning process. A planning issue is a significant concern, need, resource use, or development and protection opportunity regarding resource management or uses on public lands that can be addressed in a variety of ways. These issues drove the formulation of the RMP alternatives, and addressing them has resulted in a range of management options presented in four alternatives.

After considering public scoping comments, the BLM identified nine major planning issue themes, as follows:

1. How will transportation and recreation be managed to improve public access, protect natural and cultural resources, reduce user conflicts, and provide a range of recreational opportunities, from developed/motorized to nonmotorized/wilderness experiences?
2. What opportunities exist to make adjustments to public land ownership that would result in greater management efficiency, appropriate and agreeable levels of public access, and increased public and natural resource benefits?

3. What actions or restrictions will be needed to maintain or improve natural resource values, reduce dangerous fuel loads, control and prevent noxious weeds and other undesirable plant species, and reduce risk of crossing ecological thresholds?
4. How will uses and land management activities be managed to maintain and improve terrestrial and aquatic habitats in a scattered land ownership pattern while maintaining multiple-use land management?
5. How will the BLM manage mining and other commercial uses (other than livestock grazing) on public lands while protecting natural and cultural resources? How will management of BLM lands affect the social and economic resiliency and sustainability of local economies?
6. How will the BLM manage livestock grazing on public lands while protecting, managing, restoring, and/or using natural and cultural resources?
7. Where are special designations appropriate to protect unique resources?
8. What are the appropriate management level and other management measures to protect natural and cultural resources while protecting the health and safety of the wild horse and burro populations? Where should herd management area boundaries be adjusted?
9. How can the BLM use proactive management, tribal consultation, and land tenure tools to identify, protect, and conserve cultural resources? How can these values be incorporated into other management activities?

### ***Issues Considered But Not Further Analyzed***

During scoping, several concerns were raised that are beyond the scope of this planning effort or represented questions on how the BLM would go about the planning process and implementation. There are several issues raised in scoping that are clearly of concern to the public but that are not under BLM jurisdiction. Where certain management is already dictated by law or regulation, new alternatives have not been developed, but management is instead applied as management common to all alternatives in the RMP. The Winnemucca RMP Scoping Report discussed issues outside the scope of the RMP.

### ***Planning Criteria***

FLPMA is the primary authority for the BLM's management of public lands. This law provides the overarching policy by which public lands will be managed and establishes provisions for land use planning, land acquisition and disposition, administration, range management, rights-of-way, designated management areas, and the repeal of certain laws and statutes. NEPA provides the basic national charter for environmental responsibility and requires the consideration of public input and information in the decision making process for federal actions. In concert, these two laws provide comprehensive guidance for administration of all BLM activities.

Planning criteria are the standards, rules, and guidelines that help to guide data collection, alternative formulation, and alternative selection in the RMP-development process. In conjunction with the planning issues, planning criteria assure the planning process is focused. The criteria guides planning and provide a basis for judging the responsiveness of the planning options.

Preliminary planning criteria were developed prior to public scoping meetings to set the focus for the Winnemucca RMP and to guide decision making by topic. These preliminary planning criteria were included in the initial newsletter, displayed at the four public open houses held during the first week of May 2005, and posted on the project Web site for public comment during the 60-day scoping period. The public was encouraged to comment on and to suggest additions to these criteria at the meetings and through correspondence with the BLM. Although no specific criterion differing from those above were suggested by the public during scoping, many comments supported the method provided by these principles to evaluate the issues. The public encouraged the BLM to use criteria and standards for as many decisions as possible, making it easier to manage site-specific activities during implementation-level management phases.

1. The RMP will comply with FLPMA and all other applicable laws, regulations, and policies. Decisions in the plan will be consistent with the existing plans and policies of adjacent local, state, tribal, and federal agencies to the extent allowed by federal law, regulations, and policy.
2. Impacts of the RMP will be analyzed in an EIS developed in accordance with regulations at 43 CFR 1610 and 40 CFR 1500 and the Departmental Manual (DM) 516 DM 1-8. The scope of analysis will be consistent with the level of analysis in approved plans and in accordance with BLM standards and program guidance.
3. The RMP will recognize the state's responsibility to manage wildlife populations and waters of the State of Nevada.
4. Management of migratory birds within the planning area will be consistent with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA). Migratory birds are protected and managed under the MBTA of 1918, as amended (16 USC 703 et seq.) and EO 13186. Under the MBTA, nests with eggs or young of migratory birds may not be harmed, nor may migratory birds be killed. EO 13186 directs federal agencies to promote the conservation of migratory bird populations.
5. The RMP will comply with US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines (USFWS 2007) and the Post-Delisting Monitoring Plan (USFWS 2009) for the bald eagle where it is appropriate<sup>1</sup>.
6. The RMP will recognize valid existing rights.
7. Lands covered in the RMP will be public surface and split-estate lands managed by BLM. No decisions will be made in the RMP related to the management of lands not administered by the BLM.
8. The RMP will be developed cooperatively and collaboratively with the State of Nevada, tribal governments, county and municipal governments, other federal agencies, the Sierra Front-Northwestern Great Basin Resource Advisory Council (RAC), and other interested groups, agencies and individuals.

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<sup>1</sup> The WD does not currently conduct bald eagle monitoring, as no foraging, nesting, wintering, or roosting areas have been identified within the planning area, and species occurrence is rare (Section 3.2.10).

9. RMP development will include government-to-government consultation with Native American Indian Tribes in conformance with the requirements of Section 202(c)(9) of the FLPMA; Section 101(d)(6) of the National Historic Preservation Act; the American Indian Religious Freedom Act; Treaty Rights where applicable; EO 13007 (Indian Sacred Sites); EO 13084 (Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments); EO 12898 (Environmental Justice); BLM Handbook H-8160-1; BLM Nevada Instruction Memorandum NV-2005-008; and other applicable laws, regulations, and policies.
10. The RMP will incorporate standards and guidelines for rangeland health developed in accordance with regulations in 43 CFR Subpart 4180 and approved by the Secretary of the Interior, and will incorporate valid and relevant management decisions from previous BLM plans.
11. Management of energy and non-energy mineral resources will be consistent with the acts of Congress relating to the Domestic Minerals Program Extension Act of 1953, the Mining and Minerals Policy Act of 1970, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, the National Materials and Minerals Policy, Research and Development Act of 1980, and the Energy Policy Act of 2005, and the 43 CFR 3100, 3200, 3500, 3600, 3700, 3800 regulations.
12. Determinations for non-locatable mineral development will be based on mineral, geothermal, and oil and gas potential within the planning area. Reasonable foreseeable development scenarios for fluid minerals will be developed in accordance with BLM Handbook H-1624-1 (BLM 1990).
13. Soil and vegetation correlations, maps, and the included information from Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Soil Surveys and range site descriptions will be used to evaluate ecological conditions and the fundamentals of rangeland health.
14. Fire management objectives will be consistent with the 2001 Federal Wildland Fire Policy, as updated; the National Fire Plan; the Healthy Forest Restoration Act; and other policies.
15. The RMP/EIS will be consistent with Homeland Security policies.
16. All proposed management actions will be based on current scientific information, research, and technology, and on inventory and monitoring information.
17. The RMP will recognize lifestyles and concerns of area residents and stakeholders. Analysis of economic matters will comply with established acceptable standards and environmental justice factors will be considered using analytical parameters recommended by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA 1998a).
18. Lands identified for disposal prior to July 25, 2000, will be further identified for disposal under the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act.
19. Lands identified for acquisition will be consistent with FLPMA Section 205, existing policy and regulation and, when applicable, with the Southern Nevada Public Land Management Act.
20. Adaptive management principles will be adopted as appropriate.

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## 2.2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

The RMP identifies the goals, objectives and management actions for each resource, resource use, and special designation. The management actions are anticipated to achieve the goals and objectives. Decisions beginning on the next page will guide the BLM's management but will be implemented as necessary through NEPA compliance on a site-specific basis. The decisions will be applied consistent with BLM's applicable statutory and regulatory authority. An area may be open for ROWs but analysis may lead the BLM to deny a particular location if site-specific analysis identifies adverse impacts to other values. Early consultation with the BLM will help to identify potential conflicts in advance which will help make the approval process more efficient. Note that the meaning of various terms of art such as "avoidance" and "exclusion" are provided in the Glossary.

The RMP is structured as follows:

- Goals for each resource or resource use most prominent in the WD are presented first, followed by objectives to address the goal, and then management actions that support each objective.
- Table 2-1 (at the end of this chapter) identifies the actions by number in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS, and the approved RMP to allow cross-checking. As a result of clarifications and changes due to public comments, there have been changes to management action numbers from those used in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS.
- The Draft RMP (May 2010) had separate tables for (1) management goals; (2) management actions common to all alternatives; and (3) goals, objectives and actions by alternative. These tables were combined into one table in the Proposed RMP/FEIS. This format continues in this Approved RMP.
- A full list of acronyms used throughout this document can be found on page iii. Each resource or resource use has a corresponding one to three letter acronym used in the numbering system. The acronyms used for the management decisions are included in the header at the top of each page and are defined in the Table of Contents of this document.

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## AIR QUALITY (AQ)

**GOAL: Meet all applicable local, state, tribal and national ambient air quality standards and regulations under the Clean Air Act (as amended).**

**Objective AQ 1:** Manage BLM actions and land use authorizations to prevent significant deterioration of Federal Class 1 areas and from exceeding air quality standards specified by the State of Nevada, Division of Environmental Protection or other applicable federal, state, or local air quality standards.

**Action AQ 1.1:** Cooperate with appropriate air quality regulatory agencies to reduce adverse impacts on air quality.

**Action AQ 1.2:** Specify that compliance through the State of Nevada, Division of Environmental Protection or other applicable federal, state, or local air quality standards are required for applicable BLM management actions and land use authorizations on public land.

**Action AQ 1.3:** Minimize or reduce adverse impacts on air quality from BLM and BLM-authorized activities by implementing BMPs and mitigation measures on a case-by-case basis.

**Objective AQ 2:** Manage prescribed fire and wildfire in a manner to minimize degradation to air quality.

**Action AQ 2.1:** Continue smoke modeling for prescribed burns and fire management for multiple objectives including for a benefit.

**Action AQ 2.2:** Ensure smoke from prescribed fires complies with prescription plans.

**Action AQ 2.3:** Manage fire to achieve multiple objectives including full suppression to reduce fire size and smoke emissions. Implement dust and ash abatement treatments and other mitigating measures to reduce impacts to air quality.

**Action AQ 2.4:** Reduce emissions from wildland fires by implementing strategically placed fuel treatments (e.g., prescribed fire, thinning, fuel breaks) to reduce fire size and smoke emissions.

## GEOLOGY (G)

**GOAL: Maintain the integrity of non-economic geologic resources (such as sites or features that have unique, uncommon scientific, scenic, cultural, or visitor interest values), while providing for multiple use.**

**Objective G 1:** Protect unique geologic resources while providing for multiple uses.

**Action G 1.1:** Identify, evaluate, and interpret areas of unique geologic interest. Issue permits with stipulations or mitigation measures to limit or avoid undue adverse impacts.

**Action G 1.2:** Designate sites eligible for National Natural Landmarks in collaboration with local communities and public outreach.

## SOILS (S)

**GOAL: Maintain, protect, and improve soil processes (hydrologic cycle, nutrient cycle, and energy flow) to prevent or reduce accelerated soil erosion and maintain or achieve the fundamentals of rangeland health.**

**Objective S 1:** Maintain, protect, and improve soil processes appropriate to soil types, climate, and land form, as indicated by surface litter, biological soil crusts, hydrologic cycles, nutrient cycles, energy flows, and plant communities. As appropriate, use ecological site descriptions or state and transition models in project planning.

**Action S 1.1:** Maintain or improve existing vegetative cover, litter, biological soil crusts, and vegetation as appropriate for soil type for native vegetative communities.

**Action S 1.2:** Incorporate Land Health Standards (e.g., Sierra Front/NW RAC Standards and Guidelines) and site-specific allotment objectives for livestock and wild horse and burro grazing to ensure soil processes are considered when approving land use authorizations to minimize impacts.

**Action S 1.3:** Apply BMPs (State of Nevada) and mitigation measures to all BLM and BLM-authorized activities to maintain, improve, protect, or reduce adverse impacts on soils.

**Action S 1.4:** Where appropriate or required by regulation, reclaim surface-disturbed areas.

**Action S 1.4.1:** Salvage the best available material for growth medium to reclaim surface disturbance.

**Action S 1.4.2:** If appropriate, improve soils by applying soil amendments (fertilizers, mulch).

**Action S 1.5:** In areas with inadequate surface litter or vegetation cover, minimize excessive breaking up or shearing of biological crusts. Maintain and improve other components of the soil surface (e.g., vegetation and litter).

**Action S 1.6:** Protect moist soils with high compaction potential from surface disturbance activities by implementing seasonal use restrictions on a case-by-case basis.

## WATER RESOURCES (WR)

**GOAL: Manage for healthy watersheds across the landscape. Protect and maintain watersheds so they appropriately capture, retain, and release water of quality that meets State and national standards. Ensure public lands are capable of providing long-term sustainable water for local community needs and for land management activities, while minimizing impacts on the local ecosystem hydrologic functions and processes.**

**Objective WR 1:** Manage BLM and BLM-authorized activities and uses to prevent degradation of water quality beyond established standards, as specified in the Nevada Water Pollution Control Regulations (NRS Ch. 445A) and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) of September 2004 between BLM and the State of Nevada, Division of Environmental Protection. This memorandum concerns diffuse source water pollution and the Nevada State 208 Water Quality Plan.

**Action WR 1.1:** Apply BMPs and mitigation measures to all BLM and BLM-authorized activities to protect watersheds (see Appendix B).

**Action WR 1.2:** Implement and apply land health standards (e.g., Sierra Front/NW RAC Standards and Guidelines for Rangeland Health).

**Action WR 1.3:** Review BLM and BLM-authorized activities to assess impacts on and propose mitigation for water resources.

**Objective WR 2:** Consistent with NV State Water Law, make water available to wildlife.

**Action WR 2.1:** Adhere to multiple use principles in the maintenance, use, and development of existing water sources on public land.

**Objective WR 3:** Manage priority watersheds and wellhead areas to provide long-term sustainable water for local communities and improve or maintain hydrologic functions and processes.

**Action WR 3.1:** Identify and maintain a listing of priority watersheds and priority water supply areas based on the following criteria:

1. Watersheds with threatened and endangered species habitat including Lahontan Cutthroat Trout (occupied and recovery streams); and
2. Presence of well head protection zones as defined in community well head protection plans in accordance to the State of Nevada’s well head protection program.

Priority watersheds are identified on Figure 2-1, Appendix A.

**Action WR 3.2:** To protect threatened and endangered species habitat, manage priority watersheds to protect habitat containing threatened and endangered species habitat (occupied and recovery) as no surface disturbance or no surface occupancy applicable to the following uses: saleable minerals (except for government use at the Authorized Officer’s discretion), fluid and solid mineral leasing, and ROWs (Exclusion Areas).

Manage priority watersheds containing municipal water supplies as avoidance areas to protect municipal water supplies.

**Action WR 3.2.1:** Manage the priority watershed in the Sonoma Range containing T&E habitat, as avoidance areas. Manage the area within the well head protection zone as no surface disturbance and/or no occupancy applicable to the following uses: saleable minerals (except for government use at the Authorized Officer’s discretion, fluid and solid mineral leasing, and ROWs (Exclusion Areas).

**Action WR 3.3:** Implement land health standards, BMPs, and mitigation measures to protect watersheds and provide long-term sustainable waters.

**Action WR 3.4:** Protect priority watersheds containing municipal water supply within 1,000 feet radius of municipal well heads or within well head protection zones as no surface disturbance and/or no occupancy applicable to the following uses: saleable minerals (Government use subject to criteria listed below), fluid and solid mineral leasing (energy and



non-energy), and lands and realty rights-of-way (Exclusion Areas) to maintain conformance with the goals of the State of Nevada’s well head protection program. In general, these areas will include the 10-year capture area for that well. In the event that the plans are not complete, establish a radius of 1,000 feet as a no surface disturbance/no surface occupancy buffer for the protection of public drinking water.

The District Manager/Authorized Officer may consider allowing surface disturbance and/or surface occupancy and location of rights-of-way based on meeting one of the following management criteria:

1. Recognition of valid existing rights;
2. A determination made through consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service that the proposed action and associated surface disturbance and/or occupancy is located within previously disturbed areas having little suitable habitat or is incapable of providing the long term requirements of LCT.
3. Determination that the proposed actions and associated surface disturbance will:
  - a. Protect, mitigate, or improve wildlife/fish habitat and/or
  - b. Provide for public safety or local water supply.
4. A Right of Way proposed action and associated surface disturbance located within a designated Rights of Way corridor;
5. Connected actions where the proposed action and associated disturbance supports other federal actions or is connected with private land actions, the proposed action will avoid Preliminary Priority Habitat (PPH) or Preliminary General Habitat (PGH) for sage-grouse and/or adverse impacts to sage-grouse habitat will be fully mitigated; and
6. Surface disturbance defined as “casual use” [refer to glossary for casual use definition].

**Action WR 3.4.1:** Manage priority watersheds containing municipal water supply outside of well head buffers or protection zones as avoidance areas.

Applicable to Actions WR 3.2, WR 3.2.1, WR 3.4, and WR 3.4.1, the District Manager/Authorized Officer may allow surface disturbance and/or surface occupancy within priority watersheds on a case-by-case basis based on one or more of the following:

1. Recognition of Valid existing rights;
2. A determination made through consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service that the proposed action and associated surface disturbance and/or occupancy is located within previously disturbed areas having little suitable habitat or is incapable of providing the long term requirements of LCT.
3. Determination that the proposed actions and associated surface disturbance will:
  - a. Protect, mitigate, or improve wildlife/fish habitat and/or
  - b. Provide for public safety or local water supply.

4. A Right of Way proposed action and associated surface disturbance located within a designated Rights of Way corridor;
5. Connected actions: where the proposed action and associated disturbance supports other federal actions or is connected with private land actions, the proposed action will avoid Preliminary Priority Habitat (PPH) or Preliminary General Habitat (PGH) for sage-grouse and/or adverse impacts to sage-grouse habitat will be fully mitigated; and
6. Surface disturbance defined as “casual use” [refer to glossary for casual use definition].

**Objective WR 4:** Acquire or provide sufficient quantity and quality water on public lands for multiple uses and land management activities consistent with state water law.

**Action WR 4.1:** Develop partnerships with water right holders to provide water for multiple uses.

**Action WR 4.2:** Allow water importation and exportation projects that do not exceed the perennial yield of the source basin (as determined by the NV State Engineer) and can be implemented without compromising the multiple use mandate of FLPMA land health standards or those that can be mitigated.

**Action WR 4.3:** Acquire or provide water through permit, public water reserve, adjudication, or purchase processes, as provided by federal and state water law.

**Action WR 4.4:** In accordance with state water law, develop water sources or wells on public lands that can be used for multiple uses, including fire suppression activities.

**Action WR 4.5:** Use the state permitting process, land acquisitions, and other realty actions to acquire minimum pool and instream flows or to gain access to water sources or developments for other resources and uses.

## **VEGETATION – FOREST/WOODLAND PRODUCTS (VF)**

**GOAL:** Expand, preserve, conserve, and maintain healthy woodland communities with various age classes of trees with a vigorous, diverse, self-sustaining understory relative to site potential, while allowing for multiple uses. Provide wildlife habitat and a sustainable yield of forest products over time.

**Objective VF 1:** Manage forests to improve, and maintain healthy, diverse, and sustainable woodland ecosystems.

**Action VF 1.1:** Monitor forest health and establish early warning systems to respond to climate change or for insect or disease outbreaks within woodland communities.

**Action VF 1.2:** Implement standard operating procedures (SOPs) and mitigation measures to minimize or reduce adverse impacts on woodland habitats.

**Objective VF 2:** Provide special forest products and native plant materials to meet customer demand within sustained yield capabilities, while maintaining healthy diverse ecosystems.

**Action VF 2.1:** Authorize the collection of seed from public lands.

**Action VF 2.2:** On a case-by-case basis permit short term harvesting of plant materials (including shrubs and forbs) for Native American ceremonial use.

**Action VF 2.3:** Permit noncommercial harvest of woodland and special forest products for firewood, posts, native plant material, pinyon nut, and Christmas tree harvesting within designated harvest areas. Permit commercial harvest on a case-by-case basis to achieve resource objectives.

**Action VF 2.4:** Prioritize fire suppression within areas containing forest resources.

**Action VF 2.5:** Use prescribed fire and allow conditional fire suppression management for a benefit as a management tool to enhance or to protect woodland sites.

**Action VF 2.6:** Where feasible and practical, use fencing, mechanical, biological, or chemical treatments, and planting and seeding to achieve stand health and structure objectives, including temporary wood product harvesting areas.

**Objective VF 3:** Manage for healthy curleaf mountain mahogany and multistoried or patchy stands of aspen, cottonwood, willow, alder, limber pine, whitebark pine, and chokecherry to include snags and mature trees for wildlife habitat.

**Action VF 3.1:** On a case-by-case basis, prioritize suppression of wildfires based on proper management response relative to values to be protected, if fire is likely to spread.

First Priority: white bark pine, limber pine, and curleaf mahogany stands.

Second Priority: aspen, cottonwood, willow, pinyon pine, and alder.

**Action VF 3.2:** Use prescribed fire and fire for multiple objectives including for resource benefit as management tools to enhance woodland stands to achieve stand health and structure objectives.

**Action VF 3.3:** Where feasible and practical, use fencing, mechanical, biological, or chemical treatments, and planting and seeding to achieve stand health and structure objectives, including temporary firewood harvesting areas.

**Objective VF 4:** Consider aspen, cottonwood, willow, alder, mountain mahogany, and chokecherry as key species in implementation plans.

**Action VF 4.1:** These species will be given special consideration in implementation plans.

**Objective VF 5:** Maintain, improve, and protect healthy naturally regenerating, multi-aged stands of pinyon and juniper on appropriate woodland sites to provide habitat, protect Native American values, and provide sustainable forest products.

**Action VF 5.1:** Expand juniper harvest areas to include removal of juniper from encroached sites as determined by the Natural Resources Conservation Service soil surveys, ecological site descriptions, or other data. Control juniper on invaded sites using other appropriate treatments.

**Action VF 5.1.1:** Meet resource objectives by allowing salvage harvesting of burned stands.

**Action VF 5.2:** Prohibit harvesting of pinyon and juniper trees within 100 feet of springs and water sources unless trees are identified for selective removal to meet resource objectives.

**Action VF 5.3:** Prohibit harvesting of green pinyon unless trees are identified for selective removal to meet resource objectives (e.g., hazardous fuels and insect and disease control).

**Action VF 5.4:** Permit Christmas tree cutting in portions of the Stillwater Range. Continue to evaluate and close areas to Christmas tree harvesting to maintain stand health.

**Action VF 5.5:** Allow short-term wood harvest in temporary harvest areas throughout the district. Designate additional harvest areas as needed to meet resource objectives.

**Objective VF 6:** Preserve and maintain healthy old growth forest stands of limber pine, whitebark pine, pinyon/juniper, and other stands, as appropriate.

**Action VF 6.1:** Manage 27,605 acres as of old growth forest (see Figure 2-2, Appendix A).

**Action VF 6.2:** Manage other stands or portions of stands in the WD as old growth forest if an area exhibits the characteristics of old growth based on structure and composition characteristics of the forest type and other criteria and is suitable for designation.

**Action VF 6.3:** Manage, maintain, or enhance designated stands to enhance old growth characteristics and retain old trees.

**Action VF 6.3.1:** Use management tools such as prescribed fire, prescribed grazing, vegetation manipulation, seeding, planting, fencing, and use restrictions to maintain old growth stands and watershed health. Any vegetation management activity within the Pine Forest Range Wilderness will be in conformance with the Wilderness Act, designating legislation, and BLM policies for wilderness management outlined in BLM Manual 6340 or subsequent revision thereof.

**Action VF 6.3.2:** Allow natural recovery of old growth stands when surviving perennial plants are capable of providing sufficient seed sources.

## VEGETATION – INVASIVE AND NOXIOUS PLANTS (VW)

**GOAL:** Prevent or minimize the introduction and spread of invasive and noxious plants. Efficiently manage and control existing infestations using all methods and products available to the BLM. Lengthen fire return intervals in cheatgrass by site, specifically selecting and combining the most effective methods, including prevention, herbicides, livestock grazing, biocontrols, mechanical treatments, seeding and prescribed fire.

**Objective VW 1:** Maintain or improve existing native plant communities that are healthy, or can become productive, diverse, and resilient by limiting the establishment, size of infestation areas, and spread of invasive or noxious plants.

**Action VW 1.1:** Use appropriate integrated vegetation treatments (e.g., chemical, mechanical, prescribed fire, prescribed grazing, cultural, and biological) for the control of invasive and noxious plants.

**Action VW 1.2:** Coordinate with federal, state, tribal, and local agencies and other partners (e.g., weed control organizations, permittees, and OHV groups) in conducting measures for early detection, prevention, eradication to prevent, eradicate, suppress, control, or retard the spread of any invasive or noxious plants.

**Action VW 1.2.1:** Promote education programs to prevent and eradicate invasive and noxious plants including plant identification and awareness education through public contact and educational materials.

**Action VW 1.2.2:** Working with local, state, tribal, and federal agencies and other partners, develop a WD-wide implementation plan to identify, monitor, then prioritize treatments to control, and eradicate invasive or noxious plants.

**Action VW 1.3:** Develop and employ SOPs, BMPs, and mitigation measures on BLM and BLM-authorized activities to control, prevent, and treat the spread of invasive and noxious plants.

**Action VW 1.4:** Seek out and apply new ideas and techniques for slowing the movement of noxious and invasive plants, reducing the seed bank of noxious and invasive plants and reseeded these areas to adaptive species capable of achieving land health objectives, including sustaining the diversity of native plant communities.

**Action VW 1.5:** Working with local, state, tribal, and federal agencies, weed control organizations, and other partners, inventory and map areas for weed infestations. Inventories should prioritize management areas to include but are not limited to disturbed areas, along roadways, recreational sites, hunter camps, and burned areas and identify areas containing sensitive species plants.

**Objective VW 2:** Limit the spread of invasive and noxious plants during road maintenance and other authorized activities. Prevent invasive and noxious plant introductions through design, placement, and implementation of all BLM or contract authorized projects and actions. Eradicate small and new infestations, and control existing infestations to prevent spread, reduce size, and eradicate invasive and noxious plants.

**Action VW 2.1:** Commit BLM road maintenance funds (in whole or part) to a chemical noxious weed abatement program on system roads where invasive and noxious plants are known to exist.

**Action VW 2.2:** Control, eradicate, and manage noxious and invasive plants through implementation of SOPs, BMPs, mitigation measures and through authorization, ROW, and permit terms, conditions, and stipulations to all BLM and BLM-authorized activities.

**Objective VW 3:** Prevent the establishment and spread of cheatgrass and other invasive plants by implementing integrated weed management treatments, use restrictions, and rehabilitation of areas including seeding to suppress annual invasive plants.

**Action VW 3.1:** Implement and monitor treatments to control or eradicate invasive annual plants using ES&R treatments, use restrictions, seeding, chemical or biological control, prescriptive grazing, and other integrated weed management approaches.

## **CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL CONTROL (PE)**

**GOAL:** Use appropriate control methods to maintain healthy ecosystems and provide public and resource benefits through the control of pests. Test new and experimental methods, products, and organisms.

**Objective PE 1:** Manage ecosystems to control pests (including invasive and noxious plants, animals, and insects) through the use of pesticides (herbicides) and mechanical and biological controls to achieve resource objectives while limiting effects on nontarget species.

**Action PE 1.1:** Approve Pesticide Use Proposals before applying pesticides on public lands as provided by policy.

**Action PE 1.2:** Cooperate with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) or other state, local, and federal agencies for development of new biological controls.

**Action PE 1.3:** Use various integrated pest management techniques (e.g., BLM-approved pesticides [herbicides], prescribed grazing, and mechanical and biological treatments) for the control of pests.

**Action PE 1.4:** Maintain or improve healthy ecosystems by adhering to label requirements and employing SOPs, BMPs, or mitigation measures on a case-by-case basis to reduce impacts to resources and meet resource objectives (see Appendix B).

## **VEGETATION – RANGELAND (VR)**

**GOAL: Protect, maintain, and improve healthy vegetative communities with various age classes of shrubs with a vigorous, diverse, self-sustaining understory of grasses and forbs relative to the site potential, while providing for multiple uses.**

**Objective VR 1:** Maintain, improve, protect, conserve and restore native forbs that are similar in structure and composition to the site potential.

**Action VR 1.1:** Prioritize management of native forbs within sage-grouse habitat areas to achieve management objectives.

**Action VR 1.2:** Achieve land health standards for vegetation through implementation of SOPs, BMPs, mitigation measures, and permit terms, conditions, and stipulations to all BLM and BLM-authorized activities to maintain, protect, or reduce adverse impacts on vegetation (see appendix B).

**Action VR 1.3:** Restore and improve degraded rangelands and habitat and/or achieve vegetation management objectives by initiating land treatments. Use management tools, such as prescribed fire, prescribed grazing and fire for multiple objectives including for resource benefit, vegetation manipulation (mechanical, biological, and chemical treatments), fencing, seed and use restrictions. Allow natural recovery due to the presence of surviving perennial plants or a sufficient seed source.

**Action VR 1.4:** Seed burned areas, as appropriate.

### **Crested Wheat Grass Seedings**

**GOAL: Maintain existing crested wheatgrass seedings (range improvement seedings).**

**Objective VR 2:** Manage to maintain existing crested wheatgrass range improvement seedings, using an appropriate combination of biological, prescribed grazing, chemical treatments, hauling water, or fencing to maintain a resilient perennial herbaceous component to achieve forage objectives.

**Action VR 2.1:** Maintain crested wheatgrass seedings using prescribed fire and/or mechanical, biological, prescribed grazing, and chemical treatments, hauling water or fencing to achieve forage and wildlife habitat objectives.

### **Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation**

**GOAL: Stabilize and rehabilitate burned areas, new seedings, or reseeded areas and prevent unacceptable degradation to natural and cultural resources and minimize the threats to life and property.**

**Objective VR 3:** Manage burn areas, new seedings, or reseeded areas to achieve diverse reproducing vegetation communities that emulate historic or pre-fire ecosystem structure and function or ecosystem functions based on pre-burn site-specific conditions and potential as described by ecological site descriptions to achieve objectives.

**Action VR 3.1:** Close burned areas, new seedings, or reseeded areas to permitted livestock use, WHB grazing, or other uses until monitoring objectives are achieved or until rehabilitation efforts are determined to have failed.

**Action VR 3.1.1:** On a case-by-case basis, authorize short term livestock prescribed grazing within closed areas to achieve Standards for Rangeland Health and objectives relative to Rehabilitation, Reclamation, and Restoration.

**Objective VR 4:** Improve vegetation within fire regime altered condition classes from Class 3 to Class 2. Treat areas by seeding, planting, use of herbicides, mechanical, prescribed fire, prescribed grazing, or by other methods to improve fire regime condition classes.

**Action VR 4.1:** Seed disturbed areas with an appropriate mixture of grasses, forbs, and shrubs. Use a combination of native seed collections and desirable adapted species for rehabilitation and reclamation. Priority for use of seeds, where effective and available, is as follows:

1. Locally collected native seed;
2. Native seeds; then
3. Non-native seeds (desirable adapted species).

**Action VR 4.2:** Treat monocultures of cheatgrass and other non-native invasive and noxious plant communities by chemical, biological, prescribed grazing, prescribed fire, or mechanical methods. Treatment areas will be seeded to reestablish desired vegetation and stabilize soils. Prioritize restoration efforts on important habitat for wildlife and special status species.

**Objective VR 5:** In disturbed areas, reestablish plant species and communities that are similar in structure and composition to the site potential while maintaining critical ecological functions and deterring establishment of noxious and invasive plants.

**Action VR 5.1:** Native and introduced species will be seeded in areas lacking potential for natural recovery (see VR 4.1).

**Action VR 5.2:** Establish vegetation release criteria on a case-by-case basis for non-mining reclamation.

### **Sagebrush Scrub**

**GOAL:** Maintain and improve vigorous, diverse, multi-age native shrub communities on stable soils with a self-sustaining understory of native grasses and forbs. Maintain or achieve vegetation functions to meet the fundamentals of rangeland health.



**Objective VR 6:** Maintain, improve, protect, and/or restore sagebrush habitats.

**Action VR 6.1:** Develop and implement Emergency Stabilization or Burned Area Rehabilitation Plans to successfully seed burned areas into less flammable, desired, perennial herbaceous vegetation to allow sagebrush to reoccupy the site.

**Action VR 6.2:** Protect healthy and recovering sagebrush stands by prioritizing fire suppression and constructing strategically placed fuel breaks.

**Action VR 6.3:** Manage for multi-age stands exhibiting various maturity classes by using tools, such as vegetation manipulation (mechanical, biological, prescribed grazing, prescribed fire, and chemical treatments) to maintain or improve sagebrush vegetation communities.

**Action VR 6.4:** Mitigate habitat fragmentation within the sagebrush landscapes on a case-by-case basis.

**Action VR 6.5:** Apply SOPs, BMPs, and sage-grouse guidance to maintain, protect, restore, or improve sagebrush so that potential adverse impacts to sagebrush plant communities are reduced or eliminated.

**Objective VR 7:** Maintain healthy sagebrush communities and improve or prevent degraded sagebrush habitats.

**Action VR 7.1:** Seed or plant young sagebrush plants within perennial grass communities to reestablish sagebrush. Allow natural recovery if sufficient surviving sagebrush are present.

**Action VR 7.2:** Use management tools, such as vegetation manipulation (mechanical, biological, prescribed fire, prescribed grazing, and chemical treatments), to improve sagebrush vegetation communities.

### Salt Desert Scrub

**GOAL:** Maintain and improve vigorous, diverse, multi-age native shrub communities on stable soils with a self-sustaining understory of native grasses and forbs. Maintain or achieve vegetation functions to meet the fundamentals of rangeland health.

**Objective VR 8:** Maintain, improve, protect, conserve, and restore salt desert shrub habitats to achieve historic or natural plant communities (climax) or that are similar in structure and composition to the site potential, while maintaining critical ecological functions and deterring establishment of noxious and invasive plants.

**Action VR 8.1:** Use mechanical, chemical, and biological treatments, including fuel breaks, to improve or protect salt desert shrub habitats.

**Action VR 8.2:** In areas lacking sufficient seed source, seed native and introduced plants including shrubs, grasses, and forbs to reestablish vegetation. Allow natural recovery in areas having sufficient seed sources (see VR 4.1).

### **Mountain Browse**

**Objective VR 9:** Manage mountain browse plant communities that are healthy, productive, diverse, and resilient and maintain multiple seral steps across the landscape.

**Action VR 9.1:** Manage bitterbrush, serviceberry, and snowberry as key species.

### **VEGETATION – RIPARIAN AND WETLANDS (VRW)**

**GOAL:** Achieve and maintain riparian functions. Maintain, restore, and improve ecological conditions of riparian and wetland areas, including natural vegetation diversity, and progress toward late seral climax stage or desired plant community, while providing for multiple uses.

**Objective VRW 1:** Improve lotic riparian and wetland areas from 55 percent (PFC and functioning at risk upward) to 85 percent, progressing towards or attaining PFC. Improve lentic riparian and wetland areas from 38 percent (PFC and functioning at risk upward) to 85 percent, progressing towards or attaining PFC.

**Action VRW 1.1:** Through coordination, consultation, and cooperation with affected and interested public, apply PFC indicators or other applicable methods to identify specific problems in riparian-wetland areas not functioning properly or not in an upward trend.

**Action VRW 1.1.1:** Develop, adjust, and implement management strategies to address known or suspected factors or improve existing conditions. If causal factor for not attaining PFC or declining trend is livestock, implement management objectives or strategies (e.g., stubble height, utilization levels, bank trampling, season-of-use, adjustments to terms and conditions of permit and range improvements) to improve conditions.

Priority Consideration: Adjustments to terms and conditions of the permit, stubble height, utilization levels, bank trampling, season-of-use.

If the causal factor for not attaining PFC is other than livestock, implement management actions (e.g., road re-routes, closures, or stream bank rehabilitation) to address the causal factor.

Adaptive management will occur on a site specific and case-by-case basis.

**Objective VRW 2:** Manage or improve riparian areas. Meadows and riparian areas will be considered key areas in the development of wildlife, livestock, or recreation implementation plans.

**Action VRW 2.1:** Implementation plans will include specific objectives pertaining to improving and maintaining desired riparian areas and meadow habitat.

**Action VRW 2.2:** Manage riparian areas to achieve riparian functions to meet the RAC Standards for Rangeland Health.

**Action VRW 2.3:** Implement BMPs addressing nongrazing impacts (water diversions, roads, recreation, and ROWs) to riparian areas, including installation of culverts, rock gabions,

sediment filters, closure or relocation of routes, and elimination or hardening of stream crossings.

**Action VRW 2.4:** Improve lotic and lentic riparian areas and wetland conditions and management through coordination, consultation, and cooperation with affected and interested public by outreach, awareness, education and/or cooperative monitoring.

## FISH AND WILDLIFE (FW)

**GOAL: Manage for healthy and diverse vegetative communities and limit their fragmentation to provide suitable habitat for a wide variety of existing and potential wildlife populations.**

**Objective FW 1:** Manage wildlife habitat to sustain diverse wildlife populations to meet habitat and life cycle needs and allow the introduction or reintroduction of wildlife into areas determined to have available suitable habitat, in cooperation with the NDOW.

**Action FW 1.1:** Apply land health standards, SOPs, BMPs, use restrictions, or mitigation measures to all BLM and BLM-authorized activities to maintain and improve wildlife habitat or to reduce undue adverse impacts on wildlife habitat (see Appendix B).

**Action FW 1.2:** On a case-by-case basis apply seasonal use restrictions or distance buffers as appropriate by wildlife species to protect habitat, provide continuity of migration corridors, and protect seasonal use areas (e.g., lambing, nesting, or winter habitat areas).

**Action FW 1.3:** Designate and manage five priority wildlife habitat areas (1,199,539 acres; Figure 2-3, Appendix A) to achieve desired population and habitat conditions by applying use restrictions and/or mitigation measures. The following Population Management Unit (PMU) boundaries correspond to priority habitat areas.

- Massacre (north – adjacent to Black Rock PMU);
- Black Rock;
- Pine Forest;
- Lone Willow; and
- Santa Rosa.

**Action FW 1.4:** Manage priority wildlife habitat as no new surface disturbance or no surface occupancy applicable to the following uses; saleable minerals (Government use subject to the criteria listed below), fluid minerals, solid mineral leasing (energy and non-energy), and rights-of-way.

The District Manager/Authorized Officer may consider allowing surface disturbance and/or surface occupancy and location of rights-of-way within priority wildlife habitat based on meeting one of the following management criteria:

1. Recognition of valid existing rights;
2. A determination made through consultation with the NDOW that the proposed action and associated surface disturbance and/or occupancy is located within previously disturbed areas having little suitable wildlife habitat or the land is incapable of providing the long term requirements of sage-grouse.
3. New surface disturbance activity may be allowed under one or more of the following conditions where proposed actions and associated surface disturbance will:
  - a. Protect, mitigate, or improve wildlife habitat and/or
  - b. Provide for public safety.
4. A Right of Way proposed action and associated surface disturbance located within a designated Rights of Way corridor.
5. Connected actions: where the proposed action and associated disturbance is connected with other federal actions or connected private land actions, any associated federal action will avoid Preliminary Priority Habitat (PPH) or Preliminary General Habitat (PGH) for sage-grouse and/or adverse impacts to sage-grouse habitat will be fully mitigated.
6. Surface disturbance defined as “casual use” [refer to glossary for casual use definition].

**Action FW 1.5:** Monitor aquatic and riparian habitat conditions using approved techniques to determine land use effects and to develop appropriate mitigation.

**Action FW 1.6:** Manage existing and potential big game habitats to allow the introduction, reintroduction, augmentation, or transplant of native and nonnative big game species, including bighorn sheep, pronghorn, and mule deer in cooperation with NDOW.

**Action FW 1.7:** Manage existing and historical bighorn sheep habitat areas by applying SOPs, BMPs, and/or mitigation measures to all BLM and BLM-authorized activities to maintain, protect, restore, or improve habitat. Listed grazing permit restrictions in the livestock grazing section (see LG 4.1).

**Action FW 1.8:** In cooperation with NDOW allow the introduction or reintroduction, augmentation or transplant of wildlife into suitable habitats to include but not limited to ruffed grouse sage-grouse, mountain quail, chukar, California quail, and sharptail grouse. Introductions will be done only if they do not displace native species.

**Action FW 1.9:** Coordinate with the NDOW in the implementation of State of Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners Policy Number 26, if pioneering elk become established in potential habitat(s).

**Action FW 1.10:** Improve, protect, and restore wildlife habitat using a combination of use restrictions and initiating land treatments. Use management tools, such as prescribed fire, prescribed grazing, vegetation manipulation (mechanical, biological, and chemical treatments), seeding, and fencing.

**Objective FW 2:** Coordinate with NDOW to improve wildlife habitat.

**Action FW 2.1:** Reevaluate existing HMPs in coordination with NDOW and revise or update, as appropriate.

**Action FW 2.2:** To the extent possible or appropriate, develop habitat management objectives and actions that support Nevada’s Wildlife Action Plan and Species Management and Conservation Plans developed by NDOW. Develop new implementation plans in coordination with NDOW and other appropriate entities.

**Objective FW 3:** Manage to maintain, improve, and protect, shorebird and waterfowl habitats.

**Action FW 3.1:** Enhance waterfowl habitats. Enhancements may include fencing, construction of nesting islands and other structures, and planting food and cover species.

**Action FW 3.2:** Protect important shorebird habitats.

**Action FW 3.2.1:** Manage to maintain, improve, and protect Gridley Lake and Continental Lake specifically for shorebird habitats. Protection measures may include fencing from livestock, burros, and seasonal closure to OHVs.

**Objective FW 4:** Subject to the MBTA, protect migratory birds and their nests during the breeding season of March 1 to August 31 (as determined by species).

**Action FW 4.1:** Require a pre-disturbance inventory for nesting migratory birds (including raptors) when mechanical surface or vegetative disturbance activities are proposed during the nesting period. If active nests (nests with eggs or young) are located, use of appropriate mitigation measures (e.g., avoidance) will be employed.

**Objective FW 5:** Improve mule deer habitat.

**Action FW 5.1:** Establish shrubs within mule deer habitat.

**Objective FW 6:** Enhance habitat for wildlife by constructing artificial water sources (guzzlers) in areas that are lacking adequate water.

**Action FW 6.1:** Permit the construction and/or removal and maintenance of large and small capacity wildlife water guzzlers. Developments may be constructed to expand the distribution of existing populations into previously unoccupied habitat or to support introductions, reintroductions, augmentation, and transplants or to mitigate the loss of a historic water source.

**Action FW 6.1.1:** Protect wildlife water developments and associated habitats on a case-by-case basis. Develop mitigation measures to reduce impacts to water developments and associated habitat.

**GOAL: Fish: Protect, restore, maintain, or improve habitat to provide for a diverse, self-sustaining, and thriving natural ecological balance for fish and other aquatic organisms in lentic and lotic habitats throughout the planning area.**

**Objective FW 7:** Improve and protect aquatic habitats by developing, evaluating, and implementing HMPs or implementation plans. In coordination with NDOW re-evaluate and update existing HMPs.

**Action FW 7.1:** Coordinate with NDOW, USFWS, and other applicable agencies regarding habitat goals and objectives for aquatic resource management (e.g., Western Region Stream Management Plan, LCT Species Management Plan, and LCT Recovery Plan for Quinn River/Black Rock).

**Action FW 7.2:** As allowed under federal law, permit the use of registered or BLM-approved chemicals or pesticide treatments to protect or re-establish indigenous fish species habitat, protect or recover federally listed T&E species, enhance sport fisheries, remove undesirable non-native species or to correct undesirable habitat conditions.

**Action FW 7.3:** In cooperation with NDOW, manage existing and potential aquatic habitats to allow the introduction, reintroduction, augmentation or transplant of native and nonnative fish species.

**Objective FW 8:** Maintain or improve reservoir habitat by reducing impacts on water quality and shoreline habitats.

**Action FW 8.1:** Incorporate land health standards and develop applicable avoidance or mitigation measures to reduce adverse impacts on aquatic habitat for all authorized actions.

**Action FW 8.2:** Whenever practicable, fence all reservoirs built on public land that support fisheries. If fenced, provide alternative water sources as necessary to protect aquatic habitat.

**Action FW 8.3:** New irrigation reservoirs on public land will have a minimum pool requirement established.

**Objective FW 9:** Improve and maintain the condition of all aquatic habitats containing perennial streams at levels conducive to a healthy aquatic community. This community varies by species and channel type and is characterized by relatively silt-free conditions, a diversity of instream habitats, the development and maintenance of undercut bank habitats, adequate canopy cover, reduced diurnal water temperature fluctuations, and a healthy biological community (macro invertebrates' diversity and abundance reflect water quality attaining a biological minimum).

**Action FW 9.1:** Develop and improve aquatic habitat through river, stream, and riparian restoration efforts, with an emphasis on natural processes.

**Action FW 9.2:** As appropriate, seek cooperative agreements with federal, state, local, and tribal agencies to facilitate the development and maintenance of valuable aquatic resources, such as sport fisheries.

**Action FW 9.3:** Determine site potential based on site characteristics (i.e., Rosgen channel type and geology [Rosgen 1996]), BLM Manual 6671, using the GAWS, riparian proper functioning condition, or other applicable surveys or techniques.

**Action FW 9.3.1:** Improve or maintain stream bank, shoreline, and channel stability appropriate for the site by managing uses to limit annual stream bank alteration impacts to 20 percent or less of bank length on fishery streams, spring brooks, and lentic fishery resources, unless modified through an approved implementation plan.

**Action FW 9.3.2:** Manage uses to limit annual stream bank alteration impacts to 10 percent or less of linear bank length of reaches on fishery streams or spring brooks with sensitive channel types (moderate-extreme sensitivity to disturbance, [as defined by Rosgen 1996]), unless modified through an approved implementation plan.

**Objective FW 10:** Minimize sedimentation and ensure proper design on access routes to reduce impacts on fishery resources. Priority for maintenance will be given to routes impacting fishery resources or aquatic habitats.

**Action FW 10.1:** Alter or remove access routes that are adversely impacting aquatic resources and riparian values as they are identified.

**Objective FW 11:** Manage spring resources to protect the source integrity and hydrology to ensure availability for aquatic and terrestrial wildlife and other uses.

**Action FW 11.1:** When possible, install spring developments using the following:

- Placement and development downstream of the source and adjacent to the spring brook so that flows are maintained;
- Placement and development downstream of the source within the spring brook at a location that maximizes the spring flow duration and minimizes thermal load; and
- Other techniques.

Require a pre-disturbance spring snail inventory for springs that demonstrate spring snail habitat characteristics.

**Action FW 11.2:** Fence spring sources and associated riparian-wetland areas being developed for livestock and wild horse and burro watering. Place watering facilities outside of the spring sources and associated riparian-wetland areas.

## **SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES<sup>2</sup> (SSS)**

**GOAL:** To manage habitats and populations of special status species in support of their conservation and the recovery of listed species and to ensure that actions authorized, funded, or carried out on public lands do not contribute to the need for sensitive species to become listed.

**Objective SSS 1:** Manage, maintain, and improve healthy habitat for sensitive species in a manner that precludes listing under the ESA, as amended.

**Action SSS 1.1:** Protect habitat for sensitive species by implementing mitigation measures to reduce adverse impacts. Mitigation measures include; avoidance, no surface occupancy, buffer zones, and seasonal restrictions, onsite and off-site mitigation, use restrictions, rehabilitation or other protective measures.

**Action SSS 1.2:** Do not authorize any activities that would lead to listing a species.

**Action SSS 1.3:** Implement appropriate mitigation and monitoring to ensure sensitive species within the project area are not affected in a manner that could lead to future listings.

**Action SSS 1.4:** Allow grazing prescriptions on a case-by-case basis within enclosures with wet meadows or riparian areas that have been closed to livestock grazing, in coordination with the NDOW.

**Objective SSS 2:** To facilitate delisting, maintain and improve habitat for T&E species listed by the USFWS. Increase the distribution and abundance of federally listed fish through maintenance or restoration of habitat quality and quantity.

**Action SSS 2.1:** Implement recovery plan and state species management plans.

**Action SSS 2.2:** Participate on recovery teams and conservation planning efforts.

**Action SSS 2.3:** Implement habitat restoration treatments to facilitate delisting.

**Objective SSS 3:** Maintain, protect, and conserve sensitive plant species.

**Action SSS 3.1:** Protect sensitive plant species by implementing mitigation measures to reduce adverse impacts. Mitigation measures include avoidance, no surface occupancy, buffer zones, and seasonal restrictions, on-site and off-site mitigation, use restrictions, rehabilitation or other protective measures.

**Action SSS 3.2:** No surface disturbance will be authorized before a special status species inventory of the project area is completed by a qualified biologist or botanist. In the event a special status species inventory cannot be conducted, a determination will be made by a BLM biologist or botanist as to the likelihood of suitable habitat for the special status species

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<sup>2</sup> The BLM's 6840 Manual (BLM 2008b) defines special status species as "...species which are 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 (ESA); those listed by a State in a category such as threatened or endangered implying potential endangerment or extinction: and those designated by each State Director as sensitive."



in the project area and if such habitat is likely, it will be assumed the special status species is present as well.

**Action SSS 3.3:** Minimize or eliminate threats to sensitive status plants by: 1) Determining to the extent practical the distribution, abundance, population condition, threats, and habitat needs for sensitive plants; 2) Monitor populations and habitats for sensitive plants; 3) Develop cooperative strategies for conservation by working with partners and stakeholders; 4) Prioritize sensitive species plants and their habitats for conservation actions; and 5) Implement conservation actions including management to conserve native plant biodiversity to reduce the likelihood that native species will become listed as Bureau sensitive species status.

**Action SSS 3.4:** Continue to manage the Osgood Mountains ACEC for the protection of the milkvetch (*Astragalus yoder-williamsii*) plant species.

**Action SSS 3.5:** Continue to pursue a mineral withdrawal for this critical area.

**Objective SSS 4:** Manage whitebark pine (*Pinus albicaulis*) stands to preclude the need for listing by reducing threats and preserving natural process such as fire which promote natural regeneration, resistance to insects and reduce competition from other aggressive tree species.

**Action SSS 4.1:** Inventory whitebark pine stands to determine stand characteristics such as, stage class distribution, health/disease, reproductive success/failure, habitat condition and threats.

**Action SSS 4.2:** Inventory whitebark pine stands to identify individuals which are resistant to white pine blister rust. Collect seeds from resistant trees for future out planting.

**Action SSS 4.3:** Conduct mechanical treatments and/or low-intensity prescribed fires to reduce fuel loading, remove competitor species such as white fir and create open areas for the Clark's nutcracker to cache whitebark pine seed underground. Young white pine seedlings will sprout from forgotten cached seed.

**Action SSS 4.4:** Work with the USDA Forest Service Health Office to assess the vulnerability of whitebark pines to mountain pine beetles and fungal diseases and devise control options.

**Action SSS 4.5:** Assess impacts due to unauthorized harvest of trees, branches, cones and seed. If needed, increase signage and law enforcement to eliminate or reduce unauthorized uses.

**Action SSS 4.6:** Assess impacts due to livestock use within whitebark pine stands. Adjust livestock use of the area to eliminate or reduce impacts associated with livestock grazing.

**Action SSS 4.7:** Monitor invasive noxious weeds within whitebark pine stands. Eradicate or control noxious weeds following an ecologically-based invasive plant management approach.

**Action SSS 4.8:** Inventory recreational use of the area to determine if there are impacts on whitebark pine from visitors. (Such impacts may include cutting whitebark trees for fuel, target practice using trees, careless campfires which cause stand replacing fires, damage to

tree roots and soil compaction with OHV use.) Devise strategy to eliminate or reduce human impacts on whitebark pine stands.

**Action SSS 4.9:** Assess potential effects of climate change for the region to develop near and long term options and actions that will promote whitebark pine health and vigor.

**Objective SSS 5:** Maintain, protect, improve, and restore sage-grouse habitat.

**Action SSS 5.1:** To the extent possible or appropriate, support plans developed by the local sage-grouse working groups. Develop or update site-specific sage-grouse habitat management objectives and implementation plans with local area planning groups, NDOW and other interest publics. Use Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies’ national sage-grouse conservation strategy and other applicable guidance to develop plans.

**Action SSS 5.2:** Protect sage-grouse habitat and achieve land health standards by implementing use restrictions (avoidance and exclusion areas and seasonal restrictions), stipulations and mitigation measures. In accordance with instruction memorandums WO IM 2012-043, IM 2012-039 and applicable updates, manage and protect greater sage-grouse habitat by incorporating the following principles:

1. Protection of un-fragmented habitats;
2. Minimization of habitat loss and fragmentation; and
3. Maintain, enhance or restore habitat conditions.

**Action SSS 5.2.1:** Manage the following PMUs as preliminary priority sage-grouse habitats (PPH) to achieve desired sage-grouse and other sensitive species populations and protect habitat conditions as no surface disturbance or no surface occupancy applicable to the following uses; saleable minerals (Government use subject to the criteria listed below), fluid minerals, solid mineral leasing (energy and non-energy) and rights of way.

- North Massacre (adjacent to Black Rock PMU);
  - Black Rock;
  - Pine Forest;
  - Lone Willow; and
  - Santa Rosa.
1. The District Manager/Authorized Officer may consider allowing surface disturbance and/or surface occupancy or location and rights-of-way based on meeting one of the following management criteria: Recognition of valid existing rights.
  2. A determination made through consultation with the NDOW that the proposed action and associated surface disturbance and/or occupancy is located within previously disturbed areas having little or no suitable wildlife habitat or the land is incapable of providing the long term requirements of sage-grouse.

3. New surface disturbance or occupancy may be allowed under one or more of the following conditions where the proposed action and associated surface disturbance will:
  - a. Protect, mitigate, or improve wildlife habitat and
  - b. Provide for public safety.
4. A Right of Way proposed action and associated surface disturbance located within a designated Rights of Way corridor.
5. Connected actions: where the proposed action and associated disturbance is connected with other federal actions or connected private land actions, any associated federal action will avoid Preliminary Priority Habitat (PPH) or Preliminary General Habitat (PGH) for sage-grouse areas and/or adverse impacts to sage-grouse habitat will be fully mitigated.
6. Surface disturbance defined as “casual use.”

**Action SSS 5.2.2:** Manage the following PMUs as preliminary general sage-grouse habitats (PGH) as rights-of-way avoidance areas subject to development of special stipulations and mitigation measures from site specific NEPA analysis, to achieve desired sage-grouse and other sensitive species populations and habitat conditions:

- Eden Valley,
- Sonoma,
- East Range,
- Humboldt,
- Trinity 1 and 2,
- Majuba 1, 2, 3, 4,
- Sahwave 1 and 2,
- Nightingale,
- Limbo,
- Massacre (south),
- Slumbering Hills, and
- Jackson.

**Action SSS 5.2.3:** On a case by case basis apply distance buffers when locating high profile structures (e.g., buildings, storage tanks, overhead power lines, wind turbines, towers and windmills) near active sage-grouse leks.

**Objective SSS 6:** Maintain, protect, improve, and restore Pygmy Rabbit habitat.

**Action SSS 6.1:** Protect pygmy rabbit habitat by implementing mitigation measures to reduce adverse impacts. Mitigation measures include avoidance, no surface occupancy, buffer zones, seasonal restrictions, off-site mitigation, use restrictions, and rehabilitation. Actions proposed within potential pygmy rabbit habitat will be subject to the actions below.

**Action SSS 6.1.1:** No mechanical surface disturbance or prescribed fire will be authorized before completion of a pygmy rabbit inventory of the project area by a qualified biologist.

Note: These actions apply as long as the pygmy rabbit remains a sensitive species.

**Objective SSS 7:** Maintain, protect, and improve, bat (sensitive or non-sensitive) habitat.

**Action SSS 7.1:** Protect bat habitat by implementing mitigation measures to reduce adverse impacts. Mitigation measures include avoidance, no surface occupancy, buffer zones, seasonal restrictions, off-site mitigation, use restrictions, and rehabilitation.

**Action SSS 7.1.1:** Inventory for bats and habitat usage before surface disturbance or occupancy that is proposed within 200 yards of adits or caves not known to be occupied.

**Action SSS 7.2:** Protect bat habitat and provide for public safety by constructing bat gates or other suitable devices to restrict human access to occupied adits and caves. Evaluate need for action on a case-by-case basis.

**Action SSS 7.2.1:** Discourage mining-related activities, such as drilling or blasting within 200 yards of occupied habitats. Where mining-related activities cannot avoid bat habitat, develop and implement mitigation measures, including off-site mitigation.

**Objective SSS 8:** Maintain, protect, improve, and restore raptor habitat.

**Action SSS 8.1:** Protect cliff nesting sites and other raptor nests. Avoid tree control within a one-mile radius of documented active ferruginous hawk nests. Mitigate adverse impacts through use restrictions or avoidance or by providing alternative viable nest sites or employing other mitigation measures, following the guidelines of the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and other applicable guidance.

**Objective SSS 9:** Manage, improve and maintain habitat for T&E species listed by the USFWS to facilitate delisting. Increase the distribution and abundance of federally listed fish through maintenance or restoration of habitat quality and quantity.

**Action SSS 9.1:** As applicable, implement terms and conditions from the USFWS and in cooperation and consultation with other agencies.

**Action SSS 9.2:** Cooperate with the NDOW and USFWS in evaluating the transplant of LCT into streams determined as potential or suitable habitat defined by the USFWS LCT Recovery Plan (USFWS 1995). Augmentation of existing populations will be allowed regardless if the population resulted from a reintroduction or from expansion or pioneering of an existing population.

## WILD HORSES AND BURROS (WHB)

**GOAL: Protect, manage, and control healthy wild horse and burro (WHB) populations within established Herd Management Areas (HMAs) at Appropriate Management Levels (AMLs) in a manner designed to achieve and maintain a Thriving Natural Ecological Balance (TNEB) and multiple-use relationship on public lands.**

**Objective WHB 1:** Administer HMAs to support healthy populations and achieve land health standards for WHB where a TNEB and multiple-use relationship can be achieved and maintained.

**Action WHB 1.1:** Maintain original HA boundaries to accurately and consistently display where WHB existed in 1971, as supported by evidence.

**Action WHB 1.2:** Adjust HMA boundaries (Figure 2-5, Appendix A) to existing fences or topological barriers where these features act as a physical boundary. Not to expand beyond original HA (Figure 2-4, Appendix A) boundaries and where little loss of HMA acreage would occur, including HMAs within the NCA.

- Black Rock East (north)—fence
- Black Rock West and Warm Springs Canyon—fence
- Buffalo Hills—topological barriers
- Calico Mountains and Warm Springs Canyon—topological barriers
- Fox and Lake Range—fence
- Jackson Mountain—fence (Desert Valley Allotment)
- Kamma Mountains—fence
- Lava Beds—fence
- McGee Mountain—fence
- Nightingale—fence
- Seven Troughs—fence
- Snowstorms Mountain—fence

**Action WHB 1.3:** Adjust HMA boundaries to eliminate checkerboard areas and revert checkerboard portions to HA status and remove all existing WHB from outside the HA and HMA:

- Shawave-Nightingale HMA—boundary will be changed on the south end to reflect the removal of the checkerboard lands, and
- Seven Troughs HMA—boundary will be changed on the east side to reflect removal of the checkerboard lands.

**Action WHB 1.4:** Consolidate HMAs where inter-movement of animals occurs and there are biological, administrative, and long-term benefits:

- Combine the Black Rock East and West HMAs, creating the Black Rock Range HMA, and
- Combine the Shawave and Nightingale HMA, creating the Shawave HMA.

**Action WHB 1.5:** Contiguous HMAs with documented reproductive interaction will be managed as complexes to enable better management of genetic traits for the population and to improve coordination of monitoring and gathering.

**Action WHB 1.6:** In HMAs with both wild horse and burro AMLs, conversion from wild horses to burros and from burros to wild horses may occur to ensure healthy populations and a thriving natural ecological balance is maintained while managing for species most appropriate for available habitat.

**Objective WHB 2:** Maintain the free-roaming nature of WHB within HMAs.

**Action WHB 2.1:** Allow fence construction if it doesn't impair the free-roaming nature of WHB within HMAs.

**Action WHB 2.2:** Maintain, modify, or reconstruct fences so they don't impair the free-roaming nature of WHB. Remove, on a case-by-case basis, fences that are not meeting resource objectives or that impair the free-roaming nature of WHB within HMAs.

**Objective WHB 3:** Ensure WHB have safe, unencumbered access to water within HMAs.

**Action WHB 3.1:** In accordance with State of Nevada water law, develop alternate waters within HMAs when existing water sources that are used by WHBs have been impacted by either natural or man-caused events that render water unavailable. Development of artificial water sources will not be used to increase WHB populations, but will make water available to support AML or distribute WHB use on available habitat.

**Action WHB 3.2:** In accordance with Nevada water law, acquire water rights for WHB within HMAs.

**Action WHB 3.3:** When private water sources used by WHB are no longer available or water is a limiting habitat component in the HMA, re-evaluate the AML for the HMA and/or consider returning the HMA to HA status and remove the WHB.

**Objective WHB 4:** Protect WHB from harm, harassment, disease, and illegal capture.

**Action WHB 4.1:** On a case by case basis, provide for multiple use by implementing permit stipulations and mitigation measures (e.g., seasonal closures, signage, rerouted courses) to reduce adverse impacts to WHB habitat or populations.

**Action WHB 4.2:** See Action LG 2.1.

**Objective WHB 5:** Maintain Appropriate Management Levels within HMAs.

**Action WHB 5.1:** Maintain established AMLs as a population range.

**Action WHB 5.2:** Gather excess WHB to low or mid AML level when populations meet or exceed the upper AML level and monitoring data supports that excess animals are present and need to be removed. All WHB residing within HAs and outside of HMAs will be removed during any population management action.

**Action WHB 5.3:** Use fertility control (e.g., PZP, SpayVac, GonaCon, or other approved agents) to slow population growth rates to maintain a four-year gather cycle at minimum (longer cycles preferred).

**Action WHB 5.4:** (1) Allow for the use of non-reproductive animals, in part or whole, for population management of HMAs within the WD. Depending on the population growth suppression (PGS) method that is used per the specific HMA, the percentage of the non-reproductive animals within the managed herd may vary between HMAs.

Criteria for considering a HMA as a non-reproducing population:

- HMAs where the population that is targeted as being non-reproducing is separated from a neighboring HMA's reproductive population by topography, existing fences, or other features and there is no interaction between the non-reproducing and the reproducing populations. This may include HMAs that are geographically isolated from other HMAs.
- HMAs with high AML set at or below 150.
- HMA has limited potential for genetic exchange with surrounding populations.

Criteria for managing a portion of a HMA's or HMA complex's population as non-reproducing:

- HMAs where the population that is targeted as being non-reproducing does not interact with the reproducing population within a single HMA or HMA complex due to topography, existing fences, or other features causing separation and the non-reproducing population has limited potential for genetic exchange.
- Any HMA with low AML greater than 100 head.
- HMAs where gather efficiencies have been consistently below 80 percent. (Fertility control requires 80 percent gather efficiency to be effective).

(2) Manage the Tobin Range HMA as a totally non-reproducing herd.

**Action WHB 5.5:** In HMAs with a lower AML limit of 150 animals or more, allow for the adjusting of sex ratios of WHB in favor of males to reduce the number of breeding females to slow population growth rates to maintain a four-year gather cycle at minimum (longer cycles preferred).

**Action WHB 5.6:** When evaluating AML, assess the suitability of existing HMAs to sustain healthy, genetically diverse populations of WHB in balance with their habitat and other multiple uses (TNEB), using the multi-tiered process outlined in BLM Handbook 4700-1 and adjust AML as applicable.

**Action WHB 5.6.1:** Return HMAs to HA status on those areas that do not provide the critical habitat components or TNEB to support healthy, genetically diverse populations of WHB or where current WHB populations reside outside the HMA due to limited habitat. Remove all WHB from the area.

**Action WHB 5.7:** If monitoring data indicate that adverse impacts on resources are occurring as a result of livestock, wild horses, or burros, appropriate management actions (e.g., adjust AUMs or AMLs, fence, season of use) will be made to the specific class of use (i.e., livestock, wild horses, burros) causing the impacts. In absence of specie specific monitoring data, adjustments in available forage will be proportional to applicable livestock active AUMs and WHB AMLs. (See LG 1.3.1).

**Action WHB 5.8:** Manage WHB that are currently administered via Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs)\*, in accordance with this RMP or applicable implementation plans, unless otherwise specified in the MOU. Develop interagency and interoffice MOUs to manage WHB as applicable.

\*MOU is defined in this case as agreements with other district offices and agencies where WHB are managed across district office and agency administrative boundaries.

## WILDLAND FIRE ECOLOGY MANAGEMENT (WFM)

### Suppression

**GOAL:** Consistent with the National Fire Plan and Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy, respond to wildfires based on social, legal, and ecological consequences of the fire. The circumstances under which fire occurs and the likely consequences on firefighter and public safety, natural and cultural resources, and the values to be protected dictate the appropriate response to the fire within and next to agency-administered lands.

**Objective WFM 1:** Manage fire for one or more objectives as they are affected by changes in fuels, weather, topography, social understanding and tolerance, and involvement of other governmental jurisdictions. The fire management priorities, in order, are:

1. Life and Safety—Firefighter and public safety is the first priority (BLM 2004d).
2. Property Protection—Prevent the movement of wildfires from wildlands into WUI areas, out of the WUI area into wildlands and improve efficiency of wildfire suppression in WUI situations. Develop and clarify jurisdictional inter-relationships among local, state, tribal and federal protection entities based on enabling protection authorities and assistance/mutual aid responsibilities.
3. Fire Management and Ecosystem Sustainability—Use the full range of fire management activities to help achieve ecosystem sustainability and to protect, improve, or maintain cultural and natural resources, including areas at risk of invasion by nonnative plant species.



Prioritize suppression response areas to include forest resources, threatened and endangered species habitat areas, areas of critical environmental concern, priority watersheds, priority population management units, and priority wildlife habitat areas.

**Action WFM 1.1:** Use a decision support process to guide and document wildfire management decisions (e.g. Wildland Fire Decision Support System [WFDSS]). Identify and employ suppression tactics appropriate for threatened communities or resources, while adhering to minimum impact suppression tactics. Use fire equipment as appropriate including aircraft and fire engines to apply retardant, foam and water, dozers or other heavy equipment to construct fire lines and handcrews.

**Action WFM 1.2:** Continue to annually update fire management strategies to reflect shifts in priorities based on population growth or resource priorities within the WD.

**Objective WFM 2:** Manage fire to allow the full spectrum of management responses and to achieve multiple objectives including to achieve resource benefits.

**Action WFM 2.1:** Manage 110,167 acres as conditional suppression areas where fire may be used to improve or provide habitat or other resource benefits. Any suppression activity within the Pine Forest Range Wilderness will be in conformance with the Wilderness Act, designating legislation, and BLM policies for wilderness management outlined in BLM Manual 6340 or subsequent revision thereof.

**Objective WFM 3:** Promote interagency cooperation and coordination.

**Action WFM 3.1:** Collaborate with interagency partners to develop cross-jurisdictional management strategies and prioritize interagency cross-boundary wildfire management actions.

**Action WFM 3.2:** Implement an interagency fire protection process (e.g., fire program analysis) for landscape-scale fire management planning.

**Action WFM 3.3:** Identify, prioritize, and implement wildland fire protection plans and community assistance strategies.

**Action WFM 3.4:** Implement interagency and other partnership fire planning process for landscape-scale fire management planning.

**Objective WFM 4:** Increase scientific knowledge of biological, physical, and sociological factors.

**Action WFM 4.1:** As practical, implement new approaches for fuels management activities and new science for fuels and suppression management on a case-by-case basis.

## FUELS MANAGEMENT

### Fuels, Rehabilitation, Community Service

**GOAL:** Protect, improve, and restore natural and cultural resources and community infrastructure through wildland fire management.

Promote an interagency approach to managing fires on an ecosystem basis. Encourage and support research to advance understanding of fire behavior, effects, ecology, and management. Reduce fire return intervals and size in cheatgrass or annual dominated sites.

**Objective WFM 5:** Manage fuels to protect WUI and natural and cultural resources.

**Action WFM 5.1:** Implement hazardous fuels reduction projects and treatments in the wildland urban interface and within areas containing high resource values, based on national, state, and district office priorities, Community/County Risk Assessment Data, and the Healthy Forests Restoration Act and Healthy Forests Initiative.

**Action WFM 5.2:** Use management tools, such as prescribed fire and vegetation manipulation (mechanical, biological, prescriptive grazing, and chemical treatments), to construct fuel break or green strips.

### Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation

**Objective WFM 6:** Stabilize and Rehabilitate rangeland to provide for human life and safety and achieve perennial plant communities that are healthy, productive, diverse, and resilient, while meeting resource objectives within the Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation (ES&R) Program.

**Action WFM 6.1:** Rehabilitate degraded rangeland by determining and implementing suitable land treatments to achieve ES&R objectives, based on the National Fire Rehabilitation Plan or applicable updates, existing land use plans, and ES&R program guidance (See Objective VR 3).

### Community Service and Prevention

**Objective WFM 7:** Prevent human-caused fire ignitions by implementing risk assessments, prevention, and mitigation plans.

**Action WFM 7.1:** Develop and communicate public education messages, with emphasis on fire prevention, role of fire in natural resources management, and building public understanding of their role with respect to living and recreating in fire prone areas.

**Action WFM 7.2:** Issue fire restriction orders, such as closures during times of high or extreme fire danger to mitigate the risk of wildland fire, in accordance with the Central Nevada Interagency Dispatch Center Zone's Fire Restrictions Plan.

## CULTURAL RESOURCES

**GOAL:** Identify, preserve, and protect significant cultural resources and ensure that they are available for appropriate uses by present and future generations (FLPMA, Section 103(c), 201(a) and (c); National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Section 110(a); Archaeological Resources Protection Act, Section 14(a)). Seek to reduce imminent threats to and resolve potential conflicts from natural or human-caused deterioration or potential conflict with other resource uses (FLPMA, Section 103(c), NHPA Section 106 and 110(a) (2)) by ensuring that all authorizations for land and resource use comply with the NHPA, Section 106, the Nevada BLM and SHPO Protocol, and the Nevada BLM Cultural Resource Guidelines.

**Objective CR 1:** Preserve and protect cultural resources.

**Action CR 1.1:** Develop stipulations, use restrictions, and mitigation measures to avoid or reduce adverse impacts on cultural resources.

**Action CR 1.2:** Coordinate with proponents early in the implementation planning process to define an area of potential effects, conduct a literature review, and complete inventories, mitigation, and other related actions in consultation with the SHPO and other parties, as appropriate.

**Objective CR 2:** All current and future sites will be evaluated for eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

**Action CR 2.1:** Cultural resources that are currently listed or are considered eligible for listing on the NRHP will be managed for conservation and protection. In cases where an adverse impact could result from a land use action, mitigation measures will be prescribed, preferably avoidance. Where avoidance is not appropriate, adverse impacts will be mitigated through the development and implementation of a data recovery program or other appropriate measures, in consultation with the Nevada SHPO and local Native American groups and in compliance with the programmatic agreement between BLM and SHPO.

**Action CR 2.1.1:** NRHP eligible or listed sites will be protected as follows:

- No mineral material disposal within NRHP listed cultural sites (MR 2.2[f]).
- No fluid or solid mineral leasing will be allowed within NHRP listed cultural sites (MR 4.2[l] and MR 6.2[l]).
- Fluid or solid mineral leasing will be subject to a no surface occupancy stipulation within cultural sites that have been determined to be eligible for listing on the NRHP. (MR 4.1.3[e] and MR 6.1.3[e]).
- Rights to locatable minerals will have special handling, additional limitations, or special stipulations applied to the authorizations within the location of NHRP eligible or listed cultural sites (MR 9.3.1[n]).

**Objective CR 3:** Identify appropriate uses of cultural resource sites and manage them accordingly.

**Action CR 3.1:** Protect the viewshed of the Lovelock Cave Backcountry Byway by managing the viewshed to VRM II.

**Action CR 3.2:** BLM will seek a mineral withdrawal of up to 640 acres surrounding Lovelock Cave (LR 10.2). The area proposed to be withdrawn is closed to mineral material disposal (MR 2.2[c]) fluid and solid mineral leasing (MR 4.2[c] and 6.2[c])

**Action CR 3.3:** Develop mitigation measures to protect cultural resource sites from OHV and other uses. For example, culturally sensitive areas will be designated as “limited” for OHV use through travel management plan (Action R 10.1).

**Action CR 3.4:** Develop mitigation measures to protect Lovelock Cave, its setting, and the Back Country Byway from OHV and other uses. For example, 5,560 acres around the Lovelock Cave and Lovelock Cave Backcountry Byway will be designated as “limited” for OHV use through travel management plan (Action R 10.1).

**Action CR 3.5:** Protect aspen art trees and groves and associated cultural resources eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

**Action CR 3.6:** Develop historic contexts to guide the consistent evaluation of cultural resources. Expand on the Nevada Historic Preservation Plans and update the Class I cultural resource overview using existing data. Incorporate tribal knowledge in this development.

**Action CR 3.7:** Conduct regular law enforcement patrols. Priority for law enforcement protection will be given to selected sites that are particularly susceptible to illegal collection or vandalism.

**Action CR 3.8:** All sites that have been identified, as well as sites identified in the future, will be evaluated for placement in one of six use categories: scientific use, conservation for future use, traditional use, public use, experimental use, or discharged from management. The following cultural use allocations\* and desired outcomes for NRHP eligible sites are proposed:

- a. Scientific use – 59% (7,045): Preserved until research potential is realized.
- b. Conservation for future use – 10% (1,194): Preserved until conditions for use are met.
- c. Traditional use – 2% (238): Long-term preservation.
- d. Public use – 1% (119): Long-term preservation, on-site interpretation.
- e. Experimental use – 2% (238): Protected until used.
- f. Discharged from management – 26% (3,121): No use after recordation; not preserved.

\*The majority of the cultural properties in a given geographic area would fall into categories a and f. The less common properties in categories b-e are likely to be associated with particular settings that can be delineated geographically in the planning process. As the plan is developed, properties in categories b-d would require the most attention to balance their proactive uses with other land and resource uses.

Areas for future pro-active cultural survey will be:

1. Stillwater Range – (following up on past decades of research);
2. Part of the Jackson Range; and
3. Pine Forest Range.
4. The California Emigrant Trail
5. The Humboldt Sink, and
6. Other areas with high potential for significant and/or sensitive cultural resources

**Action CR 3.9:** Manage cultural resources based on allocated use. Resources allocated to scientific, conservation, traditional, public, and experimental uses are often considered eligible for the NRHP and will generally be subject to long-term conservation or protection measures. Cultural resources that are discharged from management are not considered eligible for the NRHP and are not generally candidates for conservation or preservation.

**Objective CR 4:** Develop a monitoring and conservation strategy.

**Action CR 4.1:** Develop monitoring and conservation priorities. Monitor selected cultural resources to assess their present condition and evaluate the potential for natural and human-caused deterioration.

**Action CR 4.2:** Implement physical conservation measures (such as signing, fencing, and erosion control) and administrative conservation measures (such as mineral withdrawal), control public access and restrict OHV use, as appropriate for sites that are being adversely impacted or are susceptible to vandalism.

**Action CR 4.3:** In collaboration with the Nevada Archaeological Site Steward Program or similar organization, seek opportunities to employ volunteers to monitor the condition of selected sites or conduct other conservation activities under the supervision of WD archaeologists.

**Objective CR 5:** Categorize geographic areas as high, medium, or low priority for future inventory of cultural properties.

**Action CR 5.2:** Develop, update, and maintain a probabilistic sensitivity model for resources based on the distribution of key environmental variables and other relevant data (e.g., informal data, historical record, as appropriate).

**Action CR 5.2:** Direct proactive inventory toward testing sensitivity predictions described in the model.

**Objective CR 6:** Manage the National Historic Trails (NHT) to preserve their historic and scenic values and their cultural landscapes and viewsheds.

**Action CR 6.1:** In cooperation with the Oregon-California Trail Association (OCTA) and Trails West, identify, record, and evaluate NHT segments and sites for NRHP eligibility.

**Action CR 6.2:** Direct and indirect adverse effects on eligible, unevaluated, or high potential trail segments and associated sites will be mitigated by avoidance, project redesign, minimizing the scale, camouflaging the proposed activity with visual screening techniques, data collection, interpretation or public education, or other means in consultation with the National Park Service, Nevada SHPO, OCTA, Trails West, and other interested public entities. Offsite mitigation can also be considered in accordance with BLM Manual 6280 p. 1-23 d(3).

**Action CR 6.3:** Protect historic landscapes associated with the NHT by adhering to a VRM Class II objective within six miles of the trail centerline or to the visual horizon within the six-mile zone, except along the I-80 corridor and within the utility corridor at the southern edge of the Black Rock Desert. The portion of the trail viewshed that falls within the Black Rock Desert utility corridor will be managed to VRM III. Within the I-80 corridor, the trail viewshed will be managed to VRM III within six miles of the trail centerline or to the visual horizon within the six-mile zone, except for the power line corridor and sensitive areas of the trail viewshed. Sensitive areas will be managed to VRM II one mile on either side of the centerline of the trail. The I-80 trail viewshed in this power line corridor will be managed to VRM IV.

**Action CR 6.4:** In coordination with NPS, OCTA, Trails West and other partners, provide interpretation of the NHT to the public.

**Action CR 6.5:** Designate OCTA Class II, III, IV, and V segments of NHT and the trail viewshed as limited for OHV use.

**Action CR 6.6:** Designate OCTA Class I segments of NHT as closed to OHV use.

**Action CR 6.7:** In accordance with Section 203(a) of FLPMA, NHT segments and sensitive trail viewsheds will not be disposed of.

**Action CR 6.8:** In cooperation with OCTA, NPS, Trails West, the Nevada Archaeological Site Steward Program, and other interested public entities, monitor the NHT.

**Action CR 6.9:** No new fluid or solid leasable mineral surface occupancy will be allowed within a mile of the NHT (MR 4.1.3[a] and 6.1.3[a]).

**Action CR 6.10:** No new mineral material sites will be allowed within a mile of any NHT (MR 2.2[g]).

**Action CR 6.11:** Rights to locatable minerals will have special handling, additional limitations, or special stipulations applied to the authorizations within one mile of the NHT (MR 9.3.1[m]).

**Objective CR 7:** Increase the public’s knowledge of, appreciation for, and protection of cultural resources through educational and interpretive efforts.

**Action CR 7.1:** In cooperation with partners, provide cultural resource education to schools and other interested public entities.

**Action CR 7.2:** In cooperation with partners and tribal governments, maintain, improve, and enhance interpretive programs for the Lovelock Cave Backcountry Byway, Water Canyon, and others.

**Action CR 7.3:** In cooperation with partners and tribes, interpret cultural resource sites designated for public use.

**Action CR 7.4:** In cooperation with partners and tribal governments, train volunteers to lead public tours of Lovelock Cave Backcountry Byway and other appropriate public use cultural resource sites.

**Objective CR 8:** Promote cultural resource research on a case-by-case basis.

**Action CR 8.1:** Based on historic contexts developed under Action CR 3.6, elaborate research designs aimed at addressing specific questions of local and regional importance in consultation with the Nevada SHPO.

**Action CR 8.2:** Seek opportunities to make research results available to the public through site-specific interpretive efforts (e.g., brochures and videos), contributions to local and regional news media, publication in local and regional academic journals, the BLM’s cultural resource series, and other publications only if publication does not promote vandalism or site deterioration or loss as a result of visitation or other related factors.

**Action CR 8.3:** As policy and guidance develops, manage the NHT to be consistent with the administrative, resource, partnership, and visitor objectives, goals, and actions outlined in the National Scenic and Historic Trails Strategy and Work Plan (BLM 2005d).

**Action CR 8.4:** Encourage partnerships with OCTA, National Park Service, and Trails West, and other interested public.

**Action CR 8.5:** In partnership with educational institutions and other organizations, promote career development opportunities for students through volunteer programs, such as summer field schools, internships, the Student for a Day Program, and Boy Scout and Girl Scout projects.

**Action CR 8.6:** Pursue partnership opportunities with academic institutions, museums, tribes, and historical societies and other organizations, such as OCTA, Trails West, and Rock Art Foundations.

**Action CR 8.7:** Authorize research fieldwork and provide oversight and input in the research process.

**Action CR 8.8:** Consult with tribes on proposed treatments and seek opportunities for cooperative efforts and funding for hazardous fuels, insects, and disease control.

**Objective CR 9:** In consultation with tribes, identify and protect pinyon camps, traditionally used trees, TCPs, and other Native American values in the Stillwater Range.

**Action CR 9.1:** Prohibit harvesting of green pinyon unless trees are identified for selective removal to meet resource objectives (e.g., hazardous fuels, insect and disease control).

**Action CR 9.2:** Prohibit commercial Christmas tree harvest in the Stillwater Range.

**Action CR 9.3:** Restrict Christmas tree cutting in overused areas to allow regrowth within the Stillwater Range (see Action VF 5.4).

**Objective CR 10:** Maintain and protect healthy naturally regenerating, multi-aged stands of pinyon and juniper in the Stillwater Range and to maintain a sustainable yield of pine nuts in areas where tribes have traditionally gathered them.

**Action CR 10.1:** Use treatment thinning, prescribed fire, and other tools to control disease and maintain the health of the forest.

**Action CR 10.2:** Free use permits will be issued to the Lovelock and Fallon Tribes to harvest pinyon nuts and dead and down firewood for domestic consumption.

## TRIBAL CONSULTATION (TC)

**GOAL:** Ensure that tribal issues and concerns are given appropriate consideration and consultation during BLM decision making.

**Objective TC 1:** Actively engage in a good faith effort to consult with federally recognized tribes.

**Action TC 1.1:** Provide all federally-recognized tribes with a minimum of 30 days or based on applicable policy notification updates to initiate consultation for all non-emergency federal actions. Notify tribes of proposed land use actions early in the planning process and invite them to provide input. Once the tribes have expressed the desire, consult on a formal government-to-government basis.

**Action TC 1.2:** As appropriate, engage the relevant tribes in formal government-to-government consultation.

**Objective TC 2:** Protect cultural properties, places, or things important to the tribes to the degree possible under law, regulations, and guidance. Confidential information about tribal practices and beliefs, the locations with which they are associated, and sacred sites will be kept confidential and protected from public disclosure.

**Action TC 2.1:** Identify places of importance through the consultation process. Nominate areas that qualify as TCPs and conduct evaluations for the NRHP.

**Action TC 2.2:** Avoid impacts to sacred sites and TCPs considered eligible for or listed on the NRHP. If avoidance is not possible, develop and implement mitigation measures in consultation with the tribes.

**Action TC 2.2.1:** No mineral material disposal will be allowed within identified TCPs listed or considered to be eligible for the NRHP, on the NRHP (MR 2.2[h]).



**Action TC 2.2.2:** No fluid or solid mineral surface occupancy will be allowed within an identified TCP listed, or considered eligible for the NRHP (MR 4.1.3[b] and 6.1.3[b]).

**Action TC 2.2.3:** Rights to locatable minerals will have special handling, additional limitations, or special stipulations applied to the authorizations within an identified TCP listed, or considered eligible for the NRHP (MR 9.3.1[n]).

**Action TC 2.3:** Where possible, defer to Indian tribes to establish standards for managing cultural resources important to Indian tribes (EO 13175).

**Action TC 2.4:** Protect traditional religious practices and sites, land forms, burial sites, resources, and other areas of concern by designating special management areas or emergency, temporal, or seasonal closures. Develop stipulations, use restrictions, mitigation measures and other management actions to protect traditional use areas and practices.

**Objective TC 3:** Seek to assist the tribe in the preservation of traditional knowledge.

**Action TC 3.1:** Conduct an archive and literature review to identify and document traditional lands use practices and places of cultural and religious importance.

**Action TC 3.2:** As appropriate, conduct oral histories of selected tribal elders to elicit first-hand knowledge of traditional cultural values, beliefs, rituals, stories, songs, food gathering and preparation, and traditional resource management practices and other traditions.

**Action TC 3.3:** Where practicable, investigate the applicability of traditional knowledge to contemporary land management practice. Seek opportunities to gain insights from traditional knowledge to improve contemporary management.

**Objective TC 4:** Comply with Native American consultation requirements.

**Action TC 4.1:** As appropriate, seek opportunities to develop partnerships with tribes to monitor the condition of cultural resources and provide law enforcement patrols of sites that are susceptible to illegal collection or vandalism.

## **PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES (PR)**

**GOAL:** Preserve and protect significant paleontological resources and ensure that they are available for appropriate future uses.

**Objective PR 1:** Maintain and protect paleontological resources from natural or human-caused deterioration for their educational and scientific benefits and to mitigate adverse impacts.

**Action PR 1.1:** Identify areas and geological units containing paleontological resources.

**Action PR 1.2:** Identify additional areas and geologic units (e.g., formations and members) likely to contain paleontological resources.

**Action PR 1.3:** Use the BLM Potential Fossil Yield Classification system to help classify areas with paleontological resources.

Classify by:

Class 1 – Very Low. Geologic units that are not likely to contain recognizable fossil remains.

Class 2 – Low. Sedimentary geologic units that are not likely to contain vertebrate fossils or scientifically significant nonvertebrate fossils.

Class 3 – Moderate or Unknown. Fossiliferous sedimentary geologic units where fossil content varies in significance, abundance, and predictable occurrence; or sedimentary units of unknown fossil potential.

Class 4 – High. Geologic units containing a high occurrence of significant fossils. Vertebrate fossils or scientifically significant invertebrate or plant fossils are known to occur and have been documented, but may vary in occurrence and predictability.

Class 5 – Very High. Highly fossiliferous geologic units that consistently and predictably produce vertebrate fossils or scientifically significant invertebrate or plant fossils, and that are at risk of human-caused adverse impacts or natural degradation.

**Action PR 1.4:** Conduct paleontological inventory and mitigation before surface-disturbing activities in paleontologically sensitive areas. If necessary, develop stipulations, use restrictions, and mitigation measures to avoid or reduce adverse impacts.

**Action PR 1.5:** Develop management recommendations (including mitigation measures in specific locations) to promote scientific and educational uses.

**Action PR 1.6:** No discretionary activities will be authorized on public lands if they would knowingly disturb or alter, injure, or destroy scientifically important paleontological resources, unless impacts can be mitigated. Impacts on scientifically important paleontological resource sites from nondiscretionary actions will be mitigated prior to authorization. Permitted excavation and collection of scientifically valuable fossils will be allowed (Refer to PR 3.3).

**Action PR 1.7:** Close the George W. Lund Petrified Forest to collection (141 acres; see Figure 2-25, Appendix A).

**Action PR 1.8:** As appropriate, implement physical conservation measures, such as signing, fencing, erosion control, and administrative conservation measures. Other actions include mineral withdrawal, closure of public access, and prohibition of OHV use to protect vulnerable paleontological deposits.

**Objective PR 2:** Foster public awareness and appreciation for the WD’s paleontological resources.

**Action PR 2.1:** Seek opportunities to form partnerships with local school districts, colleges, and universities to implement a paleontological education program.

**Action PR 2.2:** Pursue partnership opportunities with academic institutions, museums, geological and paleontological associations, and individual researchers.

**Action PR 2.3:** Seek opportunities to employ volunteers to monitor the condition of selected locations or conduct other conservation activities under the supervision of WD personnel.

**Action PR 2.4:** Develop a paleontological resource plan aimed at outlining a general strategy to guide activities and develop interpretive brochures on WD paleontology, incorporating conservation information.

**Objective PR 3:** Conduct and promote problem-oriented research in support of management objectives on a case-by-case basis.

**Action PR 3.1:** Develop research designs aimed at advancing our understanding of evolutionary and paleo-environmental processes.

**Action PR 3.2:** Seek opportunities to make research results available to the public through publication in local and regional academic journals and BLM's publication series. Incorporate the results in future management activities.

**Action PR 3.3:** Require a permit for the removal of paleontological resources for the purposes of scientific research, inventory, or planning purpose, monitoring, or to mitigate adverse impacts from authorized or unauthorized uses.

**Action PR 3.4:** Before ground-disturbing activities or land disposal actions, a review of existing data and geological potential will be conducted. The review will include the verification of the existence and importance of fossiliferous deposits and management recommendations designed to mitigate adverse effects, as needed. As appropriate, the review will be conducted in collaboration with the BLM Regional Paleontologist.

**Action PR 3.5:** Monitor known deposits, as well as deposits identified in the future, to assess their vulnerability to natural or human-caused deterioration.

**Action PR 3.6:** Conduct regular law enforcement patrols. Priority for law enforcement protection will be given to selected areas containing important fossil deposits that are susceptible to illegal collection or vandalism.

**Action PR 3.7:** Issue permits for the non-commercial collection of vertebrate fossils, including their trace fossils such as trackways and coprolites. Permits for the non-commercial collection of invertebrate, plants, fossils, and petrified wood are not normally required within limits defined by regulation. However, locations containing noteworthy occurrences of such fossils may be closed to collection except under permit.

**Action PR 3.8:** Authorize fieldwork and provide oversight and input in the research process.

## VISUAL RESOURCES (VRM)

**GOAL: Manage public land actions and activities to provide protection of the visual values and scenic quality of existing landscapes consistent with the Visual Resource Management (VRM) class objectives.**

**Objective VRM 1:** Identify and manage areas in the VRM classes listed. Manage these areas according to the visual guidelines for each class.

**Action VRM 1.1:** Manage visual resources on BLM lands under the following VRM class designations (Figure 2-7, Appendix A):

Class I	418,201 acres
Class II	2,793,312 acres
Class III	3,073,906 acres
Class IV	961,504 acres

**Action VRM 1.2:** Manage all WSAs as VRM Class I. Areas released from study will be managed as VRM Class II. Areas designated wilderness in the future will be managed as VRM Class I.

**Action VRM 1.3:** Manage all ACECs, except for the Osgood Mountains ACEC, and BCBs and associated landscapes as VRM Class II. The Osgood Mountains ACEC will be managed under VRM Class III.

**Action VRM 1.4:** Manage priority watersheds in whole or in part as VRM Class II and Class III (see Figure 2-7).

**Action VRM 1.5:** Manage avoidance areas and exclusion areas in whole or in part as Class II, Class III, or Class IV (see Figure 2-7).

**Action VRM 1.6:** Use the visual resource contrast rating system during project-level planning to determine whether or not proposed activities will meet VRM objectives. Identify mitigation measures to reduce visual contrasts and prepare rehabilitation plans to address landscape modifications on a case-by-case basis.

**Objective VRM 2:** Protect the visual integrity of NHT and their viewsheds.

**Action VRM 2.1:** Manage NHT according to BLM policy and guidance by protecting scenic landscapes and historic settings.

**Action VRM 2.2:** Protect historic landscapes associated with the NHT by adhering to a VRM Class II objective within six miles of the trail centerline or to the visual horizon within the six-mile zone, subject to the following exceptions:

- *Along the I-80 corridor and* within the utility corridor at the southern edge of the Black Rock Desert. The portion of the trail viewshed that falls within the Black Rock Desert utility corridor will be managed as VRM Class III.

- Within the I-80 corridor, the trail viewshed will be managed as VRM Class III within six miles of the trail centerline or to the visual horizon within the six-mile zone, except for the power line corridor and sensitive areas of trail viewshed. Sensitive areas will be managed as VRM Class II one mile on either side of the centerline of the trail. The I-80 trail viewshed in this power line corridor will be managed as VRM Class IV.

## **CAVE AND KARST RESOURCES (CK)**

**GOAL: Protect cave and karst resources, while allowing for multiple uses.**

**Objective CK 1:** Conserve, manage, and protect cave and karst resources to protect unique geologic features within caves, promote public safety, and protect cave and karst wildlife habitat.

**Action CK 1.1:** Educate the public about caves and karsts through public schools, development of brochures, and signage.

**Action CK 1.2:** Implement appropriate mitigation measures, such as seasonal closures, avoidance, fencing, bat gates, and signing to protect unique geologic features and wildlife habitat within caves or karsts.

**Action CK 1.3:** Inventory and identify cave and karst resources located within the WD.

## **LANDS WITH WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS**

**GOAL: Maintain inventory and update, as necessary, the inventory of wilderness resources on public lands in accordance with BLM Manual 6310: Conducting Wilderness Characteristics Inventory on BLM Lands (2012).**

**Objective LWC 1:** Identify areas possessing wilderness characteristics (naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation) in accordance with BLM Manual 6320. Implement use restrictions or mitigation measures to reduce impacts on wilderness characteristics from project proposals, as appropriate.

**Action LWC 1.1:** The seven units identified as containing wilderness characteristics (below) will be managed to meet multiple use and sustained yield objectives. Prior to any surface disturbing activities, the wilderness characteristics inventory will be reviewed in accordance with BLM Manual 6320. Individual projects proposed within areas identified as possessing wilderness characteristics will be evaluated during the NEPA process for impacts to wilderness characteristics. Mitigation measures to protect wilderness characteristics will be applied as appropriate. Areas currently determined to contain wilderness characteristic are as follows (Figure 2-34, Appendix A):

- Bluewing Mountains (25,651 acres);
- North Shawave Mountains (45,686 acres);
- Fencemaker Area of the Stillwater Range (50,282 acres);
- Portion of the Tobin Range between the China Mountain WSA and the Mount Tobin WSA (33,854 acres);

- Warm Springs (18,149 acres);
- Granite Peak (43,202 acres); and
- Buckhorn Peak (23,399 acres).

## LIVESTOCK GRAZING (LG)

**GOAL: Manage livestock grazing to promote healthy sustainable rangeland ecosystems and maintain or restore public rangelands consistent with Land Health Standards, while allowing for multiple uses.**

**Objective LG 1:** Manage livestock grazing to promote healthy sustainable rangelands and forage on a sustained yield basis in collaboration with permittees and other interested members of the public. Implement SOPs, site-specific allotment terms and conditions, objectives, and mitigation measures to achieve land health standards (e.g., Sierra Front/NW RAC Standards and Guidelines).

**Action LG 1.1:** Continue to use and update selective allotment management categories of improve (I), maintain (M), and custodial (C), as needed to refine and prioritize grazing management actions.

**Action LG 1.2:** Use adaptive management principles and practices, including season and duration of use, use restrictions, herding, installation of structural improvements, and adjustment in livestock numbers to achieve resource objectives and standards for rangeland health.

**Action LG 1.3:** Make available for grazing 398,860 AUMs of livestock forage (at current permitted levels). Any adjustments increasing or decreasing AUMs will be made using a combination of monitoring data, field observations, ecological site inventory or other data in order to make progress towards or achieve resource objectives and standards for rangeland health.

Designate 8,016,754 acres as available to livestock grazing (including 823,483 acres managed within the NCA) (Figure 2-8, Appendix A).

Designate 319,328 acres closed to livestock grazing (including 192,612 acres managed within the NCA) (Figure 2-9, Appendix A). The following areas are closed to livestock grazing: Old Gunnery Range, Smoke Creek Desert, Rose Creek, Dolly Hayden (north of Ballard-Sweeney Fence), Thomas Creek (west of Westmoreland Fence), Mahogany Creek Enclosure, Water Canyon Enclosure, Oreana, Reymundo Parcel (closed until Pole Creek meets PFC, and then the Reymundo Parcel will be incorporated into the Crowley Creek and Pole Creek allotments), Green Saddle Estates, and on BLM parcels along I-80 between the ROW fence and the railroad fence.

**Action LG 1.3.1:** If monitoring data indicate non-attainment or attainment of allotment-specific objectives and standards for rangeland health are occurring as a result of livestock or wild horses or burros, implement appropriate management actions (e.g. adjust carrying capacity—AUMs or AMLs, fence, season of use) on a proportional basis. In absence of species-specific monitoring data, adjustments in available forage (carrying capacity) will be proportional to applicable livestock active AUMs and wild horse and burro AMLs.

**Action LG 1.4:** Issue grazing permits and complete transfers of grazing preferences consistent with livestock grazing regulations, land health standards, and BLM policy and guidance.

**Action LG 1.5:** Collect monitoring data to assess livestock permitted use and achievement of resource objectives and standards for rangeland health. Monitor allotments by establishing key management areas such as wetlands, upland riparian and streambank riparian along with key species. Promote cooperative monitoring with livestock permittees and interested publics.

**Action LG 1.6:** Maintain existing range improvements per Section 4 of the Taylor Grazing Act, range improvement permits and/or cooperative agreements. If no authorization exists for existing range improvements, complete the authorization process and assign maintenance responsibilities.

**Action LG 1.6.1:** Authorize new range improvements based on individual permittees' past maintenance performance.

**Action LG 1.7:** Issue cooperative agreements for maintenance of range improvements. Through coordination with permittees, issue cooperative agreements for maintenance of range improvements where no previous agreement exists or remove the improvements.

**Action LG 1.8:** Relinquish grazing permits, in accordance with laws, regulations, policy, or guidance.

**Action LG 1.8.1:** When grazing permits are relinquished or cancelled make them available for application by other qualified applicants.

**Action LG 1.8.2:** Provide forage banks following relinquishment or cancellation of grazing preference subject to meeting all of the following criteria to all interim grazing for emergency situations (e.g. drought, fire).

- No forage banks in “common allotment” unless all permit holders relinquish their grazing permits for that allotment.
- Forage banks will be used only for emergencies, such as drought and fire, or due to temporary allotment closures for rangeland restoration projects, and would meet resource objectives.
- Grazing prescriptions will be allowed based on application receipt and the greater livestock permittee need and benefit to other public lands.
- Forage banks have sufficient forage available for livestock grazing.
- No forage banks in pastures occupied by or within critical habitat areas for T&E Species.
- No forage banks in allotments within HMAs unless the WHB numbers are at or below high AML.

**Action LG 1.8.3:** Upon voluntary relinquishment of all preference for grazing use within an allotment and concurrent with permit termination, designate public lands within that allotment as unavailable for preference-based grazing permit for the life of the plan. This is contingent upon the authorized officer determining that devoting the forage allocated to livestock within the allotment to other resource uses or values is desirable or necessary to meet resource management objectives. Resource uses or values that may be considered include, but not limited to, the following:

- Wildlife habitat values,
- WHB values,
- T&E species and sensitive species habitat,
- Recreational values,
- Archeological or cultural values,
- Increasing biodiversity,
- Watershed values or resources,
- Wilderness characteristics or values, or
- Other resource management objectives.

**Action LG 1.8.4:** Upon elimination of all grazing preference and cancellation of permits for violations of applicable laws or regulations (i.e., repeated unauthorized use), designate public lands within that allotment as unavailable for a preference based grazing permit for the life of the plan. This is contingent upon the authorized officer determining that devoting the forage allocated livestock within the allotment of other resource uses or values is desirable or necessary to meet resource management objectives.

BLM may still authorize temporary prescriptive grazing when needed for resource management purposes such as noxious or invasive plant control or other restoration actions under LG 1.8.3.

**Action LG 1.9:** Allow only prescriptive livestock grazing on acquired lands (exchange, purchase, donation) until a management implementation plan is developed. Lands acquired within allotments that have a grazing system in place will be considered prescriptive grazing.

**Action LG 1.10:** Allow TNR use, subject to meeting all of the following criteria:

- TNR prescription will conform with and meet Land Health Standards;
- Forage conditions, such as sufficient forage, good plant vigor, support the action;
- Same class of livestock (such as cattle, sheep, horses), except with respect to fuel projects, if livestock class does not conflict with other resources;
- Federally-listed T&E habitat – Except for resource benefit, TNR use will not occur within areas of allotments containing T&E habitat;



- To provide for cheatgrass or other annual invasive species treatments;
- Late fall, winter, and early spring grazing (November 15 through April 30): Avoids use of crucial wildlife winter ranges;
- No TNR within HMAs that are above high AML;
- Minimal impact on native plants (e.g., dormant season use);
- Treatment areas have infrastructure (water and/or fencing) in place to manage livestock for concentrated use of cheatgrass and to prevent damage to native plants outside of intensive use areas; and
- Does not lead to season-long critical growing season use of native plants or hot season use of riparian areas; established grazing systems will be followed, except for the cheatgrass treatments.

**Action LG 1.11:** Allow no more than two consecutive years of grazing use during the critical growing period unless upland use by all foraging animals on key forage species on any given allotment, geographic area or pasture is at a level that maintains plant health and protects watersheds.

**Action LG 1.12:** Manage grazing allotments administered across administrative boundaries or across land use plan boundaries in accordance with inter-district MOUs or in full conformance with all applicable land use plans.

**Action LG 1.13:** Manage to ensure protection of land health during droughts, insect infestations, or after effects of fire.

**Action LG 1.14:** In compliance with the “Grazing Administration Regulations” at 43 CFR 4130.6-3, issue crossing permits on a case-by-case basis, subject to the following: no crossing permits will be issued if trailing of livestock adversely impacts T&E species populations or habitat, sage-grouse populations or habitat, bighorn sheep, or candidate, proposed, or listed species under the ESA, as amended.

**Objective LG 2:** Manage livestock to ensure that domestic horses and burros do not mix with WHB.

**Action LG 2.1:** Permit domestic horses and burros only in those areas where no mixing or contact will occur with managed populations of WHB.

**Objective LG 3:** Adjust allotment boundaries as needed for administrative or management actions.

**Action LG 3.1:** Analyze and make allotment boundary decisions on a case-by case basis.

**Action LG 3.1.1:** Adjust allotment boundaries for Upper Quinn, Rebel Creek, Sod House, Pole Creek, Thomas Creek, Crowley Creek (incorporate Reymundo parcel into the Pole Creek and Crowley Creek allotments), and Daveytown (Figure 2-10, Appendix A).

Combine Pole Canyon and Rodeo Creek allotments.

**Objective LG 4:** Allow for changing the class of livestock to benefit land health management objectives.

**Action LG 4.1:** Allow for conversion from cattle to sheep or goats. Do not permit for the conversion from cattle to sheep or goats on those allotments or portions of allotments with historical, existing, or potential bighorn sheep habitat (Figure 2-11, Appendix A).

**Action LG 4.2:** Allow for conversion from sheep to cattle based on rangeland suitability (e.g., slope, distance from water) and where there is adequate existing infrastructure (fences, water developments) to control, support, and manage cattle.

**Action LG 4.3:** Allow for conversion of cattle between classes (e.g., cow and calf pair vs. steer and yearlings).

**Action LG 4.4:** Allow for conversion of class of livestock on allotments on a case-by-case basis.

**Objective LG 5:** Ensure range improvements are compatible with resources and multiple uses and land health.

**Action LG 5.1:** Existing authorized range improvements will be maintained or modified where beneficial to resource values and uses. Projects no longer needed to meet livestock and other resource management objectives will be removed and the sites restored.

**Action LG 5.2:** New range improvements may be developed when consistent with achieving land health standards and provide for multiple uses. They may be allowed in big game habitats if they improve grazing distribution or utilization patterns and reduce conflicts in other areas.

**Action LG 5.3:** Protect newly developed spring sources and wetland-riparian areas by fencing to exclude livestock and WHB. Place troughs away from the spring sources and associated wetland-riparian areas. Fencing will meet wildlife and WHB enclosure fence specifications.

**Action LG 5.4:** All new spring developments for livestock watering will be constructed to maintain, improve, or restore the biotic integrity of the spring system.

**Action LG 5.4.1:** Maintain the integrity and avoid adverse impacts to spring resources and associated wetland-riparian areas, by ensuring proper installation of water developments (see FW 11.1). When possible:

1. Downstream of the source and adjacent to the spring so that flows are maintained;
2. Downstream of the source within the spring brook at a location that maximizes the spring flow duration and minimize thermal load; and
3. Other techniques (see FW 11.1).

**Action LG 5.5:** Subject to BLM-acquired water rights for wildlife, where new waters are developed for livestock within big game and sensitive wildlife habitats or within HMAs, develop cooperative agreements with livestock permittees to provide water for wildlife and

WHB even if livestock have been removed (applies when water is made available to livestock anytime during this period).

**Action LG 5.6:** On new water developments from surface water sources, where possible avoid overflow of water into ponds or non-channelized areas. When possible, install spring developments using the following:

1. Placement and development downstream of the source and adjacent to the spring brook so that flows are maintained;
2. Placement and development downstream of the source within the spring brook at a location that maximizes the spring flow duration and minimize thermal load; and
3. Other techniques.

**Action LG 5.7:** Consistent with meeting standards for rangeland health and goals and objectives of the enclosure, allow prescribed grazing on a case by case basis in coordination with interested publics.

## **MINERAL RESOURCES: LEASABLE, LOCATABLE, AND SALEABLE (MR)**

**GOAL:** Make federal mineral resources available to meet domestic needs. Encourage responsible development of economically sound and stable domestic minerals and energy production, while assuring appropriate return to the public. Ensure long-term health and diversity of the public lands by minimizing impacts on other resources, returning lands disturbed to productive uses, and preventing unnecessary or undue degradation.

**Objective MR 1:** Return lands disturbed by mineral operations that are stable, safe, productive, and visually compatible and ensure quality of the environment in accordance with FLPMA and other applicable laws, regulations, and policy. Prevent undue or unnecessary degradation of public lands. An exception, in whole or in part, may be granted if, at the time of closure, a viable plan exists for a productive continued economic use of the site (see Sustainable Development Goals and Objectives).

**Action MR 1.1:** Rehabilitate or reclaim mineral operations, including recontouring, stabilizing, revegetating, or removing facilities prior to and during closure. Defer existing guidance and standards for reclamation and closure for up to five years from the end of active mining of sites that have a reasonable prospect for economic use. Final reclamation that is deferred will be subject to regular updates of reclamation cost estimates and the provision of appropriate financial guarantees.

**Action MR 1.2:** Continue to implement the state and BLM guidance for revegetating minerals operations to include self-sustaining vegetation communities. This includes the “Gold Book” for fluid leasable operations and IM-NV-2004-065, Guidelines for Successful Revegetation,” for hardrock mining areas. Revegetate reclaimed areas, using a variety of native and nonnative seed mixtures appropriate to a local ecological setting. Priority for use of seeds and plant materials (VR 4.1) is as follows:

1. Locally collected native seed;
2. Native seeds; then
3. Nonnative.

**Action MR 1.3:** Apply concurrent reclamation (as soon as operationally practical) at all minerals operations. Interim reclamation (physical stabilization and ground-cover seeding) will be implemented on all facilities or features (e.g., growth media stockpiles) that remain unused for more than one year, but are planned for future re-disturbance.

**Action MR 1.4:** Ensure occupancy does not hinder previously existing access to public lands.

**Action MR 1.5:** Public lands will remain open and available for mineral exploration and development, subject to the provisions of FLPMA Section 204.

### **Saleable Minerals**

**Objective MR 2:** Manage mineral material resources to provide for the needs of individuals, municipalities, and businesses, while assuring compatibility with and protection of other resources and uses. The planning area will be open to disposal and development of mineral materials, except where incompatible with important resource values. Lands acquired will be managed in a manner consistent with the goals of the acquisition and the resource values present, in accordance with those actions described below, and considering the management applied to adjacent public lands.

**Action MR 2.1:** Maintain 6,539,184 acres as open to mineral material disposal. Make disposals in accordance with demand in those areas identified as open to disposal (Figure 2-12, Appendix A). Protect important resource values in otherwise open areas by applying stipulations determined to be necessary to reasonably protect other resources, as depicted on Figure 2-12, Appendix A.

**Action MR 2.1.1:** 2,871,026 acres will be open with only standard authorization terms and stipulations (Figure 2-12, Appendix A). (Note: Survey for and mitigation of impacts on cultural resources, sensitive species, and migratory birds are considered standard stipulations [see Actions CR 1.1, CR 1.2, SSS 3.2, SSS 6.1.1, SSS 7.1.1, and FW 4.1]).

**Action MR 2.1.2:** Protect resources through implementing use restrictions (e.g., seasonal restrictions), stipulations, and mitigation measures determined through this analysis and further interdisciplinary review. 2,390,415 acres will be open with standard authorization terms and stipulations, as well as one or more of the following seasonal or other restrictions (Figure 2-12, Appendix A):

- a. Within HMAs (see Action WHB 4.1).
- b. Within defined avoidance areas (see Action LR 5.2).
- c. Within PMUs that are not within priority wildlife habitat areas (see Action SSS 5.2.2);
- d. Within priority watersheds that are not T&E species habitat (see Actions WR 3.2 and WR 3.2.1);

- e. Areas in VRM Class I, II, or III (see Visual Resources Goal, Objective VRM 1, and Action VRM 1.1); and
- f. Within the location of identified paleontological resources classified as being of scientific or educational interest (see Action PR 1.6).

**Action MR 2.1.3:** In the following areas, 1,277,700 acres will be open only to permits to government entities for the maintenance of roads or other public facilities (Figure 2-12, Appendix A):

- a. Priority habitat areas and associated PMUs (see actions SSS 5.2.1);
- b. Lands acquired under SNPLMA; and
- c. Priority watersheds (see Actions WR 3.2); and
- d. Priority water supply areas (see Action WR 3.4).

**Action MR 2.2:** In the following areas 694,991 acres will be closed to mineral material disposal (Figure 2-12, Appendix A):

- a. Designated WSA or Wilderness Areas (policy);
- b. George Lund Petrified Forest mineral withdrawal (see Action PR 1.7);
- c. Lovelock Cave right-of-way and proposed mineral withdrawal (Action LR 10.2);
- d. McDermitt Station Administrative Site right-of-way and proposed mineral withdrawal (Action LR 10.2);
- e. Designated ACECs (see Action ACEC 1.2):
  - 1. Osgood Mountains (see also Action SSS 3.5),
  - 2. Pine Forest,
  - 3. Raised Bog, and
  - 4. Stillwater.
- f. Within cultural sites that are listed on the NRHP or that have been determined to be eligible for that listing (see Action CR 2.1.1),
- g. No new mineral material sites will be developed within one mile of the NHT (see Action CR 6.10),
- h. Within identified TCP listed or considered eligible for the NRHP (see Action TC 2.2.1).
- i. Within the location of identified paleontological resources classified as being of scientific or educational interest (see Action PR 1.6).
- j. Areas closed to OHV use (see Action R 10.1).

**Action MR 2.2.1:** Modifications to areas closed to disposal near TCPs will be based on Native American Consultation. Consultation with Native American tribes may produce recommendations for larger or smaller areas closed to disposal based on the setting and use of the TCP (see Objective TC 2).

**Action MR 2.2.2:** Make no mineral material disposals to within a quarter mile of a WSA or designated wilderness boundary. To accomplish this, any quarter-quarter section (40-acre parcel) intersected by and including a portion of such a boundary will be closed to mineral material disposal. This is comparable to the policy on mineral leasing, established in IM-NV-2004-093.

**Action MR 2.3:** Designate community pits and common use areas in locations and sizes to meet the existing and reasonably foreseeable demand for the commodity(ies) available at each site, where compatible with resource values. Establish sites in appropriate locations and with sufficient capacity while avoiding a proliferation of sites for similar materials in a given area. Most available mineral material sites will be designated as community pits or common use areas.

**Action MR 2.4:** Work with municipalities and other eligible customers to provide free use permits with adequate volumes of material to meet their needs. Preference will be given to permits in community pits or common use areas.

**Objective MR 3:** Manage mineral material operations to provide for the mineral and energy needs of the nation, while assuring compatibility with and protection of other resources.

**Action MR 3.1:** Apply site-specific stipulations to authorizations as developed by the interdisciplinary review, as necessary to reasonably protect other resources.

**Action MR 3.2:** Compliance inspections will meet existing policy and be of sufficient frequency and detail to ensure proper return of fair market value to the public and appropriate protection of resource values.

### **Fluid Minerals**

**Objective MR 4:** Lands within the WD will be open to geothermal and oil and gas leasing and development except where incompatible with important resource values. Protect, manage, and conserve lands acquired in a manner consistent with the goals of the acquisition and the resource values present, in accordance with those Actions described below, and considering the management applied to adjacent public lands.

**Action MR 4.1:** Maintain 5,492,707 acres as open to leasing. Offer fluid mineral leases in those areas identified as open to leasing (Figure 2-13, Appendix A). Protect, manage, and conserve important resource values in otherwise open areas by applying stipulations determined to be necessary to reasonably protect other resources as depicted on Figure 2-13, Appendix A and described in the text.

**Action MR 4.1.1:** 2,851,895 acres will be open with only standard lease terms and stipulations (Figure 2-13, Appendix A). (Note: Survey for and mitigation of impacts on cultural resources, sensitive species, and migratory birds are considered standard stipulations [see Actions CR 1.1, CR 1.2, SSS 3.2, SSS 6.1.1, SSS 7.1.1, and FW 4.1, see Appendix I, Winnemucca Fluid Mineral Lease Sale Stipulations]).

**Action MR 4.1.2:** 2,435,327 acres will be open, with standard lease terms and stipulations, as well as one or more of the following seasonal or other restrictions listed below (Figure 2-13, Appendix A):

- a. PMUs that are not within priority wildlife habitat areas (see Action SSS 5.2.2).
- b. Within HMAs, where proposed activities could result in adverse impacts on the health and welfare of WHB (see Action WHB 4.1).
- c. Within defined avoidance areas (See Action LR 5.2).
- d. Within priority watersheds that are not T&E species habitat (see Actions WR 3.2 and WR 3.2.1).
- e. Areas in VRM Class I, II, or III (see Visual Resources Goal, Objective VRM 1, and Action VRM 1.1).

**Action MR 4.1.3:** 205,485 acres will be open to leasing but subject to a no surface occupancy stipulation, applicable to the following (Figure 2-13, Appendix A):

- a. No new fluid leasing surface occupancy will be allowed within a mile of the NHT (see Action CR 6.9). To accomplish this, any quarter-quarter-quarter section (10-acre parcel) within or intersected by the trail or the one-mile buffer line will be subject to NSO.
- b. Within an identified TCP listed or considered eligible for the NRHP (see Action TC 2.2.2). To accomplish this, any quarter-quarter-quarter section (10-acre parcel) within or intersected by the TCP will be subject to NSO.
- c. Within the location of an identified paleontological resource classified as being of scientific or educational interest (see Action PR 1.6). To accomplish this, any quarter-quarter-quarter section (10-acre parcel) within or intersected by the site will be subject to NSO.
- d. Priority water supply areas (see Actions WR 3.4).
- e. Within cultural sites that have been determined to be eligible for listing on the NRHP (see Action CR 2.1.1).

**Action MR 4.1.3.1:** Based on Native American consultation, modifications to no surface occupancy near TCPs or TCP settings may produce recommendations for larger or smaller areas subject to no surface occupancy.

**Action MR 4.2:** Maintain 1,740,928 acres as closed to leasing. Areas closed to leasing (Figure 2-13, Appendix A):

- a. Designated WSA or Wilderness (policy);
- b. George Lund Petrified Forest mineral withdrawal (see Actions PR 1. and PR 1.7);
- c. Lovelock Cave right-of-way and proposed mineral withdrawal (Action LR 10.2);
- d. McDermitt Station Administrative Site right-of-way and proposed mineral withdrawal (Action LR 10.2);

- e. Priority Wildlife Habitat Areas and associated PMUs (see Action SSS 5.2.1);
- f. Designated ACECs (see Action ACEC 1.2):
  - 1. Osgood Mountain Milkvetch ACEC (see also Action SSS 3.5),
  - 2. Pine Forest,
  - 3. Raised Bog, and
  - 4. Stillwater (see also Action TC 2.2).
- g. Lands acquired under SNPLMA.
- h. Within priority watersheds that are T&E species habitat (see Action WR 3.2).
- i. Areas closed to OHV use (see Action R 10.1).
- j. Lands acquired under LWCF - automatically closed to all mineral location and entry.
- k. Lands acquired by exchange - closed to mineral location and entry for 90 days and automatically open if BLM doesn't initiate a withdrawal within that time period.
- l. Cultural sites listed on the NRHP.

**Action MR 4.2.1:** Offer fluid mineral leases to within a quarter mile of a WSA or designated wilderness boundary. To accomplish this, any quarter-quarter section (40-acre parcel) intersected by and including a portion of such a boundary will be excluded from the parcel nominated (IM-NV-2004-093).

**Objective MR 5:** Manage fluid mineral operations to provide for the energy needs of the nation, while assuring compatibility with and protection of other resources (per the Energy Policy Act of 2005) (DOI 2005).

**Action MR 5.1:** In addition to applicable lease stipulations, apply standard conditions of approval as necessary to reasonably protect other resources and meet resource objectives.

**Action MR 5.2:** Compliance inspections will meet existing policy and be of sufficient frequency and detail to ensure appropriate protection of the public interest in production and resource values.

### **Solid Mineral Leasing – Energy and Non-energy**

**Objective MR 6:** The planning area will be open to solid mineral leasing and development, except where incompatible with important resource values. Lands acquired will be managed in a manner consistent with the goals of the acquisition and the resource values present, in accordance with those actions described below, and considering the management applied to adjacent public lands. (Note for coal resources: there are no known economically viable coal deposits within the planning area.)

**Action MR 6.1:** Maintain 5,492,706 acres as open to leasing. Offer solid mineral leases in those areas identified as open to leasing (Figure 2-14, Appendix A). Manage important resource values in otherwise open areas by applying stipulations determined to be necessary to reasonably protect other resources as depicted on Figure 2-14, Appendix A, and described in the text.



**Action MR 6.1.1:** 2,851,895 acres will be open, with only standard lease terms and stipulations (Figure 2-14, Appendix A). (Note: Survey for and mitigation of impacts on cultural resources, sensitive species, and migratory birds are considered standard stipulations. See Actions CR 1.1, CR 1.2, SSS 3.2, SSS 6.1.1, SSS 7.1.1, and FW 4.1.)

**Action MR 6.1.2:** 2,435,326 acres will be open, with standard lease terms and stipulations, as well as one or more of the following seasonal or other restrictions (Figure 2-14, Appendix A):

- a. Within HMAs, where proposed activities could result in adverse impacts on the health and welfare of WHB (see Action WHB 4.1).
- b. Within define avoidance areas (See Action LR 5.2)
- c. PMUs that are not within priority habitat areas (see Action SSS 5.2.2).
- d. Within priority watersheds that are not T&E species habitat (see Actions WR 3.2 and WR 3.2.1).
- e. Areas in VRM Class I, II, or III (see Visual Resources Goal, Objective VRM 1, and Action VRM 1.1).

**Action MR 6.1.3:** 205,485 acres will be open to leasing but subject to a no surface occupancy stipulation (Figure 2-14, Appendix A):

- a. No new solid leasing surface occupancy will be allowed within one mile of the NHT (see Action CR 6.9). To accomplish this, any quarter-quarter-quarter section (10-acre parcel) within or intersected by the site or the one-mile buffer line will be subject to NSO.
- b. Within an identified TCP listed or considered eligible for the NRHP (see Action TC 2.2.2). To accomplish this, any quarter-quarter-quarter section (10-acre parcel) within or intersected by the TCP will be subject to NSO.
- c. Within the location of identified paleontological resources classified as being of scientific or educational interest (see Action PR 1.6). To accomplish this, any quarter-quarter-quarter section (10-acre parcel) within or intersected by the site will be subject to NSO.
- d. Priority water supply areas (see Action WR 3.4).
- e. Within the location of cultural sites that have been determined to be eligible for listing on the NRHP (see Action CR 2.1.1). To accomplish this, any quarter-quarter-quarter section (10-acre parcel) within or intersected by the site will be excluded from the parcel nominated.

**Action MR 6.1.3.1:** Based on Native American consultation, modifications to no surface occupancy near TCPs or TCP settings may produce recommendations for larger or smaller areas subject to no surface occupancy.

**Action MR 6.2:** Maintain 1,740,930 acres as not suitable for solid leasable minerals development and therefore closed. Areas not suitable to leasing (Figure 2-14, Appendix A):

- a. Designated WSA (policy);
- b. George Lund Petrified Forest mineral withdrawal (see Actions PR 1.6 and PR 1.7);
- c. Lovelock Cave right-of-way and proposed mineral withdrawal (Action LR 10.2);
- d. McDermitt Station Administrative Site right-of-way and proposed mineral withdrawal (Action LR 10.2);
- e. Within Priority Wildlife habitat areas and associated PMUs (see Actions SSS 5.2.1);
- f. Designated ACECs (see Action ACEC 1.2):
  1. Osgood Mountains ACEC (see Action SSS 3.5),
  2. Pine Forest,
  3. Raised Bog, and
  4. Stillwater (see also Action TC 2.2).
- g. Lands acquired under SNPLMA.
- h. Within priority watersheds that are T&E species habitat (see Action WR 3.2).
- i. Areas closed to OHV use (see Action R 10.1).
- j. Lands acquired under LWCF - automatically closed to all mineral location and entry.
- k. Lands acquired by exchange - closed to mineral location and entry for 90 days and automatically open if BLM doesn't initiate a withdrawal within that time period.
- l. Cultural sites listed on the NRHP.

**Action MR 6.2.1:** Offer solid mineral leases to within a quarter mile of a WSA or designated wilderness boundary. To accomplish this, any quarter-quarter section (40-acre parcel) intersected by and including a portion of such a boundary will be excluded from the parcel nominated (IM-NV-2004-093).

**Objective MR 7:** Manage solid mineral operations to provide for the mineral and energy needs of the nation, while assuring compatibility with and protection of other resources (per the Energy Policy Act of 2005) (USDI 2005).

**Action MR 7.1:** In addition to applicable lease stipulations, apply standard conditions of approval as necessary to reasonably protect other resources and meet resource objectives.

**Action MR 7.2:** Compliance inspections will meet existing policy and will be of sufficient frequency and detail to ensure appropriate protection of the public interest in production and resource values.

### **Surface Occupancy**

**Objective MR 8:** Allow appropriate occupancy (meeting the requirements of 43 CFR 3715 or other applicable regulations) on mineral development sites, while protecting resources and maintaining public access.

**Action MR 8.1:** Review proposed use and occupancy in conformance with law, regulation, and policy. Ensure that proposals conform to all applicable standards and are appropriate for the state of development of the associated project.

**Action MR 8.2:** Deny applications that fail to meet necessary standards. Restrict approvals with stipulations determined during the course of the interdisciplinary review to be necessary to reasonably protect other resources.

**Action MR 8.3:** Compliance inspections will meet policy and be of sufficient frequency and detail to ensure conformance with approved occupancy and appropriate protection of resource values.

### **Locatable Minerals**

**Objective MR 9:** Manage locatable mineral operations to provide for the mineral needs of the nation, while assuring compatibility with and protection of other resources and uses. Lands acquired will be managed in a manner consistent with the goals of the acquisition and the resource values present, in accordance with those actions described below and considering the management applied to adjacent public lands.

**Action MR 9.1:** Maintain 7,222,874 acres as open to locatable mineral development (Figure 2-15, Appendix A).

**Action MR 9.2:** Withdraw lands from locatable mineral development on a case-by-case basis only for the protection of important resource values. Limit the size of mineral withdrawals to what is necessary to protect the values requiring the mineral withdrawal (see Action LR 10.2).

Existing mineral withdrawals:

- a. Pine Forest; and
- b. George Lund Petrified Forest;

Lands recommended for mineral withdrawal at this time:

- a. Porter Springs (60 acres);
- b. Osgood Mountains Milkvetch ACEC;
- c. Enlarge the George Lund Petrified Forest mineral withdrawal to a total of 141 acres (see Action PR 1.7);
- d. Lovelock Cave (640 acres; LR 10.2);
- e. McDermitt Station Administration Site (9.12 acres; LR 10.2);
- f. Water Canyon; and

- g. Future designated Wilderness is expected to be closed to the General Mining Law.

**Action MR 9.2.1:** Review existing mineral withdrawals for their continued need as required by law or policy, presently every 20 years.

**Action MR 9.3:** Approve operations with stipulations developed during the course of the interdisciplinary review.

**Action MR 9.3.1:** The following areas will be generally open for acquiring the rights to locatable minerals, but proposals for mineral operations on the listed areas will typically require additional limitations or stipulations applied to authorizations. As presently known these cover 4,530,444 acres (see Figure 2-15, Appendix A).

- a. Designated WSA (43 CFR 3802 and BLM Manual 6330).
- b. Claims with valid existing rights within designated Wilderness (43 CFR 6304 and 43 CFR 3809.11[c][4]).
- c. Identified T&E species habitat (43 CFR 3809.11[c][6]).
- d. Designated ACECs (43 CFR 3809.11[c][3] and Action ACEC 1.2):
  1. Pine Forest
  2. Raised Bog
  3. Stillwater
  4. Osgood Mountains ACEC (unless withdrawn as proposed in Actions SSS 3.5 and LR 10.2).
- e. Within defined avoidance areas (See Action LR 5.2).
- f. Within Priority Habitat Areas and associated PMUs (See Actions SSS 5.2.1 and MR 9.4).
- g. Avoid tree control within a one-mile radius of documented active ferruginous hawk nests.
- h. No surface disturbance will be authorized before completion of a sensitive plant inventory of the project area by a qualified botanist (see Action SSS 3.2), which may be followed by Actions SSS 3.1 and MR 9.4.
- i. No mechanical surface disturbance or prescribed fire will be authorized before completion of a pygmy rabbit inventory of the project area by a qualified biologist (see Action SSS 6.1.1), which may be followed by Actions SSS 6.1 and MR 9.4.
- j. Priority watersheds (see Action WR 3.2).
- k. Within HMAs (see Objective WHB 4 and Action WHB 4.1).
- l. Within the location of cultural sites that are listed on the NRHP or that have been determined to be eligible for that listing (see Action CR 2.1.1).
- m. Within a mile of the NHT (see Action CR 6.11).
- n. Within an identified TCP listed or considered eligible for the NRHP (see Action TC 2.2.3).

- o. Within the location of identified paleontological resources classified as being of scientific or educational interest (see Action PR 1.6).
- p. Priority water supply areas (see Action WR 3.4).
- q. Areas in VRM Class I, II, or III (see Visual Resources Goal, Objective VRM 1, and Action VRM 1.1).
- r. Areas closed to OHV use (see Action R-10.1).
- s. Areas identified as containing segments of national scenic and historic trails.

**Action MR 9.3.2:** Based on Native American consultation, modifications to no surface occupancy near TCPs or TCP settings may produce recommendations for larger or smaller areas subject to no surface occupancy.

**Action MR 9.4:** Pursue off-site mitigation in accordance with applicable law, regulation, and policy as a last resort, such as if on-site options are not available for the impacted resource or use.

**Action MR 9.5:** Compliance inspections will meet policy and be of sufficient frequency and detail to ensure conformance with the notice or approved plan.

## RECREATION, VISITOR OUTREACH AND SERVICES (R)

**GOAL:** Recognize the increasing demand for recreational activities and manage public lands and waters to provide a broad spectrum of recreation experiences and benefits, while protecting natural and cultural resources.

**Objective R 1:** Further the public's understanding and appreciation of the vast, open, and undeveloped character of public lands.

**Action R 1.1:** Work with local interest groups and other non-government organizations (NGOs) to recruit volunteers to assist in developing and implementing recreational, interpretive, and environmental programs and outreach projects.

**Action R 1.2:** Foster the development of natural and cultural site volunteer, restoration, and stewardship programs and help maintain existing recreation assets and facilities.

**Objective R 2:** Increase public education and awareness of the ethics of responsible land and resource use.

**Action R 2.1:** Promote educational outreach programs, such as Tread Lightly! and Leave No Trace<sup>®</sup> through public contact, recreation, and tourism partners and the SRP system. Outreach to schools and cooperate with NDOW and other partners to promote education.

**Objective R 3:** Provide the public with a better understanding and appreciation of the area's natural, cultural, and biological resources. Include opportunities for viewing and interpreting these resources.

**Action R 3.1:** On a case-by-case basis, public information (publications and other media, tours, and programs) will be provided for those natural and cultural recreation sites

designated for public use (such as Lovelock Cave). Sensitive areas where increased visitation could create unacceptable changes or impacts on natural or cultural resources and sensitive species habitat will not be publicly promoted.

**Action R 3.2:** In cooperation with partners, local, state, federal, tribal governments and other resource specialists, maintain and enhance existing interpretive programs for the Lovelock Cave Backcountry Byway, Water Canyon, and others.

**Action R 3.3:** Coordinate with NDOW, SHPO, and other partners in the development of viewing and interpretive sites.

**Action R 3.4:** Nominate and prioritize suitable properties and develop site-specific interpretive plans.

**Objective R 4:** Build and maintain positive and productive relationships with local communities and user groups.

**Action R 4.1:** Develop visitor outreach programs in partnership with tribal groups, state and federal agencies, educational institutions, and other organizations.

**Objective R 5:** Use an adaptive management model to provide recreation experiences and protect resources.

**Action R 5.1:** Implement adaptive management to include the following:

1. Collect visitor use data through the use of traffic counters, visitor surveys, and other means.
2. Establish a visitor capacity framework (carrying capacities) for intensive use areas and primary recreation activity types.
3. Establish use limits of acceptable change to establish resource, social, and managerial thresholds.
4. Monitor impacts from recreational activities in order to protect resources. Implement mitigation measures based on monitoring results. Mitigation measures may include area closures, use restrictions, and buffer zones.
5. Implement volunteer stewardship and restoration programs.

**Objective R 6:** Manage public lands to provide dispersed recreation.

**Action R 6.1:** Manage 6,065,008 acres in the WD as an Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA).

**Action R 6.2:** Allow dispersed recreation throughout the ERMA using the following criteria:

1. Require visitors to use roads and trails for recreation activities and use disturbed areas for camping and parking off roads.
2. Limit camping to no longer than 14 days in any 28 day period. Any site on public lands within 25 air-miles is interpreted as being within the same area. Extensions

beyond the 14 day rule could be authorized for permitted uses on a case-by-case basis.

3. Prohibit camping or motorized use within 300 feet of spring sources, water holes, and facilities (see NRS 503.660).
4. Allow geocache activities provided acceptable resource and social conditions are maintained. Restrict or remove inappropriate geocaches at archaeological sites, sensitive habitats, and areas that pose a threat to human safety. Geocaching is not specifically addressed in BLM Manual #6330, however current direction under this manual is to discourage geocache activity under the aspects of creating new discretionary uses that may not be compatible with or prevent potential future wilderness designation.
5. Allow visitors to use only dead and down firewood for camping.
6. Subject to applicable regulations, allow casual use collection of rocks, minerals, and common invertebrate fossils for noncommercial use, except in the 141 acres of the Lund Petrified Forest. However, authorization may be required in areas experiencing resource degradation or depletion.
7. Open campfires will be allowed, restricted, or prohibited in accordance with applicable seasonal BLM fire restriction policies.
8. On playa surfaces, require the use of surface protecting devices, such as an elevated platform, open grill, fire blanket, or fire pan.

**Action R 6.3:** Allow recreational shooting on public lands except where prohibited by statute.

**Objective R 7:** Continue to manage and provide water-based recreation.

**Action R 7.1:** Inventory and develop water-based recreation on public lands in coordination with NDOW and other interested publics.

**Action R 7.2:** Provide access to water-based recreational resources.

**Action R 7.3:** In conjunction with NDOW, provide information about fishable waters in the WD.

**Objective R 8:** Designate and manage four special recreation management areas and RMZs to correspond with recreation strategies.

**Action R 8.1:** Pursue partnerships using available instruments (MOU, Cooperative and Assistance agreements) to partner with non-BLM entities to accomplish management objectives.

**Action R 8.2:** Anticipate future needs; monitor, and when a demonstrated need indicates, construct appropriate new facilities in such a way as to be unobtrusive (VRM) with local landscape settings.

**Action R 8.3:** Continue to maintain existing facilities in Water Canyon and on the Bloody Shins trail network.

**Action R 8.4:** Coordinate with local state, tribal, and federal agencies and other partners in the development of recreation implementation plans.

**Action R 8.5:** Protect resources and resolve user conflicts within SRMA using use restrictions, permit stipulations, or mitigation measures.

**Action R 8.6:** Manage four SRMAs in the WD—Nightingale, Winnemucca, Pine Forest, and Granite Range SRMAs.

**Action R 8.6.1:** Manage the Nightingale SRMA—925,638 acres (see Figure 2-16, Appendix A) for the following:

Landscapes that appear natural but have primitive roads, improved dirt roads (BLM system roads and county maintained roads), fences, and utility lines (925,593 acres). Motorized and mechanized use is present, with relatively low use. Restrictions for resource protection and visitor safety will apply. Facilities such as signs at key access points, marked and maintained trails, simple trail head developments, and rustic campground and toilets, will be constructed and maintained as needs are identified. Motorized trails may be constructed, relocated, or closed so as to mitigate human-caused impacts. If conflict among different uses occurs or increased volume of use necessitates, trails may be developed to separate different user types or times, and locations for certain modes of travel may be assigned. Competitive, commercial, and organized recreational use will be managed using a class system geared to proposed use, size, location, and time of year.

Manage for these experience opportunities: The opportunity for isolation is present, but affiliation with others is to be expected. Recreational activities require a high interaction with the natural world and a strong dependency on equipment, outdoor, and competitive skills, along with associated challenge and risk.

The primary strategy for the Nightingale SRMA is to target the undeveloped recreation-tourism market demand for distinctive types of dispersed recreation in an open and undeveloped setting.

Delineate five RMZs (Appendix C) within the Nightingale SRMA (see Figure 2-17, Appendix A):

- 1) Zone 1 RMZ: Selenite Mountains WSA (32,041 acres) and Mount Limbo WSA (23,702 acres)

**Recreation niche:** Self-directed recreational adventure, challenge, and exploration in rugged and natural terrain.

**Primary activities include** hiking, camping, and hunting. Motorized travel limited to existing routes at the time of WSA designation.

**Management objective:** To provide opportunities for residents and seasonal visitors to engage in a variety of recreational activities in a manner that maintains the area's suitability for preservation as wilderness.



2) Zone 2 RMZ: Blue Wing and Shawave Mountains (59,738 acres)

**Recreation niche:** Self-directed recreational trekking, adventure, challenge, and exploration in rugged and natural terrain that is remote and largely accessible only on foot.

**Primary activities include** hiking, back-packing, camping, nature and scenic vista viewing.

**Management objectives:** To provide opportunities for residents and seasonal visitors to engage in rugged recreational activities in a near-wilderness setting without the complex restrictive philosophy of “wilderness”.

3) Zone 3 RMZ: Blue Wing and Winnemucca Lake Playa areas (34,511 acres)

**Recreation niche:** These playas are among the flattest natural features on earth, and as such they provide for diverse recreational opportunities unavailable elsewhere in a natural setting.

**Primary activities include** individual participation in activities such as camping, land sailing, and ATV riding and large group, competitive, and commercial events, such as land speed records, art gatherings, community Independence Day celebrations, and high-powered rocketry.

**Management objectives:** To provide opportunities for residents and seasonal visitors to engage in recreation in a remote natural setting in such a way (permits and use agreements) that inspires, instructs, and educates participants in the ways of preserving these geologic phenomena and surrounding environments.

4) Zone 4 RMZ: Porter Springs (617 acres)

**Recreation niche:** A desert oasis with tall trees, freshwater springs, and remnants of mid-twentieth century mining activity.

**Primary activities include** heritage recreation and the opportunity to view wild horses and burros and a variety of migratory birds.

**Management objectives:** Maintain, protect, and provide stewardship for the natural and cultural resources of Porter Springs and provide for valuable recreation opportunities.

5) Zone 5: RMZ (773,968 acres)

**Recreation niche:** Remote motorized (on designated routes), mechanized, and nonmechanized access into scenic, natural, and vast open spaces. Serves as a departure point or area for challenge, exploration, and recreation in backcountry and near-primitive setting.

**Primary activities include** OHV, 4X4, and motorcycle travel and events, hiking, camping, orienting, hunting, wild horse and burro viewing, and wildlife and scenery photography.

**Management objectives:** To provide opportunities for sustainable motorized, mechanized, and nonmechanized access to backcountry settings and to take

advantage of the inherent opportunities for interpretation and environmental, heritage, and outdoor ethics education.

**Action R 8.6.2:** Manage the Winnemucca SRMA—151,824 acres (see Figure 2-18, Appendix A).

The Winnemucca SRMA will be managed to ensure the continuance of public use and enjoyment for a variety of recreational uses and activities while protecting municipal water supply (See Objective WR 3). Visitor services related to information, interpretation, facility development and maintenance, and safety will be improved as needed. In addition, emphasis will be placed on protecting the natural and remote characteristics of these areas.

The primary strategy will be to target a destination recreation or tourism demand for specific activity, experience, and benefit opportunities.

**Action R 8.6.2.1:** Delineate six RMZs (Appendix C) within the Winnemucca SRMA (see Figure 2-19, Appendix A):

1) Water Canyon RMZ: Zone 1 – Lowland 121 acres

**Recreation niche:** Close to town access to developed campsites, day-use picnic areas, interpretive and short hiking trails, and mountain bike routes.

**Primary activities include** family and small group picnics, overnight camping, hiking, hunting, bike riding, horseback riding, and OHV use.

**Management objectives:** To provide opportunities for community residents and seasonal regional visitors to engage in both day and overnight mechanized and nonmechanized recreational use (motorized travel in Zone 1 is restricted to street-legal vehicles and snowmobiles on the main canyon road), while protecting and preserving water quality, wildlife, and wildlife habitat.

2) Water Canyon RMZ: Zone 2 - Upland 2,579 acres

**Recreation niche:** Quick access from town to middle or backcountry recreational opportunities, challenge, adventure, and exploration.

**Primary activities include** mountain bike riding, walking and hiking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, jogging, horseback riding, motorcycle and ATV riding, paintball games, and hunting.

**Management objectives:** Provide opportunities for community residents and seasonal regional visitors to engaged in mechanized and nonmechanized recreation in a middle or backcountry setting while protecting water quality and wildlife habitat.

3) Bloody Shins RMZ: Zone 3, 13,084 acres

**Recreation niche:** Quick easy access from town and 21 miles of beginner, intermediate, advanced single track mountain bike trails. In addition, numerous 2-tracks and “cow trails” in the area are also used for ATV use, jogging, walking pets, and horseback riding.

**Primary activities include** mountain bike riding and competitive and community sponsored events, hiking, jogging, OHV and horseback riding.

**Management objectives:** To provide for opportunities for close-to-town motorized, mechanized and nonmechanized recreation, and to assist, educate, and inform the general public about mountain bike and ATV ethics, impact, and responsibilities with regards to effective management of public lands.

4) Sonoma Range RMZ: Zone 4, 91,156 acres

**Recreation niche:** Close to town motorized access for scenic natural open space appreciation and a staging area for self-directed primitive mode challenge, exploration, and adventure.

**Primary activities include** mountain bike riding and competitive and community sponsored events, hiking, jogging, OHV and horseback riding.

**Management objectives:** To provide opportunities for community residents and seasonal regional visitors to engage in a variety of recreational activities in a semi-primitive to backcountry setting.

5) Winnemucca Mountain RMZ: Zone 5, 10,119 acres

**Recreation niche:** Paved road access to scenic overlook.

**Primary Activities include** auto touring, road bike hill climb, photography, geocache.

**Management objectives:** To provide opportunities for community residents and seasonal regional visitors to engage in a variety of recreational activities including sightseeing, road bike hill climb, hiking, jogging, paragliding and hang gliding.

6) Winnemucca Sand Dunes RMZ: Zone 6, 34,922 acres

**Recreation niche:** Close to town OHV use on an expansive low lying sand dune complex.

**Primary activities include** OHV use and RV camping.

**Management objectives:** To provide opportunities for community residents and seasonal regional visitors to engage in trail-less OHV activities on sand while promoting ATV ethics, protecting sensitive areas and respecting the rights of private property owners.

**Action R 8.6.3:** Increase the Pine Forest SRMA (from 37,259 acres to 98,874 acres; see Figure 2-20, Appendix A). Manage for continuance of public use and enjoyment for a variety of recreational uses and activities. Visitor services related to information, interpretation, facility development and maintenance, and safety will be improved as needed. In addition, emphasis will be placed on complementing BLM Manual #6340 management direction for the Pine Forest Range Wilderness.

**Action R 8.6.3.1:** Continue to maintain existing facilities at Blue Lakes and Onion Reservoir.

**Action R 8.6.3.2:** Manage the Pine Forest SRMA three RMZs (Appendix C). Within the Pine Forest SRMA (see Figure 2-21, Appendix A), delineate the:

- 1) Pine Forest Lakes RMZ: Zone 1, 26,204 acres

**Recreation niche:** Self-directed recreational adventure, challenge, and exploration in rugged, natural and high altitude terrain.

**Primary activities include** hiking, exploring, backpacking, hunting and fishing, and primitive camping.

**Management objectives:** To provide opportunities for residents and seasonal regional visitors to engage in a variety of recreational activities in a manner that maintains the area's suitability for preservation as wilderness.

- 2) Pine Forest Creeks RMZ: Zone 2, 72,437 acres

**Recreation niche:** Moderately challenging access to primitive campground with vault toilets.

**Primary activities include** hiking, camping, hunting and fishing, and canoeing.

**Management objectives:** To provide opportunities for residents and seasonal regional visitors to engage in a variety of recreational activities in an alpine setting. The BLM will work in conjunction with NDOW and other interested partners to maintain and protect the reservoirs' fish population and setting. Primitive campgrounds and facilities will be established to direct overnight use to appropriate areas.

- 3) Knott Creek RMZ: Zone 3, 197 acres

**Recreation niche:** Moderately challenging access to primitive camping in an alpine setting.

**Primary Activities include** hiking, camping, hunting and fishing, and canoeing.

**Management objectives:** To provide opportunities for residents and seasonal regional visitors to engage in a variety of recreational activities in an alpine setting. The BLM will work in conjunction with NDOW and other interested partners to maintain and protect the reservoirs' fish population and setting. Primitive campgrounds and facilities will be established to direct overnight use to appropriate areas.

**Action R 8.6.4:** Designate the Granite Range SRMA (44,911 acres; see Figure 2-22, Appendix A).

**Management objective:** Recreation information will be provided to the public through maps, brochures, publications and other media to ensure public awareness of available recreation opportunities, to promote public health and safety, and prevent resource deterioration.

All marketing efforts will be appropriate for the ROS class of each specific RMZ.

**Action R 8.6.4.1:** Private entities will be encouraged to develop visitor facilities in the Granite Range SRMA. Visitor services related to information, interpretation, facility development and maintenance, and safety will be developed as the need and opportunity arises. All facilities will be developed, located and designed in such a way as to be consistent with preserving the character of the adjacent Black Rock Desert High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area.

The Primary Market Based Strategy will be a ‘Destination Strategy’ recognizing that national or regional visitors and constituents value the surrounding public lands as a recreation-tourism opportunity.

Delineate two RMZs (Appendix C) within the Granite Range SRMA (see Figure 2-22, Appendix A):

1) RMZ: Zone 1, Granite Foothills 1,443 acres

**Recreation Niche:** Serves as an ideal area for visitor, staff, and maintenance facilities for the surrounding public lands. This zone also contains a site of ‘Americana Art’ known as “Doobie Lane” or Guru Road. It is a mile long stretch of inscribed rocks and desert inspired structures.

**Primary activities include:** Visiting Doobie Lane, hiking, and gaining access to the Black Rock Desert and areas north.

**Management objectives:** Encourage and promote partnerships using available instruments (MOUs and cooperative or assistance agreements) to partner with non-BLM entities to provide visitor services.

2) RMZ: Zone 2, Granite 43,468 acres

**Recreation niche:** Self-directed recreational trekking, adventure, challenge, and exploration in rugged and natural terrain that is remote and largely accessible only on foot.

**Primary activities are** hiking, back-packing, camping, and viewing nature and scenic vistas.

**Management objectives:** To provide opportunities for residents and seasonal visitors to engage in rugged recreation, in a near-wilderness setting, without the complex restrictive philosophy of “wilderness”.

**Action R 8.7:** Continue to evaluate new RMZs and SRMAs.

**Objective R 9:** Provide for commercial activities, competitive events, and organized groups while minimizing adverse environmental impacts.

**Action R 9.1:** Authorization of SRPs will continue to be considered on a case-by-case basis on receipt of application, site specific NEPA analysis and implementation of all the following criteria. In the future a District-wide SRP Policy will be implemented to set criteria for recreation permits.

**Action R 9.1.1:** Protect natural and cultural resources by limiting the size, disturbance or number of attendees in group SRPs.

**Action R 9.1.1.1:** Issue group SRPs on a case-by-case basis.

**Action R 9.1.2:** Protect natural and cultural resources by limiting disturbance and the number of competitive off-road events allowed in a fiscal year.

**Objective R 10:** Designate OHV Management Areas as Open, Closed or Limited (Figure 2-23 and Figure 2-24, Appendix A) based on protection of resources, promotion of user safety, and minimization of conflicts among various uses of the public lands.

**Open:** Open areas means an area where all types of vehicle use is permitted at all times, anywhere in the area subject to operating regulations and vehicle standards set forth in 43CFR 8340: subparts 8341 and 8342.

**Limited:** Limited areas means an area is restricted at certain times, in certain areas, or to certain vehicular use. These restrictions may be of any type, but can generally be accommodated within the following type of categories: number of vehicles; types of vehicles; time or season of vehicle use; permitted or licensed use only; use on existing roads and trails; use on designated roads and trails; and other restrictions.

**Closed:** Closed area means an area where off-road vehicle use is prohibited. Use of off-road vehicles in closed areas may be allowed for certain reason; however such use shall be made only with the approval of the authorized officer.

**Action R 10.1:** Designate areas as open, limited, and closed to OHV travel (Figure 2-23, Appendix A).

**Closed:** 26,345 acres (see Figure 2-24, Appendix A):

- Close reclaimed leach pads at mineral mine sites to OHV use.
- 141 acres of the George W. Lund Petrified Forest is closed to OHV travel.
- 27,551 acres in the Pine Forest Range Wilderness is closed to OHV travel.
- Close OCTA Class I segments of NHT to OHV use.

**Open:** 288,105 acres (see Figure 2-23, Appendix A)

**Limited:** 6,900,236 acres – All other acres see Figure 2-23, Appendix A):

- Designate culturally sensitive areas as “limited” for OHV use.
- Designate 5,650 acres around Lovelock Cave and Lovelock Cave Backcountry Byway as “limited” for OHV use.
- Designate OCTA Class II, III, IV, and V segments of NHT and the trail viewshed as “limited” for OHV use.
- Designate Water Canyon as “limited” for OHV use.

- Critical habitat in the Granite Range (4,555 acres), and any other bighorn habitats within the Granite Range deemed appropriate on an annual basis during bighorn sheep lambing season (February 1-May 31).
- Seasonal closure to protect shorebird habitat: Continental (4,532 acres) and Gridley Lake (473 acres) playas.

**Action R 10.2:** Update the-Transportation Plan through subsequent implementation-level plans completed primarily along watershed boundaries. Transportation planning may move ahead of the watershed analysis process where the need for vehicle route designation is a greater priority than other watershed management needs. If an area's OHV use designation changes, motorized travel for that area will not change until site-specific implementation plans and route designations are complete.

The planning process is described as follows:

- Establish an interdisciplinary team to ensure broad participation from a variety of resources;
- Define the goals and objectives of the proposed Travel and Transportation Management Plan;
- From inventory data, complete a map of the proposed planning area and identify the baseline of roads, primitive roads, and trails. As road and trail data is collected, the interdisciplinary review team will analyze each route and recommend designations within the specific watershed based on the criteria below (other criteria will be added as new issues develop in different watersheds over time; in addition to recommending designations for existing routes, the review team may recommend the development of new roads or trails based on the same criteria):
  - Route redundancy,
  - Wildlife habitat needs – integrate concepts of habitat connectivity into off-highway vehicle planning to minimize habitat fragmentation,
  - Visual resource management class objectives,
  - Recreation opportunities,
  - Administrative needs,
  - Public access needs,
  - Special management areas,
  - Cultural resources, and
  - Riparian and wetland resources;
- Hold public scoping meetings. Notify the public of the meetings through local media, as appropriate, to reach the potentially affected public. Involve Resource Advisory Councils, local government, state and federal agencies, gateway communities, local motorized and non-motorized user group clubs as applicable to the planning area. Notify the meeting attendees of the objective of the proposed

plan, using maps and other appropriate materials to facilitate discussion regarding public issues, concerns, and access needs;

- Produce a map depicting the designated roads, primitive roads, and trails available for use; and
- Implement decisions on the ground. Rehabilitate roads that have been identified through the process as closed to motorized traffic on a case-by-case basis to discourage continued motorized use. In addition, place signs and barriers and produce public maps and other appropriate forms of education and communication to inform the public of updated route designations.

**Action R 10.3:** Inventory and designate routes and trails in OHV-limited areas, using the following criteria:

- Areas and trails will be located or relocated to minimize damage of resources and prevent impairment of wilderness suitability;
- Areas and trails will be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitats with special attention given to protect 'T&E species' and their habitat; and
- Areas and trails will be located to minimize conflicts between off road vehicle use and other existing or proposed uses.

Until route inventories and designations are completed, OHV use will be limited to existing roads and trails, except when cross country travel is needed for safety, required for federal, state, and local administrative needs, as authorized by a permit for big game retrieval, or as otherwise officially approved.

**Action R 10.4:** Allow exceptions to closed and limited areas for administrative, emergency services, mineral operations and ranching related maintenance on a case-by-case basis.

**Action R 10.5:** Designate all WSAs as limited to designated routes and ways as identified at the time of the wilderness inventory (per guidance from BLM Manual 6330).

**Action R 10.6:** Protect sensitive species habitat, cultural and natural resources within open and limited areas using adaptive management tools.

## **RENEWABLE ENERGY (RE)**

**GOAL:** Provide opportunities for the development of renewable energy resources, while minimizing adverse impacts on other resource values.

**Objective RE 1:** Provide public lands for the development of renewable energy while protecting the natural resources.

**Action RE 1.1:** Lease public lands for the development of renewable energy, including wind energy, biomass, and solar in accordance with current Department of Interior and BLM directives. Reduce undue adverse environmental impacts through development of lease stipulations and mitigation measures.



**Action RE 1.2:** Designate avoidance areas (Figure 2-26, Appendix A; 1,773,199 acres) to protect resources. The granting of ROWs or the leasing of public lands for renewable energy projects in avoidance areas will require special stipulations to mitigate any impact to resources (See Appendix O).

**Action RE 1.3:** Designate exclusion zones (Figure 2-27, Appendix A; 1,199,539 acres) where no overhead transmission lines and ROWs for energy projects will be allowed.

**Action RE 1.4:** Authorize ROWs by applying appropriate BMPs, land use restrictions, stipulations, and mitigation measures (e.g., BLM 2005c).

## **TRANSPORTATION AND TRAVEL MANAGEMENT (TA)**

**GOAL: Develop transportation systems and facilities that are safe and responsive to public needs; affordably and efficiently managed for management objectives; and have a minimal ecological effect on the land.**

**Objective TA 1:** Reduce flood and sediment damage caused by improperly maintained and improperly located system roads, recreation trails and ROW grants through an active road construction, maintenance, stipulation and monitoring program (see BMPs and SOPs, Appendix B).

**Action TA 1.1:** When a FLPMA ROW has been issued to a local governmental agency for “the existing footprint of an existing roadway,” the local government standards will apply to prevent resource damage.

**Action TA 1.2:** Maintain BLM system roads in accordance with the BLM Roads Maintenance Manual.

**Action TA 1.3:** Identify roads that are necessary for fire suppression and determine functional classification or maintenance level as appropriate for the need.

**Action TA 1.4:** Develop Road Maintenance Agreements and funding accounts on system roads where primary users are identified and consistently have a need for a higher level road use or maintenance standard than BLM’s.

**Action TA 1.5:** Continue to promote cooperation with all public road entities to ensure consistent road maintenance measures to reduce impacts on the environment.

**Action TA 1.6:** Issue Temporary Road Use Permits or associated fee schedule or maintenance agreements for permitted activities that use BLM roads for commodity commercial uses that are deemed to have a disproportionate adverse impact on system roads.

**Action TA 1.7:** Minimize the spread of invasive and noxious plants along all roads in the WD through active weed abatement programs. Require mitigation measures to prevent the spread of invasive and noxious plants.

**Action TA 1.8:** Avoid the duplication of roads that have common destinations.

**Action TA 1.9:** Retain legal access for public and BLM use when land sales or exchanges occur.

**Action TA 1.10:** Include appropriate road design criteria on new non-BLM road ROW grants.

**Action TA 1.11:** Include appropriate design criteria on new BLM system roads.

**Action TA 1.12:** Review BLM functional classifications and maintenance levels for system roads to evaluate access or mitigate impacts on all resources.

**Action TA 1.13:** Use temporary road closures during wet seasons for safety and to minimize sediment erosion impacts and localized damage to the road resources.

**Action TA 1.14:** Conduct condition assessments for all WD roads and facilities.

**Action TA 1.15:** Improve, reroute or decommission system roads identified in the road inventory that are causing adverse impacts to the environment.

**Objective TA 2:** Provide access to public lands through road maintenance and easement acquisition.

**Action TA 2.1:** Obtain easements across private lands from willing owners for current and new BLM system roads.

**Action TA 2.2:** Require and/or encourage counties to obtain FLPMA ROWs on all roads on public lands currently being maintained by the county.

**Objective TA 3:** Provide for public safety awareness through sign installation and maintenance programs while protecting the viewshed.

**Action TA 3.1:** Provide regulatory signing as outlined in BLM Manuals, Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices on all BLM roads within the WD.

**Action TA 3.2:** Install signs on the ground with road numbers consistent with the WD recreation map.

**Action TA 3.3:** Develop and implement a WD sign plan.

**Action TA 3.4:** Install signage in WSAs as necessary.

**Objective TA 4:** Analyze and determine appropriate road densities and locations within wildlife habitat, through coordination with NDOW.

**Action TA 4.1:** Protect sensitive wildlife habitats by closing, relocating or decommissioning roads or trails to meet resource objectives and achieve the appropriate road density.

**Action TA 4.2:** Provide alternative public access that will minimize the effect on sensitive species.

**Action TA 4.3:** Apply seasonal restrictions, temporary closures, or remove, reroute or rehab roads or trails that adversely impact wildlife habitat or populations.

**Objective TA 5:** Provide safe, sanitary facilities for the public in recreation areas.

**Action TA 5.1:** Install facilities based on identifying impacts from visiting public in heavily used recreation sites.

**Action TA 5.1.1:** Submit Capital Improvement Projects for funding.

**Action TA 5.1.2:** Install or construct fire rings, restroom facilities and other dispersed recreation facilities for all sites identified.

## LANDS AND REALTY (LR)

**GOAL:** Retain, dispose (through sales and exchanges), or acquire public lands for public benefit, in order to consolidate lands patterns, ensure effective administration, improve resource management, maintain public values and access to public lands, and promote community development. Acquire land and conservation easements to protect resources, improve administration, and provide for public access and recreational opportunities. Meet public needs for use authorizations such as rights-of-way (ROWs), leases, and permits, while minimizing adverse impacts on other resources. Process withdrawal actions as requested by BLM or other federal agencies, and resolve trespass issues when arise.

**Objective LR 1:** Retain public lands as required by the FLPMA.

**Action LR 1.1:** Retain 5,931,380 acres of public lands except those identified for disposal and that meet the disposal criteria (Figure 2-28, Appendix A) (see Action LR 2.2).

**Action LR 1.2:** Retain public lands identified in the Paradise-Denio (L 1.1) and Sonoma-Gerlach (L 1.3, L 2.1 and L 2.2.) MFPs in federal ownership until disposal of these lands can occur under R&PP applications or other appropriate authorities.

**Action LR 1.2.1:** From the Sonoma-Gerlach MFP L 1.4: The following lands will be retained in public ownership and managed as a dispersion exclusion zone for the liquefied natural gas plant near Lovelock, Nevada:

T 27 N, R 30 E,  
Sec. 12 SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>,  
Sec. 14 NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

**Action LR 1.3:** Retain in public ownership lands within wellhead protection areas (municipal watersheds). Non-public lands in these municipal watersheds will be given priority for acquisition:

- Winnemucca (hydrologic basin for Water Canyon Creek);
- Golconda (hydrologic basin for Pole Creek);
- Imlay (hydrologic basin for Prince Royal Canyon);

- Lovelock (Oreana subbasin);
- Gerlach;
- Fernley; and
- Empire.

**Action LR 1.4:** Check boundaries of all expanding subdivisions and of isolated dwellings for encroachment and take action as necessary.

**Objective LR 2:** Make available for disposal (through sale or exchange) those public lands where disposal provides for public benefit, public lands that have little or no resource value and that consolidates BLM land patterns to ensure effective administration, improve resource management and promote community development. Access to other public lands will be reserved to the US, if appropriate.

**Action LR 2.1:** If suitable, dispose of 1,298,554 acres of public lands through sale or exchange, except those identified for retention.

**Action LR 2.2:** Any land disposal must meet all of the following land disposal criteria unless otherwise noted:

- a. All lands considered potentially suitable for sale must meet one or more of the criteria outlined in Section 203(a) of FLPMA and is identified by legal description in this document. An interest in land reserved to the US may be conveyed to the patent holder, pursuant to Section 203 (a) of FLPMA, if it is determined to be in the public interest. See Figure 2-28, Appendix A.
- b. The land is designated as suitable for disposal in this Resource Management Plan.
- c. The land does not contain important wetlands or riparian wildlife habitat, other water resources, significant cultural resources, recreational values, or national historic or scenic trails.
- d. Disposal of the land would not adversely impact the manageability of remaining public lands.
- e. Disposal of the land would not adversely impact the public's access to remaining public lands.
- f. The lands are not essential to candidate, listed or proposed threatened or endangered species or identified as priority wildlife habitat.
- g. No public lands that contain water improvements, such as guzzlers, would be disposed of unless the buyer is willing to relocate the water improvement, at the buyer's sole and complete cost, to a location deemed suitable by BLM and NDOW.
- h. No lands that are classified as VRM Class II due the proximity of the National Historic System of Trails would be disposed of.
- i. Disposal of the land is deemed to be in the public's interest.

**Action LR 2.3:** Site-specific decisions regarding land ownership adjustments for the WD will be made based on the following criteria through the environmental process (criteria list is not considered all-inclusive but represents the major factors to be evaluated when considering acquisition actions):

- a. Public resource values or concerns, including but not limited to threatened, endangered or BLM or Nevada sensitive species habitat; riparian areas; flood plains and wetlands; fisheries; nesting or breeding habitat.
- b. Accessibility of the land for public uses.
- c. Suitability and need for change in land ownership, for management and use by other state and federal agencies.
- d. Cultural resources.

**Action LR 2.4:** Lands that are disposed of through the Desert Land Act must meet the additional criteria of containing soils identified as Irrigated Land Capability Class of I, II, or III and must possess adequate water, as determined by the State of Nevada Water Engineer.

**Action LR 2.5:** Dispose of Split estate lands identified for disposal in this RMP on a case-by-case basis in conformance with FLPMA.

**Action LR 2.6:** Make land tenure adjustments to address requests by local governments in conformance with FLPMA and BLM policy and guidance.

**Action LR 2.7:** Those lands that are leased to local and state governmental entities or nonprofit agencies through the R&PP may be disposed of to that governmental or nonprofit entity without meeting all of the criteria listed above if the disposal of the R&PP leased lands is in the interest of the public (e.g., if the land is a landfill, shooting range, or other hazmat site).

**Action LR 2.8:** Review all proposed disposals of public lands and reserve any needed legal access to the remaining public lands.

**Action LR 2.9:** The lands described for disposal herein are hereby classified for conveyance purposes under the Carey Act, R&PP Act, as amended, Indian Allotments, and Desert Land Entry Acts in accordance with Section 7 of the Taylor Grazing Act, 43 USC, 315f, and Executive Order 6910.

**Action LR 2.10:** Based on Congressional approval, the following lands, including the Fort McDermitt Tribe cemetery (approximately 16,785.64 acres), will be eligible for transfer to the Bureau of Indian Affairs or Fort McDermitt Tribe:

**T 47 N, R 37 E:**

- Sec. 11: S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>,
- Sec. 12: SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>,
- Sec. 13: NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>,
- Sec. 14: E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>,
- Sec. 24: S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>,

Sec. 25: N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>,

Sec. 36: NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

**T 47 N, R 38 E:**

Sec. 1: Lots 1, 2, 5, 6, 7, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 2: NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>;

Sec. 3: S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>;

Sec. 4: Lot 11, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 5: Lot 1;

Sec. 6: Lot 6;

Sec. 7: Lots 6, 7, 8;

Sec. 9: E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 10: All;

Sec. 11: NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 12: Lots 4, 5, 10, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

Sec. 13: Lots 1, 5, 6 and 10;

Sec. 14: N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 15: N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>;

Sec. 16: Lots 5, 6, 14, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 18: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 19: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

Sec. 22: W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>;

Sec. 23: E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>;

Sec. 24: E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 25: N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>;

Sec. 26: N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>;

Sec. 27: N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>;

Sec. 30: Lots: 1, 2, 3, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

**T 48 N, R 38 E:**

Sec. 36: Lots 5, 6.

**T 47 N, R 39 E:**

Sec. 5: Lot 17, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 6: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 15, 17, 18, 20, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 7: Lots 1, 2, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 8: NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 9: Lots 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 16: E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, S<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 17: Lots 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 18: Lots 5, 6, 7, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 19: Lots 2, 3, 4, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>;

Sec. 20: All;

Sec. 21: All;

Sec. 28: All;

Sec. 29: All;

Sec. 30: Lots 1, 2, 3, 4, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>;

Sec. 31: Lot 1;

Sec. 32: NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>;

Sec. 33: NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

Based on Congressional approval, the following lands (approximately 1,813.32 acres) will be eligible for transfer to the Bureau of Indian Affairs or Pyramid Lake Tribe.

Pyramid Lake:

**T. 24 N., R. 23 E.**, sec. 13, lots 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14; sec. 22, lots 5-8, inclusive, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; sec. 24, lots 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14; sec. 26, lots 4, 5, 6, 7, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, W<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; sec. 27, lot 5; sec. 36, E<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>, SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>NW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SW<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>.

**T. 23 N., R. 23 E.**, sec. 2, lots 1, 7; sec. 12, lots 1, 4, 5, 7, NE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, N<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>, SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>SE<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>; sec. 24, lot 1.

Based on Congressional approval, the following lands (approximately 941.11 acres) will be eligible for transfer to the Bureau of Indian Affairs or Summit Lake Tribe.

Summit Lake:

**T. 42 N., R. 25 E.**, sec. 35, lots 1-10, inclusive; sec. 36, lots 5-16, inclusive.

**Objective LR 3:** Acquire lands or land rights that substantially enhance or improve BLM's management of public resources or provide for public needs.

**Action LR 3.1:** Acquire lands that are environmentally sensitive, provide public access for recreation opportunities not otherwise available or contain areas of critical cultural or historic values.

**Action LR 3.1.1:** All water rights associated with any lands to be acquired will be verified through the State Engineers Office. The BLM will only purchase those water rights that support the purpose of the land acquisition.

**Action LR 3.1.2:** The following criteria list is not considered all-inclusive but represents the major factors to be evaluated when considering acquisition actions:

- a. Lands or interests in lands would be acquired by BLM on a willing buyer or willing seller basis.
- b. Private lands or interests in private lands to be acquired by BLM would be subject to consultation and coordination procedures with tribal governments and local county officials before completion of the acquisition.
- c. Private lands or interests in private lands to be acquired by BLM would: 1) provide access to public lands; 2) block up federal lands ownership patterns or otherwise serve to improve management of the public lands; 3) contain important natural resources, cultural resources, or habitat; or 4) serve other public purposes.
- d. Public resource values or concerns, including but not limited to: threatened, endangered, or BLM or state sensitive species habitat; riparian areas; floodplains and wetlands; fisheries; nesting or breeding habitat for game and non-game birds or animals; key big game seasonal habitat; wild horse and burro habitat; developed recreation and recreation access sites; municipal watersheds; energy and mineral potential; visual resources; cultural resources; paleontology; Native American TCPs; cultural resource sites eligible for inclusion on the NRHP; wilderness and areas being studied for wilderness; and other statutory-authorized designations.
- e. Accessibility of land for public uses.
- f. Suitability and need for change in land ownership, for management and use by other State and Federal Agencies.
- g. Lands acquired would be in fee simple title. Acquisition of split estate lands would be made on a case-by-case basis.
- h. The availability of funding to properly manage the acquired lands.
- i. The likelihood for partnerships.

Acquisition of land and interest using funds authorized under Acts such as SNPLMA and the Land and Water Conservation Fund are completed for special purposes and require special management considerations to protect the resource values on these lands. Following acquisition, before land use changes, a parcel-specific, activity level management plan and associated NEPA document will be prepared to address future management of said lands.

**Action LR 3.1.3:** Lands acquired will be managed in a manner consistent with adjacent or nearby lands, or managed for the goals, objectives, and standards for which they were acquired. For SNPLMA and Land and Water Conservation Fund acquisitions, in-holdings acquired within Wilderness Areas will automatically become wilderness and be managed in accordance with BLM Manual 6340 and 43 CFR, Part 8560. Lands acquired through Bureau of Reclamation relinquishment of withdrawals will be managed in a manner consistent with



adjacent or nearby public lands. Lands purchased within an existing ACEC become part of the ACEC.

**Action LR 3.1.4:** Prioritize the acquisition of in holdings within Wilderness, WSAs, and ISA.

**Action LR 3.2:** Acquire conservation easements where appropriate based on at least one or more of the following criteria:

- a. The land is an active agricultural operation. Since the primary purpose of the conservation easement is to preserve productive agricultural lands, it is critical that property is an operating farm or capable of being part of a viable farm operation.
- b. The land is subject to imminent threat of development, and protection is in conformance with the local county master plan. The master plan contemplates the transfer or purchase of development rights on certain agricultural lands, and that high density development would occur in “receiving areas.”
- c. The land contains important wetlands or riparian wildlife habitat.
- d. The agricultural character of the land enhances scenic values.
- e. The landowner is willing to sell a recreational access easement on the property. It may be in the public interest to acquire access where such access does not interfere with the conservation purpose of the easement.
- f. The land is of sufficient parcel size to be considered.
- g. The land contains important cultural or historic values that would be protected by the acquisition.
- h. The landowner is willing to discount the sale of the conservation easement to BLM. In many cases, it is in the landowner’s interest to sell only a part of a conservation easement, and donate the remainder to a private land trust or other public entity as a tax benefit. Acquiring the conservation easement at a fraction of the value allows BLM to purchase more easements which is in the public interest.
- i. The land has other unique values and acquisition would be in the public interest.
- j. The acquisition has the approval of local governments.

**Objective LR 4:** Exchange public lands if the exchange serves the public interest and conforms with Section 206 of FLPMA.

**Action LR 4.1:** Reserve or convey through sale or exchange minerals in accordance with Section 209 of FLPMA.

**Action LR 4.2:** Acquire private lands or property and dispose of public land through exchange if it will provide for the public interest and that consolidates land patterns to ensure effective administration, improve resource management and promotes community development. Lands acquired or disposed of will be subject to the applicable acquisition and disposal sections of the RMP.

**GOAL: Grant ROW over public lands with the protection of natural resources.****Objective LR 5:** Manage Utility Corridors and delineated ROWs, Avoidance, and Exclusion Areas.

- Corridors 16-24 and 16-17: 2,640 feet wide
- Corridors 15-17 and 17-35: 10,560 feet wide
- Hwy 140 Corridor: 2,000 feet wide

**Action LR 5.1:** Designate and manage Utility Corridors as needed to meet demands of the nation's energy needs (see Figure 2-29, Appendix A).

**Action LR 5.1.1:** New electric transmission lines above 345 kV will be placed in a designated corridor. Designation of new corridors will require a plan amendment (see Figure 2-29, Appendix A).

**Action LR 5.2:** Manage 1,773,192 acres as avoidance areas (see Figure 2-26, Appendix A) to protect resources. The granting of ROWs in avoidance areas will require special stipulations developed on a case by case basis to mitigate any impacts to resources.

**Action LR 5.3:** Manage 1,330,420 acres as exclusion areas (see Figure 2-27, Appendix A) to protect priority watersheds (WR 3.2) and priority wildlife habitat and wildlife populations (FW 1.4).

**Action LR 5.4:** Field review all issued ROWs to ensure compliance with applicable laws, regulations, grants, terms, conditions, and/or stipulations.

**Objective LR 6:** Pursuant to section 302, 501, and 503 of the FLPMA, grant ROWs over public lands while protecting natural resources.

**Action LR 6.1:** Grant, issue, or renew ROWs over, upon, under, or through public lands.

**Action LR 6.2:** Pursue existing unauthorized use cases. Coordinate with state and local government officials.

**Action LR 6.3:** Allow ROWs for water importation and exportation projects that do not exceed the perennial yield of the source basin (as determined by the NV State Engineer) and can be implemented without compromising the multiple use mandate of FLPMA or those that can be mitigated to an acceptable level.

**Objective LR 7:** Provide public lands for communications sites.

**Action LR 7.1:** Develop new communication sites only if proposals are not compatible with an existing site or there are environmental or technical problems with existing sites. No new sites will be allowed in Wilderness Areas, WSAs, ACECs, or on lands acquired under SNPLMA and Land and Water Conservation Fund.

**Action LR 7.2:** Provide for communication sites on public land by using existing sites when frequencies are compatible and the use is allowed by the current communication site plan.

**Action LR 7.3:** All existing communication sites and all new sites will be incorporated into a Communication Site Plan specific to that site.

**Objective LR 8:** Maintain and provide access to public lands.

**Action LR 8.1:** Provide legal access to public lands by acquiring easements from private land owners.

**Action LR 8.2:** Obtain public access through perpetual ROWs, reciprocal ROWs, and development of systems roads with all land acquisitions, transfers, and sales.

**Action LR 8.3:** Ensure all BLM system roads have easements through privately owned lands.

**Objective LR 9:** Provide sources of mineral material in support of the Federal Highway Administration and state, county, and city roads.

**Action LR 9.1:** Process material site ROWs while ensuring the protection of resources.

**Objective LR 10:** Withdraw public lands to protect sensitive or high resource values (biological, wildlife, water resources, recreation, cultural etc.) and infrastructure that could be impacted by the development of minerals.

**Action LR 10.1:** Withdraw, relinquish, and/or modify withdrawals on a case by case basis.

**Action LR 10.2:** Implement withdrawals for the following:

Existing mineral withdrawals:

1. Pine Forest
2. George Lund Petrified Forest

Lands identified for proposed mineral withdrawal at this time:

1. Lovelock Cave (640 acres).
2. McDermitt Station Administrative Site (9.12 acres).
3. Porter Springs (60 acres).
4. Osgood Mountains ACEC (60 acres; see Action SSS 3.5).
5. Enlarge the George Lund Petrified Forest mineral withdrawal to a total of 141 acres (see Action PR 1.7).
6. Future designated Wilderness is expected to be withdrawn from the General Mining Law.

## **AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC)**

**GOAL:** Protect relevant and important values through ACEC designation or through other designations. Apply special management where management is not adequate to protect resource values from risks or threats of damage and degradation or to provide for public safety from natural hazards.

**Objective ACEC 1:** Designate ACECs to protect areas and prevent irreparable damage to resources or natural systems for special status or priority species habitat, sensitive plants, critical wildlife habitat, research natural areas, and places of Native American Cultural and Religious importance.

**Action ACEC 1.1:** Designate the following ACECs (see Figure 2-30, Appendix A):

- Pine Forest;
- Stillwater;
- Raised Bog; and
- Osgood Mountains (existing).

**Action ACEC 1.2:** Manage the four ACECs as follows:

- Closed to mineral material disposal (saleables);
- Closed to fluid mineral leasing;
- Closed to solid mineral leasing;
- Locatable minerals withdrawn from entry within the existing Osgood Mountains ACEC;
- Pine Forest, Stillwater, and Raised Bog will be open for acquiring the rights to locatable minerals with special mitigation on operations;
- Closed to any new communication sites;
- Prioritize response to wildfires based on social, legal, and ecological consequences of the fire and priority suppression areas; and
- VRM Class II except for Osgood Mountains, which will be managed as VRM Class III.

## **BACK COUNTRY BYWAYS (BCB)**

**GOAL:** Enhance existing and develop new Backcountry Byways (BCBs), which offer opportunities to provide the public with interpretation and environmental education, wildlife viewing, and an understanding of their public lands.

**Objective BCB 1:** Promote, enhance and develop new BCBs that offer opportunities to provide the public with interpretation and environmental education, wildlife viewing, cultural and mineral resource education and an understanding of their public lands.

**Action BCB 1.1:** Designate and continue to manage and enhance the Lovelock Cave Backcountry Byway (Figure 2-32, Appendix A).

**Action BCB 1.2:** Develop new BCBs in collaboration with local communities and interested publics and Tribes to promote tourism and enhance the local economy.

**Action BCB 1.3:** Evaluate (Needs Assessment) the opportunity and need of developing the following BCBs:

- The Gold Country Byway;
- The Silver Backcountry Byway; and
- The Blue Lakes – Knott Creek Byway.

## NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS (NHT)

**GOAL: Preserve, protect, and maintain the historic and scenic values, and cultural landscapes and viewsheds, of NHT in the WD.**

**Objective NHT 1:** Manage National Historic Trails, trails under study, high potential historic sites, and areas through which National Historic Trails may pass in a manner that considers preservation of their resources, qualities, values, and associated settings, as well as recognizes national, individual or collective significance, including consideration of local, regional and national context under NTSA and NHPA.

**Action NHT 1.1:** On a case by case basis, manage and protect National Historic Trails and high potential historic sites in accordance with BLM manual 6280, section 5.3, until such time as a National Trail Management Corridor is defined.

**Action NHT 1.1.1:** Conduct viewshed analysis to evaluate if a proposed action is contained within a National Historic Trail view shed.

**Action NHT 1.1.2:** Complete National Trail inventories and assessments for projects that are likely to cause adverse impacts to trails and trail settings. Mitigate adverse impacts by considering alternative locations of projects and implementing other mitigation measures.

**Action NHT 1.2:** Retain in public ownership lands containing National Historic Trail segments, including high potential route segments and congressionally designated trail alignments.

**Action NHT 1.3:** Through the land use planning and associated NEPA processes, for trails under study or for trails recommended as suitable, the BLM will consider management actions and alternatives that maintain the values, characteristics, and settings of trails under study and trails recommended as suitable, pursuant to FLPMA.

**Action NHT 1.4:** In evaluating a proposed action on or along a trail under study or along a trail recommended as suitable, the BLM will consider alternatives to the proposed action that avoid adverse impacts to the values, characteristics, and settings of such trails.

## WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS (WSR)

**GOAL: Protect and enhance the free flowing condition and outstandingly remarkable values of rivers determined to be eligible for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic River System (NWSRS) as appropriate to suitability determination and, if applicable Congressional designation status.**

**Objective WSR 1:** According to a determination of non-suitability, provide no management specific to the protection of free flowing condition or outstandingly remarkable values identified along river segments found to be eligible for inclusion into the NWSRS.

**Action WSR 1.1:** Implement use restrictions based on WSA, priority wildlife habitat, or priority watershed management use restrictions to conserve water supply, water quality, fisheries habitat, and riparian functionality along NWSRS eligible river segments.

**Action WSR 1.2:** If other protective measures are removed, manage NWSRS eligible segments utilizing interim protective management to preserve the free flowing condition and remaining ORVs identified in the 2006 report until a new determination of suitability is completed.

## WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS (WSA)

**GOAL:** Manage wilderness study areas (WSAs) as required by BLM Manual 6330 “Management of Wilderness Study Areas” (2012) for preservation of natural conditions and processes and to provide opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation.

**Objective WSA 1:** Manage WSAs to maintain wilderness characteristics and provide wilderness experiences.

**Action WSA 1.1:** Manage the following 11 WSAs under the BLM Manual 6330 for Lands under Wilderness Review until Congress either designates these areas or releases them for other purposes (see Figure 2-33, Appendix A).

Wilderness Study Area	Acres of WD BLM-administered lands within the WSA
Poodle Mountain	116,134 acres
Fox Range	75,528 acres
Pole Creek	12,957 acres
Selenite Mountains	31,948 acres
Mount Limbo	24,810 acres
China Mountain	10,201 acres
Tobin Range	13,161 acres
Pueblo Mountains	607 acres
North Fork of the Little Humboldt River	69,305 acres
Disaster Peak	12,696 acres
Augusta Mountain	24,256 acres
<b>Total</b>	<b>390,996 acres</b>

Note: Acreages may differ from the 1991 Wilderness Report to Congress. Official acreages are per the Wilderness Report.

**Objective WSA 2:** Manage WSAs for purposes other than wilderness if they are released by Congress and are not located within a designated ACEC. In December 2014, the National Defense Authorization Act designated the Pine Forest Wilderness. The Blue Lakes WSA and Alder Creek WSA comprise the majority of this new wilderness. The designation also released approximately 1,106 acres from future wilderness study from the Alder Creek WSA.

**Action WSA 2.1:** Should any WSA, in whole or in part, be released from wilderness consideration, such released lands will be managed in accordance with the goals, objectives, and management prescriptions established in this RMP, unless otherwise specified by Congress in its releasing legislation. The BLM will examine proposals in the released areas on a case-by-case basis, but will defer all actions that are inconsistent with RMP goals, objectives, and prescriptions, until it completes a land use plan amendment. (Because any released lands will continue to be managed consistent with the prescriptions identified in this plan, unless and until the plan is amended, no separate analysis will be required to address impacts to the released lands.)

**Action WSA 2.2:** If released by Congress, manage all or portions of 11 former WSAs for purposes other than wilderness using BMPs, land use restrictions, authorization stipulations, and mitigation measures to protect resources.

**Action WSA 2.3:** Limit OHV travel to existing ways, and trails existing at the time the area became a WSA.

**Action WSA 2.4:** Manage all WSAs as VRM Class I. Areas released from study will be inventoried using the VRM system to establish VRM classes. Areas designated as wilderness in the future will be managed as VRM Class I.

## WATCHABLE WILDLIFE VIEWING SITES (WWV)

**GOAL:** Provide public educational opportunities for viewing wildlife and associated habitat.

**Objective WWV 1:** Provide wildlife and WHB viewing areas.

**Action WWV 1.1:** Evaluate areas for potential Watchable Wildlife Viewing sites.

**Action WWV 1.2:** Evaluate areas for potential WHB viewing areas.

**Action WWV 1.3:** Maintain the following existing Watchable Wildlife Viewing sites (as published in the *Nevada Wildlife Viewing Guide* [Clark 1993]) and evaluate potential watchable wildlife areas in collaboration with local, state, tribal, federal agencies, and interested members of the public:

- High Rock Canyon;
- Mahogany Creek;
- Pine Forest Mountains;
- McGill Canyon;
- Santa Rosa Mountains; and
- Sonoma Creek.

## **PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY (PS)**

**GOAL: Provide for public safety on public lands.**

**Objective PS 1:** Remediate dangerous accessible mine shafts, adits, or hot springs.

**Action PS 1.1:** Coordinate with Nevada Division of Minerals to fence or otherwise close dangerous, accessible mine shafts and adits.

**Action PS 1.2:** Continue to update the abandoned mines inventory in the planning area.

**Objective PS 2:** Remove or remediate dangerous situations and hazardous materials when discovered.

**Action PS 2.1:** Cooperate with local, state, and federal agencies to remove or mitigate hazardous materials sites on public land (e.g., drug labs, wire burn areas, explosive caches).

**Action PS 2.2:** Use appropriately trained BLM personnel or contractors to clean up abandoned hazardous materials or solid waste from public land.

**Objective PS 3:** Educate the public about potential safety hazards and safe behavior on public lands to promote safety.

**Action PS 3.1:** Circulate and/or distribute brochures and other safety related publications.

## **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (SD)**

**GOAL: Manage public lands to contribute to sustainable development by encouraging post-operational land uses for the benefit of local communities and economies, while ensuring the well-being of the environment.**

**Objective SD 1:** Allow for disposal (by sale or exchange) of public lands to facilitate post-operation reuse if such disposal will contribute to sustainable development.

**Action SD 1.1:** Dispose public land subject to meeting all of the following land disposal criteria unless otherwise noted:

- a. All lands considered for disposal must meet one or more of the criteria outlined in Section 203(a) of the FLPMA.
- b. The land does not contain important wetlands or riparian wildlife habitat, other water resources, significant cultural resources or recreational values.
- c. Disposal of the land would not impact the manageability of remaining public lands.
- d. The lands are not essential to candidate, listed or proposed threatened or endangered species or identified as priority wildlife habitat.
- e. Disposal of the land is deemed to be in the public's interest.
- f. Suitable under the provisions of the Recreation and R&PP Act.



**Action SD 1.2:** Prioritize land for disposal based on the following criteria:

- a. Lands that are difficult or uneconomical to manage.
- b. Lands that pose a potential liability for the public domain.
- c. Lands that have a high viability of reuse.
- d. Lands identified by local communities as desirable for reuse.

**Objective SD 2:** Subject to applicable laws, regulations, and policy, allow for reuse of public lands including reuse of infrastructure by issuing use authorizations on a case-by-case basis.

**Action SD 2.1:** Authorize ROWs or RPP leases on public lands to facilitate post-operation reuse and encourage sustainable development. Consider the following criteria prior to authorizing reuse proposals on public lands.

1. Percentage of reuse contribution to economy compared to existing activity or other reasonably foreseeable use of the site.
2. Type of reuse project.
3. Evaluation of the value of public land after reuse closure. Public land following reuse should provide higher economic value than if land is closed and reclaimed.
4. Compatibility of reuse with adjacent and any other on-site land uses.
5. Reuse doesn't conflict with existing valid rights
6. There is a local community group or advisory group established for new reuse proposals and closures.
7. Lands have existing disturbance and infrastructure in place available for reuse.
8. Economic viability and stability of reuse proponent.
9. Responsibilities for liabilities, transfer of liability, and indemnification of US.
10. Ability to provide on-going well-being of community.
11. Reuse should fit with the long-term plan for local communities.
12. Reuse should be compatible with the available workforce and contribute to retaining a skilled workforce.
13. Reuse should allow for full access for other uses, as appropriate.
14. Reuse should be compatible with other management objectives and actions.

**Action SD 2.2:** Require public scoping on any proposed realty action, such as disposal, exchange, or ROWs.

**Action SD 2.3:** Work with state and local governments to ensure that the proposed reuse will meet NDEP requirements and county master plans.

**Action SD 2.4:** Monitor sustainable development using appropriate sustainable development indicators (e.g., engagement, well-being of people, well-being of the environment, economy) or other techniques.

**Objective SD 3:** Develop collaborative processes to facilitate community input into post-operation land reuse.

**Action SD 3.1:** Develop an MOU with Pershing, Washoe, Churchill, and Humboldt Counties to establish roles and responsibilities to facilitate community input into the reuse of public lands.

**Action SD 3.2:** Encourage and participate in establishment of community advisory committees to consider land reuse.

**Action SD 3.3:** Develop educational materials on reuse opportunities and build local capacity and expertise.

**Action SD 3.4:** Partner with local governments and communities to identify and target sustainable development strategies.

**Objective SD 4:** Mineral operation sites or portions thereof may be considered for reuse or different concurrent use if, at any time of the operation, a viable plan exists for a productive continued use of the site and is compatible with other resource and reclamation objectives.

**Action SD 4.1:** Allow nonmining post operational land uses that maintain or improve the environmental integrity and maintain reclamation objectives of the reclaimed mineral site, unless mitigation measures have been developed to avoid or reduce adverse impacts.

**Action SD 4.2:** Address post-operational reuse in the plan of operations, reclamation plan, plan modifications, or other relevant proposals for site development.

**Action SD 4.3:** Encourage mineral operations to support, or at least not encumber, site reuse.

**Action SD 4.4:** Mining-related facilities may be available for reuse in compliance with law, regulation, policy, and reclamation requirements, in consultation with the NDEP, and subject to the criteria for reuse. Facilities will remain available for reuse up to a maximum of five years from the end of active mining. After which if no reuse actions are pending or ongoing, facilities will be removed and/or rehabilitated, per regulatory requirements (e.g., 3809 regulations).

**2.3 CHANGE IN ACTION NUMBERS FROM PROPOSED RMP/FINAL EIS**

As a result of clarifications and changes due to public comments, there have been changes to management action numbers from those used in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS. Table 2-1 below identifies the actions by number in the Proposed RMP/Final EIS, and the approved RMP to allow cross-checking.

**Table 2-1 Action Numbers for RMP tracked with Proposed RMP/Final EIS Action Numbers**

RMP Action Numbers	Proposed RMP/Final EIS Numbers	RMP Action Numbers	Proposed RMP/Final EIS Numbers
<b>AIR QUALITY (AQ)</b>		<b>VEGETATION – FOREST/WOODLAND PRODUCTS (VF)</b>	
Objective AQ 1	Objective AQ 1	Objective VF 1	Objective CA-VF 1
Action AQ 1.1	Action CA-AQ 1.1	Action VF 1.1	Action CA-VF 1.1
Action AQ 1.2	Action AQ 1.1	Action VF 1.2	Action CA-VF 1.2
Action AQ 1.3	Action AQ 1.2	Objective VF 2	Objective CA-VF 2N
Objective AQ 2	Objective AQ 2	Action VF 2.1	Action VR 2N.1 (VR 1.3.1)
Action AQ 2.1	Action D-AQ 2.1	Action VF 2.2	Action D-VF 2N.2
Action AQ 2.2	Action AQ 2.2	Action VF 2.3	Action D-VF 2N.3 (3.5)
Action AQ 2.3	Action D-AQ 2.3	Action VF 2.4	Action D-VF 3.1
Action AQ 2.4	Action AQ 2.4	Action VF 2.5	Action VF 3.2
<b>GEOLOGY (G)</b>		Action VF 2.6	Action D-VF 3.3
Objective G 1	Objective G 1	Objective VF 3	Objective VF 1
Action G 1.1	Action D-G 1.1	Action VF 3.1	Action D-VF 1.1
Action G 1.2	Action D-G 1.N	Action VF 3.2	Action D-VF 1.2
<b>SOILS (S)</b>		Action VF 3.3	Action VF 1.3
Objective S 1	Objective D-S 1	Objective VF 4	Objective D-VF 2
Action S 1.1	Action D-S 1.1	Action VF 4.1	Action D-VF 2.1
Action S 1.2	Action S 1.2	Objective VF 5	Objective D-VF 3
Action S 1.3	Action D-S 1.3	Action VF 5.1	Action D-VF 3.4
Action S 1.4	Action D-S 1.4	Action VF 5.1.1	Action D-VF 3.4.1
Action S 1.4.1	Action D-S 1.4.1	Action VF 5.2	Action D-VF 3.6
Action S 1.4.2	Action D-S 1.4.2	Action VF 5.3	Action D-VF 3.7
Action S 1.5	Action D-S 1.5	Action VF 5.4	Action VF 3.8
Action S 1.6	Action D-S 1.6	Action VF 5.5	Action D-VF 3.9
<b>WATER RESOURCES (WR)</b>		Objective VF 6	Objective VF 4
Objective WR 1	Objective CA-WR 1	Action VF 6.1	Action D-VF 4.1
Action WR 1.1	Action CA-WR 1.1	Action VF 6.2	Action D-VF 4.2
Action WR 1.2	Action CA-WR 1.2	Action VF 6.3	Action D-VF 4.3
Action WR 1.3	Action CA-WR 2.2	Action VF 6.3.1	Action D-VF 4.3.1
Objective WR 2	Objective CA-WR 3	Action VF 6.3.2	Action D-VF 4.3.2
Action WR 2.1	Action CA-WR 3.1	<b>VEGETATION – INVASIVE AND NOXIOUS PLANTS (VW)</b>	
Objective WR 3	Objective WR 1	Objective VW 1	Objective D-VW 1
Action WR 3.1	Action D-WR 1.1	Action VW 1.1	Action D-VW 1.1
Action WR 3.2	Action D-WR 1.2	Action VW 1.2	Action D-VW 1.2
Action WR 3.2.1	Action D-WR 1.2.1	Action VW 1.2.1	Action D-VW 1.2.1
Action WR 3.3	Action D-WR 1.3	Action VW 1.2.2	Action D-VW 1.2.2
Action WR 3.4	Action D-WR 1.4	Action VW 1.3	Action VW 1.3
Action WR 3.4.1	Action D-WR 1.4.1	Action VW 1.4	Action VW 1.4
Objective WR 4	Objective WR 2	Action VW 1.5	Action D-VW 1.5
Action WR 4.1	Action D-WR N.N.	Objective VW 2	Objective CA-VW 1
Action WR 4.2	Action WR 2.1	Action VW 2.1	Action CA-VW 1.2
Action WR 4.3	Action CA-WR 2.1	Action VW 2.2	Action CA-VW 1.3
Action WR 4.4	Action D-WR 2.2		
Action WR 4.5	Action D-WR 2.3		

RMP Action Numbers	Proposed RMP/Final EIS Numbers
Objective VW 3	Objective D-VW 2
Action VW 3.1	Action D-VW 2.1
<b>CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL CONTROL (PE)</b>	
Objective PE 1	Objective D-PE 1
Action PE 1.1	Action PE 1.1
Action PE 1.2	Action PE 1.3
Action PE 1.3	Action PE 1.4
Action PE 1.4	Action D-PE 1.5
<b>VEGETATION – RANGELAND (VR)</b>	
Objective VR 1	Objective CAVR 1.N
Action VR 1.1	Action CA-VR 1.1N
Action VR 1.2	Action CA-VR 1.1
Action VR 1.3	Action D-VR 1.2
Action VR 1.4	Action CA-VR 2.1
<b>Crested Wheat Grass Seedings</b>	
Objective VR 2	Objective D-VR 2
Action VR 2.1	Action D-VR 2.1
<b>Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation</b>	
Objective VR 3	Objective VR 3 (and CA-VR 2)
Action VR 3.1	Action D-VR 3.1
Action VR 3.1.1	Action A-VR 3.1.1
Objective VR 4	Objective D-VR 4
Action VR 4.1	Action D-VR 4.1 (and 1.3)
Action VR 4.2	Action D-VR 4.2
Objective VR 5	Objective VR 5
Action VR 5.1	Action D-VR 5.1.
Action VR 5.2	Action VR 5.2
<b>Sagebrush Scrub</b>	
Objective VR 6	Objective D-VR 6
Action VR 6.1	Action CA-VR 3.1
Action VR 6.2	Action D-VR 6.1
Action VR 6.3	Action D-VR 6.2
Action VR 6.4	Action VR 6.3
Action VR 6.5	Action D-VR 6.4
Objective VR 7	Objective D-VR 7
Action VR 7.1	Action VR 7.1
Action VR 7.2	Action VR 7.2
<b>Salt Desert Scrub</b>	
Objective VR 8	Objective D-VR 8
Action VR 8.1	Action D-VR 8.1
Action VR 8.2	Action D-VR 8.2
<b>Mountain Browse</b>	
Objective VR 9	Objective VR 9 (1.1)
Action VR 9.1	Action D-VR 9.1 (1.1)
<b>VEGETATION – RIPARIAN AND WETLANDS (VRW)</b>	
Objective VRW 1	Objective D-VRW 1
Action VRW 1.1	Action D-VRW 1.1
Action VRW 1.1.1	Action D-VRW 1.1.1
Objective VRW 2	Objective CA-VRW 1
Action VRW 2.1	Action CA-VRW 1.1
Action VRW 2.2	Action CA-VRW 1.2

RMP Action Numbers	Proposed RMP/Final EIS Numbers
Action VRW 2.3	Action VRW 1.3
Action VRW 2.4	Action D-VRW 1.4
<b>FISH AND WILDLIFE (FW)</b>	
Objective FW 1	Objective FW 1
Action FW 1.1	Action CA-FW 1.1
Action FW 1.2	Action CA-FW 1.2
Action FW 1.3	Action D-FW 1.1.
Action FW 1.4	Action D-FW 1.2
Action FW 1.5	Action CA-FW 2.1
Action FW 1.6	Action D-FW 1.2
Action FW 1.7	Action D-FW 1.3
Action FW 1.8	Action D-FW 1.4
Action FW 1.9	Action FW 1.5
Action FW 1.10	Action D-FW 1.6
Objective FW 2	Objective FW 2
Action FW 2.1	Action D-FW 2.1
Action FW 2.2	Action D-FW 2.2
Objective FW 3	Objective D-FW 3
Action FW 3.1	Action D-FW 3.1
Action FW 3.2	Action D-FW 3.2
Action FW 3.2.1	Action D-FW 3.2.1
Objective FW 4	Objective D-FW 4
Action FW 4.1	Action D-FW 4.1
Objective FW 5	Objective FW 5
Action FW 5.1	Action D-FW 5.1
Objective FW 6	Objective FW 6
Action FW 6.1	Action D-FW 6.1
Action FW 6.1.1	Action D-FW 6.1.1
Objective FW 7	Objective D-FW 7
Action FW 7.1	Action FW 7.1
Action FW 7.2	Action D-FW 7.2
Action FW 7.3	Action D-FW 7.3
Objective FW 8	Objective D-FW 8
Action FW 8.1	Action FW 8.1
Action FW 8.2	Action D-FW 8.2
Action FW 8.3	Action FW 8.3
Objective FW 9	Objective D-FW 9
Action FW 9.1	Action FW 9.1
Action FW 9.2	Action FW 9.2
Action FW 9.3	Action D-FW 9.3
Action FW 9.3.1	Action D-FW 9.3.1
Action FW 9.3.2	Action D-FW 9.3.2
Objective FW 10	Objective FW 10
Action FW 10.1	Action D-FW 10.1
Objective FW 11	Objective FW 11 (and CA-FW 1)
Action FW 11.1	Action D-FW 11.1
Action FW 11.2	Action D-FW 11.2
<b>SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES (SSS)</b>	
Objective SSS 1	Objective SSS 1
Action SSS 1.1	Action CA-SSS 1.N
Action SSS 1.2	Action CA-SSS 1.1
Action SSS 1.3	Action CA-SSS 1.3
Action SSS 1.4	Action SSS 1.5
Objective SSS 2	Objective D-SSS 2

RMP Action Numbers	Proposed RMP/Final EIS Numbers
Action SSS 2.1	Action CA-SSS 2.1
Action SSS 2.2	Action CA-SSS 2.2
Action SSS 2.3	Action CA-SSS 2.3
Objective SSS 3	Objective CA-SSS 2
Action SSS 3.1	Action D-SSS 1.1
Action SSS 3.2	Action CA-SSS 1.2
Action SSS 3.3	Action CA-SSS 1.N
Action SSS 3.4	Action CA-SSS 3.1
Action SSS 3.5	Action CA-SSS 3.2
Objective SSS 4	Objective CA-SSS 4.N
Action SSS 4.1	Action CA-SSS 4.1N
Action SSS 4.2	Action CA-SSS 4.2N
Action SSS 4.3	Action CA-SSS 4.3N
Action SSS 4.4	Action CA-SSS 4.4N
Action SSS 4.5	Action CA-SSS 4.5N
Action SSS 4.6	Action CA-SSS 4.6N
Action SSS 4.7	Action CA-SSS 4.7N
Action SSS 4.8	Action CA-SSS 4.8N
Action SSS 4.9	Action CA-SSS 4.9N
Objective SSS 5	Objective D-SSS 3
Action SSS 5.1	Action CA-SSS 1.5
Action SSS 5.2	Action D-SSS 1.2
Action SSS 5.2.1	Action D-SSS 1.2.1
Action SSS 5.2.2	Action D-SSS 1.2.N
Action SSS 5.2.3	Action D-SSS 1.2.3
Objective SSS 6	Objective SSS 3
Action SSS 6.1	Action SSS 1.3
Action SSS 6.1.1	Action D-SSS 1.3.1
Objective SSS 7	Objective SSS 3
Action SSS 7.1	Action SSS 1.4
Action SSS 7.1.1	Action SSS 1.4.1
Action SSS 7.2	Action CA-SSS 1.6
Action SSS 7.2.1	Action SSS 1.4.3
Objective SSS 8	Objective SSS 2
Action SSS 8.1	Action SSS 1.7
Objective SSS 9	Objective D-SSS 2
Action SSS 9.1	Action D-SSS 2.1
Action SSS 9.2	Action D-SSS 2.2
<b>WILD HORSES AND BURROS (WHB)</b>	
Objective WHB 1	Objective D-WHB 1
Action WHB 1.1	Action D-WHB 1.1
Action WHB 1.2	Action D-WHB 1.2
Action WHB 1.3	Action WHB 1.3
Action WHB 1.4	Action D-WHB 1.4
Action WHB 1.5	Action D-WHB 1.5
Action WHB 1.6	Action WHB 1.6
Objective WHB 2	Objective D-WHB 2
Action WHB 2.1	Action D-WHB 2.1
Action WHB 2.2	Action D-WHB 2.2
Objective WHB 3	Objective WHB 3
Action WHB 3.1	Action D-WHB 3.1
Action WHB 3.2	Action D-WHB 3.2
Action WHB 3.3	Action D-WHB 3.3
Objective WHB 4	Objective WHB 4
Action WHB 4.1	Action D-WHB 4.1

RMP Action Numbers	Proposed RMP/Final EIS Numbers
Action WHB 4.2	Action D-WHB 4.2
Objective WHB 5	Objective WHB 5
Action WHB 5.1	Action WHB 5.1
Action WHB 5.2	Action D-WHB 5.2
Action WHB 5.3	Action D-WHB 5.3
Action WHB 5.4	Action D-WHB 5.4
Action WHB 5.5	Action WHB 5.5
Action WHB 5.6	Action D-WHB 5.6
Action WHB 5.6.1	Action D-WHB 5.6.1
Action WHB 5.7	Action D-WHB 5.7
Action WHB 5.8	Action CA-WHB 1.1
<b>WILDLAND FIRE ECOLOGY MANAGEMENT (WFM)</b>	
Objective WFM 1	Objective CA-WFM 1
Action WFM 1.1	Action CA-WFM 1.1
Action WFM 1.2	Action CA-WFM 1.3
Objective WFM 2	Objective D-WFM 1
Action WFM 2.1	Action WFM 1.1
Objective WFM 3	Objective CA-WFM 2
Action WFM 3.1	Action CA-WFM 2.1
Action WFM 3.2	Action CA-WFM 2.2
Action WFM 3.3	Action CA-WFM 3.2
Action WFM 3.4	Action CA-WFM 3.3
Objective WFM 4	Objective CA-WFM 5
Action WFM 4.1	Action CA-WFM 5.1
<b>FUELS MANAGEMENT</b>	
Objective WFM 5	Objective CA-WFM 3
Action WFM 5.1	Action CA-WFM 3.1
Action WFM 5.2	Action WFM 2.1
<b>Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation</b>	
Objective WFM 6	Objective CA-WFM 4
Action WFM 6.1	Action CA-WFM 4.1
<b>Community Service and Prevention</b>	
Objective WFM 7	Objective CA-WFM 6
Action WFM 7.1	Action CA-WFM 6.1
Action WFM 7.2	Action CA-WFM 6.2
<b>CULTURAL RESOURCES</b>	
Objective CR 1	Objective CA-CR 1
Action CR 1.1	Action CA-CR 1.1
Action CR 1.2	Action CA-CR 1.3
Objective CR 2	Objective CA-CR 2
Action CR 2.1	Action CA-CR 2.1
Action CR 2.1.1	Action A-CR 2.1.1
Objective CR 3	Objective D-CR 1
Action CR 3.1	Action CR 1.1
Action CR 3.2	Action D-CR N
Action CR 3.3	Action D-CR 1.2
Action CR 3.4	Action D-CR 1.3
Action CR 3.5	Action CR 1.4
Action CR 3.6	Action CR 2.1
Action CR 3.7	Action CA-CR 3.1
Action CR 3.8	Action CR 3.1
Action CR 3.9	Action CR 3.2
Objective CR 4	Objective CR 4
Action CR 4.1	Action CR 4.1

RMP Action Numbers	Proposed RMP/Final EIS Numbers
Action CR 4.2	Action CR 4.2
Action CR 4.3	Action CR 4.3
Objective CR 5	Objective CR 5
Action CR 5.2	Action D-CR 5.1
Action CR 5.2	Action CR 5.2
Objective CR 6	Objective CR 4 and CR 6
Action CR 6.1	Action CA-CR 4.1
Action CR 6.2	Action D-CR 6.1
Action CR 6.3	Action D-CR 6.2
Action CR 6.4	Action CR 6.3
Action CR 6.5	Action D-CR 6.4
Action CR 6.6	Action D-CR 6.5
Action CR 6.7	Action CR 6.6
Action CR 6.8	Action CR 6.7
Action CR 6.9	Action D-CR 6.8
Action CR 6.10	Action D-CR 6.9
Action CR 6.11	Action CR 6.10
Objective CR 7	Objective CR 7
Action CR 7.1	Action D-CR 7.1
Action CR 7.2	Action D-CR 7.2
Action CR 7.3	Action CR 7.3
Action CR 7.4	Action D-CR 7.4
Objective CR 8	Objective D-CR 8
Action CR 8.1	Action CR 8.1
Action CR 8.2	Action D-CR 8.2
Action CR 8.3	Action CA-CR 4.2
Action CR 8.4	Action CA-CR 4.3
Action CR 8.5	Action CA-CR 5.1
Action CR 8.6	Action CA-CR 6.1
Action CR 8.7	Action CA-CR 6.2
Action CR 8.8	Action CA-CR 8.1
Objective CR 9	Objective CR 9
Action CR 9.1	Action D-CR 9.1
Action CR 9.2	Action D-CR 9.2
Action CR 9.3	Action D-CR 9.3
Objective CR 10	Objective D-CR 10
Action CR 10.1	Action D-CR 10.1
Action CR 10.2	Action CR 10.2
<b>TRIBAL CONSULTATION (TC)</b>	
Objective TC 1	Objective TC 1
Action TC 1.1	Action D-TC 1.1
Action TC 1.2	Action TC 1.2
Objective TC 2	Objective TC 2
Action TC 2.1	Action TC 2.1
Action TC 2.2	Action D-TC 2.2
Action TC 2.2.1	Action D-TC 2.2.1
Action TC 2.2.2	Action D-TC 2.2.2
Action TC 2.2.3	Action D-TC 2.2.4
Action TC 2.3	Action CA-TC 2.3 (and TC 2.3)
Action TC 2.4	Action D-TC 2.4
Objective TC 3	Objective CA-TC 3
Action TC 3.1	Action CA-TC 3.1
Action TC 3.2	Action CA-TC 3.2
Action TC 3.3	Action CA-TC 3.3

RMP Action Numbers	Proposed RMP/Final EIS Numbers
Objective TC 4	Objective TC 3
Action TC 4.1	Action TC 3.1
<b>PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES (PR)</b>	
Objective PR 1	Objective D-PR 1
Action PR 1.1	Action D-PR 1.1
Action PR 1.2	Action D-PR 1.2
Action PR 1.3	Action CA-PR 1.1
Action PR 1.4	Action CA-PR 1.2
Action PR 1.5	Action D-PR 1.3
Action PR 1.6	Action PR 1.4
Action PR 1.7	Action PR 1.5
Action PR 1.8	Action D-PR 1.6
Objective PR 2	Objective PR 2
Action PR 2.1	Action D-PR 2.1
Action PR 2.2	Action CA-PR 2.1
Action PR 2.3	Action PR 2.2
Action PR 2.4	Action D-PR 2.3
Objective PR 3	Objective D-PR 3
Action PR 3.1	Action PR 3.1
Action PR 3.2	Action D-PR 3.2
Action PR 3.3	Action CA-PR 1.3
Action PR 3.4	Action CA-PR 1.4
Action PR 3.5	Action CA-PR 1.5
Action PR 3.6	Action CA-PR 1.6
Action PR 3.7	Action CA-PR 1.7
Action PR 3.8	Action CA-PR 2.2
<b>VISUAL RESOURCES (VRM)</b>	
Objective VRM 1	Objective VRM 1
Action VRM 1.1	Action D-VRM 1.1
Action VRM 1.2	Action VRM 1.2
Action VRM 1.3	Action D-VRM 1.3
Action VRM 1.4	Action D-VRM 1.4
Action VRM 1.5	Action D-VRM 1.5
Action VRM 1.6	Action CA-VRM 1.1
Objective VRM 2	Objective VRM 2
Action VRM 2.1	Action CA-VRM 2.1
Action VRM 2.2	Action D-VRM 2.1
<b>CAVE AND KARST RESOURCES (CK)</b>	
Objective CK 1	Objective D-CK 1
Action CK 1.1	Action CK 1.1
Action CK 1.2	Action CK 1.2
Action CK 1.3	Action CK 1.3
<b>LIVESTOCK GRAZING (LG)</b>	
Objective LG 1	Objective D-LG 1
Action LG 1.1	Action LG 1.1
Action LG 1.2	Action LG 1.2
Action LG 1.3	Action D-LG 1.3
Action LG 1.3.1	Action D-LG 1.3.1
Action LG 1.4	Action D-LG 1.4
Action LG 1.5	Action D-LG 1.5
Action LG 1.6	Action D-LG 1.6
Action LG 1.6.1	Action D-LG 1.6.1
Action LG 1.7	Action LG 1.7
Action LG 1.8	Action LG 1.9

RMP Action Numbers	Proposed RMP/Final EIS Numbers
Action LG 1.8.1	Action LG 1.9.1
Action LG 1.8.2	Action LG 1.9.2
Action LG 1.8.3	Action LG 1.9.3
Action LG 1.8.4	Action D-LG 1.9.4
Action LG 1.9	Action D-LG 1.10
Action LG 1.10	Action D-LG 1.11
Action LG 1.11	Action D-LG 1.12
Action LG 1.12	Action LG 1.13
Action LG 1.13	Action D-LG 1.14
Action LG 1.14	Action LG 1.15
Objective LG 2	Objective LG 2
Action LG 2.1	Action LG 2.1
Objective LG 3	Objective LG 3
Action LG 3.1	Action LG 3.1
Action LG 3.1.1	Action D-LG 3.1.1
Objective LG 4	Objective LG 4
Action LG 4.1	Action D-LG 4.1
Action LG 4.2	Action D-LG 4.2
Action LG 4.3	Action LG 4.3
Action LG 4.4	Action LG 4.4
Objective LG 5	Objective LG 5
Action LG 5.1	Action D-LG 5.1
Action LG 5.2	Action LG 5.2
Action LG 5.3	Action LG 1.2
Action LG 5.4	Action LG 5.3
Action LG 5.4.1	Action D-LG 5.3.1
Action LG 5.5	Action D-LG 5.4
Action LG 5.6	Action D-LG 5.5
Action LG 5.7	Action D-LG 5.6
<b>MINERAL RESOURCES: LEASABLE, LOCATABLE, AND SALEABLE (MR)</b>	
Objective MR 1	Objective D-MR 1
Action MR 1.1	Action D-MR 1.1
Action MR 1.2	Action D-MR 1.2
Action MR 1.3	Action CA-MR 1.1
Action MR 1.4	Action CA-MR 2.1
Action MR 1.5	Action CA-MR 3.1
<b>Saleable Minerals</b>	
Objective MR 2	Objective D-MR 2
Action MR 2.1	Action D-MR 2.1.
Action MR 2.1.1	Action D-MR 2.1.1
Action MR 2.1.2	Action D-MR 2.1.2
Action MR 2.1.3	Action D-MR 2.1.3
Action MR 2.2	Action D-MR 2.2
Action MR 2.2.1	Action D-MR 2.2.1
Action MR 2.2.2	Action MR 2.2.2
Action MR 2.3	Action D-MR 2.3
Action MR 2.4	Action MR 2.4
Objective MR 3	Objective MR 3
Action MR 3.1	Action MR 3.1
Action MR 3.2	Action MR 3.2
<b>Fluid Minerals</b>	
Objective MR 4	Objective D-MR 4
Action MR 4.1	Action D-MR 4.1
Action MR 4.1.1	Action D-MR 4.1.1

RMP Action Numbers	Proposed RMP/Final EIS Numbers
Action MR 4.1.2	Action D-MR 4.1.2
Action MR 4.1.3	Action D-MR 4.1.3
Action MR 4.1.3.1	Action MR 4.1.3.1
Action MR 4.2	Action D-MR 4.2
Action MR 4.2.1	Action MR 4.2.1
Action MR 4.2.2	Action MR 4.2.2
Objective MR 5	Objective MR 5
Action MR 5.1	Action MR 5.1
Action MR 5.2	Action D-MR 5.2
<b>Solid Mineral Leasing – Energy and Non-energy</b>	
Objective MR 6	Objective D-MR 6
Action MR 6.1	Action D-MR 6.1
Action MR 6.1.1	Action D-MR 6.1.1
Action MR 6.1.2	Action D-MR 6.1.2
Action MR 6.1.3	Action D-MR 6.1.3
Action MR 6.1.3.1	Action MR 6.1.3.1
Action MR 6.2	Action D-MR 6.2
Action MR 6.2.1	Action D-MR 6.2.1
Action MR 6.2.2	Action MR 6.2.2
Objective MR 7	Objective MR 7
Action MR 7.1	Action MR 7.1
Action MR 7.2	Action D-MR 7.2
<b>Surface Occupancy</b>	
Objective MR 8	Objective D-MR 8
Action MR 8.1	Action MR 8.1
Action MR 8.2	Action MR 8.2
Action MR 8.3	Action D-MR 8.3
<b>Locatable Minerals</b>	
Objective MR 9	Objective D-MR 9
Action MR 9.1	Action D-MR 9.1
Action MR 9.2	Action D-MR 9.2
Action MR 9.2.1	Action MR 9.2.1
Action MR 9.3	Action D-MR 9.3
Action MR 9.3.1	Action D-MR 9.3.1
Action MR 9.3.2	Action MR 9.3.2
Action MR 9.4	Action D-MR 9.4
Action MR 9.5	Action D-MR 9.5
<b>RECREATION, VISITOR OUTREACH AND SERVICES (R)</b>	
Objective R 1	Objective D-R 1
Action R 1.1	Action R 1.1
Action R 1.2	Action R 1.2
Objective R 2	Objective D-R 2
Action R 2.1	Action R 2.1
Objective R 3	Objective R 3
Action R 3.1	Action D-R 3.1
Action R 3.2	Action CA-R 1.1
Action R 3.3	Action CA-R 2.1
Action R 3.4	Action CA-R 2.2
Objective R 4	Objective R 4
Action R 4.1	Action D-R 4.1
Objective R 5	Objective R 5
Action R 5.1	Action D-R 5.1
Objective R 6	Objective R 6
Action R 6.1	Action R 6.1

<b>RMP Action Numbers</b>	<b>Proposed RMP/Final EIS Numbers</b>
Action R 6.2	Action D-R 6.2
Action R 6.3	Action CA-R 6.3
Objective R 7	Objective CA-R 5 (and R 7)
Action R 7.1	Action D-R 7.1
Action R 7.2	Action D-R 7.2
Action R 7.3	Action R 7.3
Objective R 8	Objective D-R 8
Action R 8.1	Action CA-R 3.1
Action R 8.2	Action CA-R 4.1 (and CA-R 6.2)
Action R 8.3	Action CA-R 6.1
Action R 8.4	Action CA-R 6.3
Action R 8.5	Action CA-R 6.4
Action R 8.6	Action D-R 8.1
Action R 8.6.1	Action D-R 8.1.1
Action R 8.6.2	Action D-R 8.1.2
Action R 8.6.2.1	Action D-R 8.1.2.1
Action R 8.6.3	Action R 8.1.3
Action R 8.6.3.1	Action R 8.1.3.1
Action R 8.6.3.2	Action R 8.1.3.2
Action R 8.6.4	Action D-R 8.1.4
Action R 8.6.4.1	Action R 8.1.4.1
Action R 8.7	Action R 8.3
Objective R 9	Objective R 9
Action R 9.1	Action D-R 9.1
Action R 9.1.1	Action D-R 9.1.2
Action R 9.1.1.1	Action R 9.1.2.2
Action R 9.1.2	Action D-R 9.1.3
Objective R 10	Objective D-R 10
Action R 10.1	Action D-R 10.1
Action R 10.2	Action R 10.2
Action R 10.3	Action D-R 10.2
Action R 10.4	Action R 10.3
Action R 10.5	Action R 10.4
Action R 10.6	Action D-R 10.5
<b>RENEWABLE ENERGY (RE)</b>	
Objective RE 1	Objective RE 1
Action RE 1.1	Action RE 1.1
Action RE 1.2	Action D-RE 1.2
Action RE 1.3	Action D-RE 1.3
Action RE 1.4	Action CA-RE 1.2
<b>TRANSPORTATION AND TRAVEL MANAGEMENT (TA)</b>	
Objective TA 1	Objective D-TA 1
Action TA 1.1	Action CA-TA 1.1
Action TA 1.2	Action CA-TA 1.2
Action TA 1.3	Action CA-TA 1.3
Action TA 1.4	Action CA-TA 1.4
Action TA 1.5	Action CA-TA 1.5
Action TA 1.6	Action CA-TA 1.6
Action TA 1.7	Action CA-TA 1.7
Action TA 1.8	Action CA-TA 1.8
Action TA 1.9	Action CA-TA 2.2
Action TA 1.10	Action TA 1.1

<b>RMP Action Numbers</b>	<b>Proposed RMP/Final EIS Numbers</b>
Action TA 1.11	Action TA 1.2
Action TA 1.12	Action TA 1.3
Action TA 1.13	Action TA 1.4
Action TA 1.14	Action D-TA 1.5
Action TA 1.15	Action D-TA 1.6
Objective TA 2	Objective TA 2
Action TA 2.1	Action TA 2.1
Action TA 2.2	Action D-TA 2.2
Objective 3	Objective TA 3
Action TA 3.1	Action TA 3.1
Action TA 3.2	Action D-TA 3.2
Action TA 3.3	Action D-TA 3.3
Action TA 3.4	Action TA 3.4
Objective TA 4	Objective D-TA 4
Action TA 4.1	Action D-TA 4.1
Action TA 4.2	Action TA 4.2
Action TA 4.3	Action D-TA 4.3
Objective TA 5	Objective TA 5
Action TA 5.1	Action D-TA 5.1
Action TA 5.1.1	Action D-TA 5.1.1
Action TA 5.1.2	Action D-TA 5.1.2
<b>LANDS AND REALTY (LR)</b>	
Objective LR 1	Objective D-LR 2
Action LR 1.1	Action D-LR 2.1
Action LR 1.2	Action D-LR 1.1
Action LR 1.2.1	Action D-LR 1.2.1
Action LR 1.3	Action LR 1.3
Action LR 1.4	Action CA-LR 5.2
Objective LR 2	Objective D-LR 3
Action LR 2.1	Action D-LR 2.1
Action LR 2.2	Action D-LR 3.1
Action LR 2.3	Action CA-LR 2.2
Action LR 2.4	Action LR 3.1.1
Action LR 2.5	Action LR 3.1.3
Action LR 2.6	Action CA-LR 1 (and LR 1)
Action LR 2.7	Action D-LR 3.1.4
Action LR 2.8	Action CA-LR 6.1
Action LR 2.9	Action CA-LR 7.1
Action LR 2.10	Action D-LR 3.2
Objective LR 3	Objective D-LR 4
Action LR 3.1	Action D-LR 4.1
Action LR 3.1.1	Action LR 4.1.1
Action LR 3.1.2	Action D-LR 4.1.2
Action LR 3.1.3	Action D-LR 4.1.3
Action LR 3.1.4	Action D-LR 4.1.4
Action LR 3.2	Action LR 4.2
Objective LR 4	Objective D-LR N
Action LR 4.1	Action D-LR 2.1.1
Action LR 4.2	Action D-LR N.1
Objective LR 5	Objective LR 5
Action LR 5.1	Action LR 5.1
Action LR 5.1.1	Action D-LR 5.1.1
Action LR 5.2	Action D-LR 5.3
Action LR 5.3	Action D-LR 5.4



<b>RMP Action Numbers</b>	<b>Proposed RMP/Final EIS Numbers</b>
Action LR 5.4	Action CA-LR 5.3
Objective LR 6	Objective D-LR 5N
Action LR 6.1	Action D-LR 5N.1
Action LR 6.2	Action CA-LR 5.1
Action LR 6.3	Action D-LR 5.2.1
Objective LR 7	Objective LR 6
Action LR 7.1	Action D-LR 6.1
Action LR 7.2	Action CA-LR 4.1
Action LR 7.3	Action CA-LR 4.2
Objective LR 8	Objective LR 7
Action LR 8.1	Action LR 7.1
Action LR 8.2	Action CA-LR 6.2
Action LR 8.3	Action CA-LR 6.3
Objective LR 9	Objective LR 8
Action LR 9.1	Action LR 8.1
Objective LR 10	Objective D-LR N
Action LR 10.1	Action D-LR N.1
Action LR 10.2	Action D-LR N.2
<b>AREAS OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC)</b>	
Objective ACEC 1	Objective ACEC 1
Action ACEC 1.1	Action ACEC 1.1
Action ACEC 1.2	Action D-ACEC 1.2
<b>BACK COUNTRY BYWAYS (BCB)</b>	
Objective BCB 1	Objective D-BCB 1
Action BCB 1.1	Action CA-BCB 1.1
Action BCB 1.2	Action BCB 1.1
Action BCB 1.3	Action BCB 1.1.1
<b>NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS (NHT)</b>	
Objective NHT 1	Objective CA-NHT 2N
Action NHT 1.1	Action CA-NHT 2.1N
Action NHT 1.1.1	Action CA-NHT 2.1.1N
Action NHT 1.1.2	Action CA-NHT 2.1.2N
Action NHT 1.2	Action CA-NHT 2.2N
Action NHT 1.3	Action CA-NHT 3N
Action NHT 1.4	Action CA-NHT 3.1
<b>WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS (WSR)</b>	
Objective WSR 1	Objective D-WSR 1
Action WSR 1.1	Action D-WSR 1.1
Action WSR 1.2	Action D-WSR 1.2
<b>WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS AND LANDS WITH WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS (WSA)</b>	
Objective WSA 1	Objective CA-WSA 1
Action WSA 1.1	Action CA-WSA 1.1
Objective WSA 2	Objective CA-WSA 2

<b>RMP Action Numbers</b>	<b>Proposed RMP/Final EIS Numbers</b>
Action WSA 2.1	Action CA-WSA 2.1
Action WSA 2.2	Action D-WSA 1.1
Action WSA 2.3	Action WSA 1.2
Action WSA 2.4	Action A-WSA 1.2
<b>Lands with Wilderness Characteristics</b>	
Objective LWC 1	Objective D-WSA 2
Action LWC 1.1	Action D-WSA 2.1
<b>WATCHABLE WILDLIFE VIEWING SITES (WWV)</b>	
Objective WWV 1	Objective WWV 1
Action WWV 1.1	Action CA-WWV 1.1
Action WWV 1.2	Action CA-WWV 1.2
Action WWV 1.3	Action WWV 1.1
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY (PS)</b>	
Objective PS 1	Objective CA-PS 5
Action PS 1.1	Action CA-PS 5.1
Action PS 1.2	Action CA-PS 1.1
Objective PS 2	Objective D-PS 2
Action PS 2.1	Action D-PS 2.2
Action PS 2.2	Action D-PS 2.1
Objective PS 3	Objective D-PS 3
Action PS 3.1	Action D-PS 3.1
<b>SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (SD)</b>	
Objective SD 1	Objective SD 1
Action SD 1.1	Action D-SD 1.1
Action SD 1.2	Action SD 1.2
Objective SD 2	Objective D-SD 3
Action SD 2.1	Action D-SD 3.1
Action SD 2.2	Action SD 2.1
Action SD 2.3	Action SD 2.2
Action SD 2.4	Action D-SD 2.3
Objective SD 3	Objective SD 4
Action SD 3.1	Action SD 4.1
Action SD 3.2	Action SD 4.2
Action SD 3.3	Action SD 4.3
Action SD 3.4	Action SD 4.4
Objective SD 4	Objective SD 5
Action SD 4.1	Action SD 5.1
Action SD 4.2	Action SD 5.2
Action SD 4.3	Action SD 5.3
Action SD 4.4	Action SD 5.4

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## 2.4 GLOSSARY

**ACQUIRED LANDS.** Lands in federal ownership that were obtained by the government through purchase, condemnation, gift or by exchange. Acquired lands constitute one category of public lands.

**ACTIVITY PLAN.** A type of implementation plan (see *Implementation plan*); an activity plan usually describes multiple projects and applies best management practices to meet land use plan objectives. Examples of activity plans include interdisciplinary management plans, habitat management plans, recreation area management plans, and allotment management plans.

**ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT.** A process for implementing management decisions that requires monitoring of management actions and adjustment of decisions based on past and present knowledge. Adaptive management applies scientific principles and methods to improve management decisions incrementally as experience is gained in response to new scientific findings and societal changes.

**AIR QUALITY STANDARD.** The specified average concentration of an air pollutant in ambient air during a specified period at or above the level the public health may be at risk, equivalent to Ambient Air Quality Standard.

**ANIMAL UNIT MONTH (AUM).** The amount of forage necessary for the sustenance of one cow or its equivalent for a period of one month (approximately 800 pounds of air-dry material per AUM). A full AUM's fee is charged for each month of grazing by adult animals if the grazing animal (1) is weaned, (2) is six months or older when entering public land, or (3) will become 12 months old during the period of use. For fee purposes, an AUM is the amount of forage used by five weaned or adult sheep or goats or one cow, bull, steer, heifer, horse, or mule. The term AUM is commonly used in three ways: (1) stocking rate, as in X acres per AUM, (b) forage allocation, as in X AUMs in allotment A, and (3) utilization, as in X AUMs consumed from Unit B.

**ANNUAL PLANT.** A plant that completes its life cycle and dies in one year or less.

**APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT LEVEL (AML).** A single number that is the high point of an established population range to maintain a thriving natural ecological balance, based on available forage, water, and other resource needs or conflicts (relating to management of wild horses and burros).

**AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC).** An area established through the planning process, as provided in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976, where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values; or to fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes; or to protect life and afford safety from natural hazards.

**AUGMENTATION.** The act of releasing animals or plants to maintain or enlarge an existing population of the same species within a specified area, sometimes called supplemental transplants. Augmentation includes, but is not limited to, routine game fish stocking or reseedsings. (BLM Manual Section 1745).

**AVOIDANCE AREA.** Areas to be avoided but may be available for location of rights-of-way with special stipulations.

**BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE (BMP).** A suite of techniques that guide, or that may be applied to, management actions to aid in achieving desired outcomes. BMPs are often 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 Handbook H1601-1; Glossary).

**BIOLOGICAL CRUST.** A complex mosaic of living organisms—algae, cyanobacteria (blue-green algae), bacteria, lichens, mosses, liverworts, and fungi—that grow on or just below the soil surface.

**BIOLOGICAL TREATMENT.** Techniques used to achieve resource benefits by using living organisms (animals, insects, plant pathogens) to control hazardous fuel weeds, or invasive species and/or pests.

**CASUAL USE.** Activities ordinarily resulting in no or negligible disturbance of the public lands or resources. Specific definitions and examples are given throughout the regulations governing activities on public lands, including in 43 CFR 2801.5, 3200.1, and 3809.5.

**CAVE.** Any naturally occurring void, cavity, recess, or system of interconnected passages that occurs beneath the surface of the earth or within a cliff or ledge (including any cave resource therein, but not including any mine, tunnel, aqueduct, or other man-made excavation) that is large enough to serve as habitat for wildlife. This term includes any natural pit, sinkhole, or other feature that is an extension of the entrance.

**CHECKERBOARD LANDS.** Intermixed public domain and private lands that include private, state, local, or federal lands.

**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. For example, 43 CFR 8340.0-5 sets forth the specific meaning of “closed” as it relates to off-highway vehicle use, and 43 CFR 8364 defines “closed” as it relates to closure and restriction orders. In reference to locatable minerals “closed” means segregated or withdrawn from the operation of the Mining Law of 1872.

**CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS (CFR).** The codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the executive departments and agencies of the federal government. The Code is divided into 50 titles that represent broad areas subject to regulation.

**COLLABORATION.** A cooperative process in which interested parties, often with widely varied interests, work together to seek solutions with broad support for managing public and other lands.

**COMMUNITY RECREATION-TOURISM MARKET.** A community or communities that depends on public lands recreation and related tourism use, growth, and development. Major investments in facilities and visitor assistance are authorized within Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMA) where the BLM’s strategy is to target demonstrated community recreation-tourism market demand. Here, recreation management actions are geared toward meeting the primary recreation-tourism market demand for specific activity, experience, and benefit opportunities. These opportunities are

produced through maintaining prescribed natural resource and community setting character and by structuring and implementing management, marketing, monitoring, and administrative actions accordingly.

**CONDITION CLASS (CC).** A classification of a vegetation community’s variance or departure from historic fire conditions. Fire Condition Classes can be Fire Condition Class 1, representing low departure from historic fire regime; Fire Condition Class 2, representing moderate departure from historic fire regime; or Fire Condition Class 3, representing high departure from historic fire regime.

**COOPERATING AGENCY.** Assists the lead Federal agency in developing an EA or EIS. The CEQ regulations implementing NEPA define a cooperating agency as any agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise for proposals covered by NEPA (40 CFR 1501.6). Any Federal, state, local government jurisdiction with such qualifications may become a cooperating agency by agreement with the lead agency.

**CRITICAL GROWING PERIOD.** The period in a plant’s growth cycle when food (carbohydrate) reserves are the lowest and grazing is most harmful; for example, in grass species this period begins with the boot stage and closes with complete maturation of the fruit (seed).

**CRITICAL HABITAT.** Habitat designated by the US Fish and Wildlife Service under Section 4 of the Endangered Species Act and under the following criteria: 1) specific areas within the geographical area occupied by the species at the time it is listed, on which are found those physical or biological features essential to the conservation of the species and that may require special management or protection; or 2) specific areas outside the geographical area by the species at the time it is listed but that are considered essential to the conservation of the species.

**CRUCIAL WINTER RANGE.** A BLM definition that applies to elk, mule deer, and pronghorn habitat and made up of areas defined by Nevada Department of Wildlife as winter concentration areas and severe winter range:

- **Winter Concentration Area**—That part of winter range where densities are at least 200 percent greater than the surrounding winter range density during the same period used to define winter range in the average five winters out of ten.
- **Severe Winter Range**—That part of the overall range where 90 percent of the individuals are located when the annual snowpack is at its maximum or temperatures are at a minimum (or both) in the two worst winters out of ten.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES.** Locations of human activity, occupation, or use. Cultural resources include archaeological, historic, or architectural sites, structures, or places with important public and scientific uses and locations of traditional cultural or religious importance to specific social or cultural groups.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY.** A procedure to assess the potential presence of cultural resources. There are three classes of surveys:

- **Class I.** An existing data survey is an inventory of a study area to (1) provide a narrative overview of cultural resources by using existing information, and (2) to compile existing

cultural resources site record data on which to base the development of the BLM's site record system.

- **Class II.** A sampling field inventory designed to locate, from surface and exposed profile indications, all cultural resource sites within a portion of an area so that an estimate can be made of the cultural resources for the entire area.
- **Class III.** An intensive field inventory designed to locate, from surface and exposed profile indications, all cultural resource sites in an area.

**CUMULATIVE EFFECTS.** The direct and indirect effects of a proposed project alternative's incremental impacts when they are added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions, regardless of who carries out the action.

**DEFERRED/DEFERMENT.** Term used in grazing management actions that denotes a less than one year period where no livestock grazing is allowed.

**DESIRED CONDITION.** A desired state for an ecosystem or ecosystem component that is based on its relationship with other interacting components. Usually implies a long-term goal for management.

**DESTINATION RECREATION-TOURISM MARKET.** National or regional recreation-tourism visitors and other constituents who value public lands as recreation-tourism destinations. Major investments in facilities and visitor assistance are authorized within SRMAs where the BLM's strategy is to target demonstrated destination recreation-tourism market demand. Here, recreation management actions are geared toward meeting primary recreation-tourism market demand for specific activity, experience, and benefit opportunities. These opportunities are produced through maintaining prescribed natural resource setting character and by structuring and implementing management, marketing, monitoring, and administrative actions accordingly.

**DISCRETIONARY ACTIONS.** These include livestock grazing, mineral leasing, and some lands actions.

**DISPOSAL.** A transaction that leads to the transfer of title of public lands from the federal government.

**DIVERSITY.** The relative abundance of wildlife species, plant species, communities, habitats, or habitat features per unit of area.

**ECOSYSTEM.** An interacting natural system including all the component organisms together with the abiotic environment that comprises one functioning whole (BLM Manual Section 1745).

**ECOSYSTEM RESILIENCE.** The ability of an ecosystem to restore or maintain biodiversity, ecosystem functions, and ecological structure and processes after a disturbance. Ecosystem resilience implies a return to some stable trajectory or stable rate or type of system dynamics after system disturbance.

**ELIGIBLE RIVER SEGMENT.** A section of a river that qualifies for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System through determination that it is free flowing and with its adjacent land area possessing at least one river-related value considered to be outstandingly remarkable.

**EMISSION.** Unwanted substances released by human activity into the air.

**ENDANGERED SPECIES.** An animal or plant species designated by the US Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) to receive federal protection because it is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its natural range.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT.** A concise public document prepared to provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or a finding of no significant impact. It includes a brief discussion of the need for the proposal, the alternatives considered, the environmental impact of the proposed action and alternatives, and a list of agencies and individuals consulted.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS).** A formal public document prepared to analyze the impacts on the environment of a proposed project or action and released for comment and review. An EIS must meet NEPA requirements, CEQ guidelines, and the directives of the agency responsible for the proposed project or action.

**EPHEMERAL STREAM.** Stream reaches where water flows for only brief periods during storm runoff.

**EROSION.** Detachment or movement of soil or rock fragments by water, wind, or gravity. Accelerated erosion is much more rapid than normal, natural, or geologic erosion, primarily as a result of the influence of surface-disturbing activities of people, animals, or natural catastrophes.

**EXCHANGE.** A transaction whereby the federal government receives land or interests in land in exchange for other land or interests in land.

**EXCLOSURE.** A fence or other device that completely surrounds a relatively small area, such as a wetland or research plot, to exclude large nonnative animals, such as cattle and burros.

**EXCLUSION AREA.** Areas not available for location of rights-of-way subject to a determination by the District Manager/Authorized Officer to consider location of rights-of-way based on special management criteria.

**EXOTIC SPECIES.** All species of plants and animals not naturally occurring, either presently or historically, in any ecosystem of the United States (EO 11987) (BLM Manual Section 1745).

**EXTENSIVE RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA (ERMA).** A public lands unit identified in land use plans containing all acreage not identified as a Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). Recreation management actions within an ERMA are limited to only those of a custodial nature.

**FEDERAL LAND POLICY AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976 (FLPMA).** Public Law 94-579 signed by the President on October 21, 1976. Establishes public land policy for management of lands administered by the BLM. FLPMA specifies several key directions for the BLM, notably (1) management on the basis of multiple-use and sustained yield, (2) land use plans prepared to guide

management actions, (3) public lands managed for the protection, development, and enhancement of resources, (4) public lands retained in federal ownership, and (5) public participation used in reaching management decisions.

**FIRE BEHAVIOR.** The manner in which a fire reacts to fuel, weather, and topography. Common terms used to describe behavior include smoldering, creeping, running, spotting, torching, and crowning.

**FIRE FOR RESOURCE BENEFIT.** The application of the response to naturally ignited wildland fires based on social, legal and ecological consequences of the fire to accomplish specific resource management objectives including for resource benefit in predefined designated areas (conditional fire suppression areas).

**FIRE INTENSITY.** Technically calculated as the energy release per unit length of flame front. Generally, fire intensity is a component of fire behavior and refers to the heat of the fire. Fire intensity is measured as the fire burns. A high intensity fire would be more difficult to suppress than a low intensity fire.

**FIRE SEVERITY.** The effect of fire. Severity is reflected in killed vegetation or soil damage. Fire severity is determined after the fire. A high intensity fire may not have severe fire effects. High severity fire could result in soil erosion, sediment in water, landslides, and weed infestation. Often, low severity fire is desirable for removing dead fuels.

**FIRE SUPPRESSION.** A coordinated effort to put out a fire.

**FLUID MINERALS.** Oil, gas, geothermal resources, carbon dioxide, and coalbed methane.

**FORAGE.** All browse and herbaceous growth available and acceptable to grazing animals or that may be harvested for feeding purposes. Forage includes pasture, rangelands, and crop aftermath. Feed includes forage, hay, and grains.

**FUELBREAK.** A wide strip or block of land on which vegetation has been removed or modified so that fires burning into it can be more readily extinguished.

**FUGITIVE DUST.** Airborne pulverized soil particles that drift from an area of disturbance.

**GRAZING.** Consumption of forage from rangelands or pastures by livestock, wild horses/burros or wildlife.

**GRAZING ALLOTMENT.** An area of land where one or more operators graze their livestock. It generally consists of public lands but may include parcels of private or state-owned lands. The number of livestock and period of use are stipulated for each allotment.

**GRAZING FEE.** A charge, usually monthly, for grazing a specific kind of livestock.

**GRAZING PERMIT/LICENSE/LEASE.** Official written permission to graze a specific number, kind, and class of livestock for a specified period on a defined rangeland.

**GROUNDWATER.** Water beneath the land surface, in the zone of saturation.

**GUIDELINES.** Actions or management practices that may be used to achieve desired outcomes, sometimes expressed as best management practices. Guidelines may be identified during the land use planning process, but they are not considered a land use plan decision unless the plan specifies that they are mandatory. Guidelines for grazing administration must conform to 43 CFR 4180.2.

**GUZZLER.** General term covering such devices as guzzlers and wildlife drinkers. A natural or artificially constructed structure or device to capture and hold naturally flowing water to make it accessible to small and large animals. Most guzzlers involve above or below ground piping, storage tanks, and valves.

**HABITAT.** A specific set of physical conditions that surround a single species, a group of species, or a large community. In wildlife management, the major components of habitat are considered to be food, water, cover, and living space.

**HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN (HCP).** A comprehensive planning document pursuant to Section 10(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act that is a mandatory component of an incidental take permit for a project with no federal nexus. (See Multi-Species Conservation Plan.)

**HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN (HMP).** A written and approved activity plan for a geographical area that identifies habitat management activities to be implemented in achieving specific objectives of planning decisions.

**HARDROCK MINERALS.** Locatable minerals that are neither leasable (such as oil, gas, coal, oil shale, phosphate, sodium, potassium, sulphur, asphalt, or gilsonite) nor saleable (such as common variety sand and gravel). Hardrock minerals include copper, lead, zinc, magnesium, nickel, tungsten, gold, silver, bentonite, barite, feldspar, fluorspar, and uranium.

**HAZARDOUS MATERIAL.** A substance, pollutant, or contaminant that, due to its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment.

**HERBICIDES.** Chemicals (pesticides) used to kill plants.

**HERD AREA (HA).** Related to wild horses and burros, an HA is the geographic area identified as having been used by a wild horse or burro herd as its habitat in 1971.

**HERD MANAGEMENT AREA (HMA).** Related to wild horses and burros, an HMA is an area or areas established within the HA for the maintenance of wild horses and burros.

**HIGH WALLS.** Uphill sides of contour mine excavations.

**IMPACT.** The effect, influence, alteration, or imprint caused by an action.

**IMPLEMENTATION PLAN.** An area or site-specific plan written to implement decisions made in a land use plan. Implementation plans include both activity plans and project plans (they are types of implementation plans).



**INDIAN TRUST ASSETS.** Indian trust resources are legal interests in assets held in trust by the federal government for federally recognized Indian tribes or nations or for individual Indians. These assets can be real property, physical assets, or intangible property rights.

**INDICATOR.** Components of a system whose characteristics (presence or absence, quantity, distribution) are used as an index of an attribute (e.g., rangeland health attribute) that are too difficult, inconvenient, or expensive to measure.

**INTEGRATED WEED MANAGEMENT.** A system for planning and implementation of a program to select a method for containing or controlling an undesirable plant species or group of species using all available methods including; education, prevention, physical or mechanical methods, biological control agents, herbicide methods, cultural methods and general land management. It uses an interdisciplinary and ecological approach to managing unwanted plants-weeds.

**INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM.** A formation of varied land use and resource specialists providing a coordinated, integrated information base for overall land use planning and management.

**INTERIOR BOARD OF LAND APPEALS (IBLA).** A board within the Department of the Interior's Office of Hearings and Appeals that acts for the Secretary of the Interior by responding to appeals of decisions on the use and disposition of public lands and resources. Because IBLA acts for and on behalf of the Secretary of the Interior, its decisions usually represent the Department's final decision but are subject to the Secretary's review and to appeal in federal court.

**INTRODUCTIONS.** The release, escape, or establishment of an exotic species into a natural ecosystem (EO 11987) (BLM Manual Section 1745).

**INVASIVE NONNATIVE SPECIES.** Species that have been introduced into an area in which they did not evolve and in which they usually have few or no natural enemies to limit their reproduction and spread. They are animal and plant species with an extraordinary capacity for multiplication and spread at the expense of native species. These species can cause environmental harm by significantly changing ecosystem composition, structure, or processes and can cause economic harm or harm to human health. Plants in this category may or may not be designated as noxious weeds.

**KEY AREA.** A portion of the range, which because of its location, grazing and browsing value, and/or uses serves as an indicative sample of rangeland conditions, trend, or degree of seasonal use.

**KEY (FORAGE) SPECIES.** (1) Species that, because of their importance, must be considered in a management program or (2) forage species whose use shows the degree of use of associated species.

**KGRA (KNOWN GEOTHERMAL RESOURCE AREA).** An area that the BLM determined; based on geologic and technical evidence, that a person with geothermal knowledge would spend money to develop the geothermal resource, areas that were located near wells capable of commercial production of geothermal fluids, or areas where there was a competitive interest in geothermal resource development (not a singular criterion existed). The BLM geothermal leasing regulation of May 2007 replaced the term KGRA with "lease areas" to identify potential lease areas.

**LAND HEALTH STANDARDS.** The degree to which the integrity of the soil and ecological process of ecosystems are sustained.

**LAND TENURE.** Refers to ownership of a parcel of land. BLM-managed public lands are owned by the United States government for the citizens of the United States.

**LEASABLE MINERALS.** Those minerals or materials designated as leasable under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920. They include coal, phosphate, asphalt, sulphur, potassium and sodium minerals, and oil and gas. Geothermal resources are also leasable under the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970.

**LEASING ACT OF 1920.** Federal law governing the leasing of public lands associated with petroleum, natural gas, coal, phosphate, asphalt, sulphur, potassium and sodium.

**LEK.** Areas used by sage-grouse during the mating season where males display to attract receptive females. These sites are characterized by low vegetation with sparse shrubs, often surrounded by big sagebrush communities. Strutting grounds or leks are considered to be the center of sage-grouse activities. Leks can be categorized as (Connelly 2000):

- Occupied Lek—A traditional display area in or adjacent to sagebrush-dominated habitats that has been attended by two or more male sage-grouse in two or more of the previous five years;
- Active Lek—A lek attended by one or more male sage-grouse as determined by that year’s lek survey; or
- Inactive Lek—A lek not attended by one or more male sage-grouse as determined by that year’s lek survey.

**LENTIC.** Pertaining to standing water, such as lakes and ponds.

**LITHIC SITE.** An archaeological site containing debris left from the manufacture, use, or maintenance of flaked stone tools.

**LOCATABLE MINERALS.** Minerals or materials subject to claim and development under the Mining Law of 1872, as amended. Generally includes metallic minerals, such as gold and silver, and other materials not subject to lease or sale, such as some bentonites, limestone, talc, and some zeolites. Whether or not a particular mineral deposit is locatable depends on such factors as quality, quantity, mineability, demand, and marketability.

**LONG-TERM EFFECT.** This could occur for several years after implementation of an alternative.

**LOTIC.** Pertaining to actively moving water.

**MECHANICAL TREATMENT.** The use of machinery, tools, or mechanized equipment to apply treatments (such as harrowing, disking, plowing, mowing, drill seeding, etc.) in order to masticate or remove vegetation and hazardous fuels or prepare seed beds in order to meet resource objectives.

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU).** Agreements with other district offices and agencies where resources (e.g., wild horses and burros) are managed across district office and agency administrative boundaries.

**MINERAL ENTRY.** Claiming public lands (administered by the BLM) under the Mining Law of 1872 for the purpose of exploiting minerals. May also refer to mineral exploration and development under the mineral leasing laws and the Material Sale Act of 1947.

**MINERAL MATERIALS.** Common varieties of such commodities as sand, building stone, gravel, clay, and moss rock obtainable under the Minerals Act of 1947, as amended.

**MINERAL WITHDRAWALS.** Closure of public land to all or some of the mining laws, including sales, leasing and claim location, subject to valid existing rights.

**MINING LAW OF 1872.** Provides for claiming and gaining title to locatable minerals on public lands. Also referred to as the General Mining Laws or Mining Laws.

**MITIGATION.** Alleviation or lessening of possible adverse effects on a resource by applying appropriate protective measures or adequate scientific study. Mitigation may be achieved by avoidance, minimization, rectification, reduction, and compensation.

**MONITORING.** The timed collection of information to determine the effects of resource management and to identify changing resource conditions or needs. Monitoring includes the periodic evaluation of management actions to determine how well objectives were met and how management practices should be adjusted.

**MOTORIZED VEHICLE.** A device that is designed or used to transport people or objects and whose propulsion is provided by an engine or motor. The engine (motor) can be any number of machines designed to convert energy into mechanical propulsion. These machines include but are not limited to internal and external (steam) combustion engines, electric motors, motors driven by elastic energy (springs) and/or motors driven by non-combustive chemical reactions.

**MULTIPLE-USE.** Management of the various surface and subsurface resources so that they are jointly used in the manner that will best meet the present and future needs of the public without permanent impairment of the productivity of the land or the quality of the environment.

**NATIONAL AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS (NAAQS).** The allowable concentrations of air pollutants specified by the federal government. The air quality standards are divided into primary standards (based on the air quality criteria and allowing an adequate margin of safety and requisite to protect the public health) and secondary standards (based on the air quality criteria and allowing an adequate margin of safety and requisite to protect the public welfare) from any unknown or expected adverse effects of air pollutants.

**NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREAS (NCA).** Areas designated by Congress so that present and future generations of Americans can benefit from the conservation, protection, enhancement, use, and management of these areas by enjoying their natural, recreational, cultural, wildlife, aquatic, archaeological, paleontological, historical, educational, and scientific resources and values.

**NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT OF 1969 (NEPA).** Public Law 91-190. Establishes environmental policy for the nation. Among other things, NEPA requires federal agencies to consider environmental values in decision making processes.

**NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT (NHPA).** The primary federal law providing for the protection and preservation of cultural resources. The NHPA established the National Register of Historic Places, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the State Historic Preservation Office.

**NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAILS (NHT).** Trails established to identify and protect historic routes; they follow as closely as possible the original trails or routes of travel of national historic significance.

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES (NHRP).** A listing or register of architectural, historical, archaeological, and cultural sites of local, state, or national significance established by the Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and maintained by the National Park Service.

**NATIONAL SCENIC TRAILS.** Trails established by an Act of Congress that are intended to provide for maximum outdoor recreation potential and for the conservation and enjoyment of nationally significant scenic, historical, natural, and cultural qualities of the areas through which these trails pass. National Scenic Trails may be located to represent desert, marsh, grassland, mountain, canyon, river, forest, and other areas, as well as land forms that exhibit significant characteristics of the physiographic regions of the nation.

**NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SYSTEM (NWSRS).** Rivers with outstanding scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or similar values designated by Congress under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of October 2, 1968, for the preservation of their free-flowing condition.

**NATIVE SPECIES.** All species of plants and animals naturally occurring, either presently or historically, in any ecosystem of the United States (EO 11987) (BLM Manual Section 1745).

**NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY (NSO).** A mineral leasing stipulation that prohibits occupancy or disturbance on all or part of the lease surface in order to protect special values or uses.

**OBJECTIVE.** A concise, time specific statement of measurable planned results that respond to pre-established goals or desired conditions.

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

**OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE AREA DESIGNATIONS.** BLM-administered lands in the WD are designated as Open, Limited, or Closed for OHV use.

- **Open**—Designated areas where all types of motorized vehicles (such as jeeps, all-terrain vehicles, and motorized dirt bikes) are permitted at all times, anywhere in the area, on roads or cross country, subject to the operating regulations and vehicle standards set forth in 43 CFR subparts 8341 and 8342.

- **Limited**—Designated areas where motorized vehicles are restricted to designated routes. Off-road cross-country travel is prohibited in limited areas, unless an area is specifically identified as one where cross-country over-snow travel is allowed. Some existing routes may be closed in limited areas.
- **Closed**—Designated areas where off-road motorized vehicle travel is prohibited year-long. Emergency use of vehicles is allowed year-long.

**OLD GROWTH FOREST.** Ecosystems distinguished by old trees (minimum age of 150 years) and related structural features. Old-growth encompasses the later stages of stand development that typically differ from earlier stages in several ways including; tree size, accumulations of large dead, woody material; number of canopy layers; species composition; and ecosystem function (USFS 1993). Old-growth forest tree descriptions or information by the Society of American Foresters (SAF) for Region 4, Nevada, include Whitebark Pine SAF Cover Type 209 and Limber Pine coverage type 237 (IM 2005-110; Meeting Healthy Forests Restoration Act – Old growth management.)

**PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES.** The physical remains or other physical evidence of plants and animals preserved in soils and sedimentary rock formations. Paleontological resources are important for correlating and dating rock strata and for understanding past environments, environmental change, and the evolution of life.

**PARTICULATE MATTER (PM).** One of the six “criteria” pollutants for which the US EPA established National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Particulate matter is defined as either fine particulates, with an aerodynamic diameter of 10 micrometers ( $PM_{10}$ ) or less, or fine particulates with an aerodynamic diameter of 2.5 micrometers or less ( $PM_{2.5}$ ).

**PERENNIAL PLANT.** A plant that has a life cycle of three or more years.

**PERENNIAL STREAM.** A stream that flows throughout the year for many years.

**PERMITTEE.** One who holds a permit to graze livestock on state, federal, or certain privately owned lands.

**PESTICIDE.** A general term used to describe chemicals that kill harmful organisms such as insects, fungi, plants, etc. Pesticides include herbicides, insecticides, and fungicides.

**PLANNING AREA.** The geographical area for which land use and resource management plans are developed and maintained. The planning area assessed in this RMP includes all federal lands managed by the BLM within the WD administrative boundary, excluding lands managed under the BRDHRC NCA RMP.

**PLANNING ISSUES.** Concerns, conflicts, and problems with the existing management of public lands. Frequently, issues are based on how land uses affect resources. Some issues are concerned with how land uses can affect other land uses, or how the protection of resources affects land uses.

**PLANT COMMUNITIES.** Assemblages of plants that grow together in space and time.

**POPULATION MANAGEMENT UNIT.** Defines distribution of sage-grouse within certain geographical areas and defines conservation goals to protect sage-grouse.

**PRESCRIBED FIRE TREATMENTS.** Any fire ignited by management actions to meet specific objectives relating to hazardous fuels reductions or habitat improvement or resource benefit. A written, approved prescribed fire plan must exist prior to ignition.

**PREVENTION (WILDLAND FIRE).** Activities directed at reducing the incident of fires including public education, law enforcement, personal contact and reduction of fuel hazards.

**PRIORITY HABITAT.** See exclusion area definition above.

**PRIORITY SPECIES AND HABITAT.** These species may include federal or state listed endangered or threatened species of fish, wildlife, or plants of significant economic or recreational value; species highly sensitive to land use changes; individuals or populations of special significance; and aquatic or riparian areas or habitats of special significance (BLM Manual 6780).

**PRIORITY WATERSHED.** A watershed that contains either threatened or endangered species habitat for Lahontan cutthroat trout (LCT), identified recovery streams for LCT, and/or presence of municipal water supply collection areas. These watersheds are managed as closed to saleable and fluid minerals and not suitable for solid leasable minerals development (See discretion of the authorized officer criteria). Priority watersheds are also considered exclusion areas for location of rights-of-way (See exclusion areas above).

**PRIORITY WILDLIFE HABITAT AREA.** Areas containing priority wildlife species and habitats including special status species. These areas are managed as closed to saleable and fluid minerals and not suitable for solid leasable minerals development (See discretion of the authorized officer criteria). Priority wildlife habitat areas are also considered exclusion areas for location of rights-of-way (See exclusion areas above).

**PROPER FUNCTIONING CONDITION.** (See BLM Manual H-4180 Rangeland Health Standards), States in part; (1) An element of the Fundamental of Rangeland Health for watersheds, and therefore a required element of State or regional standard and guidelines under 43 CFR 4180.2(b). (2) Condition in which vegetation and ground cover maintain soil conditions that can sustain natural biotic communities. For riparian areas, the process of determining function is described in BLM Technical Reference TR 1737-9. (3) Riparian-wetland areas are functioning properly when adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris is present to dissipate stream energy associated with high water flows.

**PUBLIC LAND.** Any land and interest in land (outside of Alaska) owned by the US and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the BLM.

**RANGELAND.** A kind of land on which the native vegetation, climax, or natural potential consists predominantly of grasses, grass-like plants, forbs, or shrubs. Rangeland includes lands revegetated naturally or artificially to provide plant cover that is managed like native vegetation. Rangelands may consist of natural grasslands, savannas, shrub lands, most deserts, tundra, alpine communities, coastal marshes, and wet meadows.

**RAPTOR.** Bird of prey with sharp talons and strongly curved beaks, such as hawks, owls, vultures, and eagles.

**RECORD OF DECISION.** A concise public record of decision associated with an EIS that identifies alternatives, provides the lead agency’s final decision, the rationale behind the decision, practical means to avoid or minimize environmental harm and may provide for monitoring (See CEQ 40 CFR 1505.2).

**RECOVERY HABITAT.** Habitat for a listed species (stream or area) that was identified as historic, critical, necessary, and/or potential future habitat that is part of the recovery of a listed species within a Federal Recovery Plan.

**RECREATION AND PUBLIC PURPOSES ACT (R&PP).** Act of June 14, 1926 (44 Stat. 741), as amended. The act authorizes the sale or lease of public lands for recreational or public purposes to State and local governments and to qualified nonprofit organizations. Examples of typical uses under the act are historic monument sites, campgrounds, schools, fire houses, law enforcement facilities, municipal facilities, landfills, hospitals, parks, and fairgrounds.

**RECREATION EXPERIENCES.** Psychological outcomes realized either by recreation-tourism participants as a direct result of their on-site leisure engagements and recreation-tourism activity participation or by nonparticipating community residents as a result of their interaction with visitors and guests within their community or interaction with the BLM and other public and private recreation-tourism providers and their actions.

**RECREATION NICHE.** The place or position within the strategically targeted recreation-tourism market for each Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) that is most capable of producing certain kinds of recreation opportunities and that is most responsive to identified visitor or resident customers, given available supply and current demand, for the production of specific recreation opportunities and the sustainable maintenance of accompanying natural resource and community setting character.

**RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES.** Favorable circumstances enabling visitors’ engagement in a leisure activity to realize immediate psychological experiences and attain more lasting, value-added beneficial outcomes.

**RECREATION SETTINGS.** The collective distinguishing attributes of landscapes that influence, and sometimes actually determine, what kinds of recreation opportunities are produced.

**RECREATION SETTING CHARACTER CONDITIONS.** The distinguishing recreational qualities of any landscape, objectively defined along a continuum, ranging from primitive to urban landscapes, expressed in terms of the nature of the component parts of its physical, social, and administrative attributes. These recreational qualities can be both classified and mapped. This classification and mapping process would be based on variation that either exists (for example, setting descriptions) or is desired (for example, setting prescriptions) among component parts of the various physical, social, and administrative attributes of any landscape. The recreation opportunity spectrum is one of the tools for doing this.

**RECREATION-TOURISM MARKET.** Recreation-tourism visitors, affected community residents, affected local governments and private sector businesses, or other constituents and the communities or other places where these customers originate (local, regional, national, or international). Based on analysis of supply and demand, land use plans strategically identify primary recreation-tourism markets for each Special Recreation Management Area—destination, community, or undeveloped.

**REESTABLISHMENT (REINTRODUCTION).** The act of releasing or planting native species into habitat formerly occupied by that species for the purpose or intent of creating self-sustaining populations in the wild state (BLM Manual 1745).

**REHABILITATION (WILDLAND FIRE).** Efforts undertaken within three years of containment of a wildfire to repair or improve fire-damaged lands unlikely to recover naturally to management approved conditions, or to repair or replace minor facilities damaged by fire.

**RESILIENCE.** See ecosystem resilience.

**RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCIL (RAC).** A council established by the Secretary of Interior per 43 CFR 1780 and other authorities to provide advice or recommendations to BLM management. In the Winnemucca District, the Sierra Front/NW Great Basin Resource Advisory Group serves as the RAC.

**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (RMP).** A land use plan that establishes multiple-use guidelines and management objectives for a given planning area.

**RESTORATION.** The return or recovery of a habitat from a degraded state to its original community structure, natural complement of species, and natural functions.

**REST PERIOD.** Term used in grazing management actions that denotes a one year period where no livestock grazing is allowed.

**RIGHT-OF-WAY.** A grant that gives the grantee the right to use a specified piece land public land for a specific period time, for a specific purpose. The term also refers to the land covered by such a grant.

**RIPARIAN.** Situated on or pertaining to the bank of a river, stream, or other body of water. Normally describes plants of all types that grow rooted in the water table or sub-irrigation zone of streams, ponds, and springs.

**RIPARIAN AREA.** Habitat area along a stream, river or other body of water, distinguished by characteristic plant and animal communities.

**ROAD.** A linear route managed for use by low-clearance vehicles having two or more wheels and that has been improved and maintained by mechanical means to ensure relatively regular and continuous use. (A way maintained strictly by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.)

**ROADLESS.** Refers to the absence of roads that have been constructed and maintained by mechanical means to ensure regular and continuous use.



**ROAD MAINTENANCE.** Includes blading, brush removal, scarification, gravelling, water barring, spur ditching, establishing low water crossings, seeding, and installing cattle guards and culverts.

**RUNOFF.** A general term used to describe the portion of precipitation on the land that ultimately reaches streams; may include channel and nonchannel flow.

**SALEABLE MINERALS.** Minerals that may be sold under the Material Sale Act of 1947, as amended. Included are common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, and clay.

**SCENIC INTEGRITY.** The state of naturalness or, conversely, the state of disturbance created by human activities or alteration. Integrity is stated in degrees of deviation from the existing landscape character.

**SCOPING PROCESS.** An early and open public participation process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to a proposed action.

**SEASON OF USE.** The time during which livestock grazing is permitted on a given range area, as specified in the grazing permit.

**SEEDING.** A vegetation treatment that includes the application of grass, forb, or shrub seed, either by air or from the ground. In areas of gentle terrain, ground applications of seed are often accomplished with a rangeland drill. Seeding allows native species or placeholder species to become established and for disturbed areas to be restored to a perennial-dominated cover type, thereby decreasing the risk of subsequent invasion by exotic plant species. Seeding would be used primarily as a follow-up treatment in areas where disturbance or the previously described treatments have removed exotic plant species and their residue.

**SEEPS.** Groundwater discharge areas. In general, seeps have less water flow than a spring.

**SHORT-TERM EFFECT.** The effect occurs only during or immediately after implementation of the alternative.

**SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS.** Movement towards meeting standards and conforming guidelines that is acceptable in terms of rate and magnitude. Acceptable levels of rate and magnitude must be realistic in terms of capability of resources, but must also be as expeditious and effective as practical.

**SOUTHERN NEVADA PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT ACT (SNPLMA).** Approved October 1998 (Public Law 105-263). Provides for the disposal of public land within a specific area in the Las Vegas Valley and creates a special account into which 85 percent of the revenue generated by land sales or exchanges in the Las Vegas Valley is deposited. The remaining 15 percent goes to state and local governments. Revenue in the special account can be used for the acquisition of environmentally sensitive lands in Nevada, capital improvements, development of a multispecies habitat conservation plan in Clark County, and development of parks, trails, and natural areas in Clark County.

**SOILS.** (1) The unconsolidated mineral material on the immediate surface of the earth that serves as the natural medium for the growth of land plants. (2) The unconsolidated mineral matter of the surface of the earth that has been influenced by genetic and environmental factors, including parent

material, climate, topography, all acting over a period of time and producing soil that differs from the parent material in physical, chemical, biological and morphological properties and characteristics.

**SOIL COMPACTION.** A decrease in the volume of soil as a result of compression stress.

**SOIL SERIES.** A group of soils having genetic horizons (layers) that, except for texture the surface layer, have similar characteristics and arrangement in the profile.

**SPECIAL RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA (SRMA).** 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 (that is, activity, experience, and benefit opportunities). Both land use plan decisions and subsequent implementing actions for recreation in each Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) are geared to a strategically identified primary market—destination, community, or undeveloped.

**SPECIAL RECREATION PERMIT.** A permit that authorizes the recreational use of an area and is issued pursuant to the regulations contained in 43 CFR Subpart 2930. Under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, implemented by these regulations, special recreation permits are required for all commercial use, for most competitive events, and for the individual noncommercial use of special areas where permits are required.

**SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES.** Collectively, federally listed or proposed and BLM sensitive species, which include both federal candidate species and delisted species within five years of delisting.

**SPLIT ESTATE.** A land tenure term to describe when the surface land rights and the subsurface mineral rights have been severed from each other and are held by different owners.

**STAND (FOREST STAND).** A group of trees that occupy a specific area and are similar in species, age, and condition.

**STANDARD.** A description of the physical and biological conditions or degree of function required for healthy, sustainable lands (e.g., Land Health Standards). To be expressed as a desired outcome (goal).

**STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP).** A written procedure or set of written procedures providing direction for consistently and correctly performing routine operations. These written procedures set forth methods expected to be followed during the performance of the particular task. The SOPs for the BLM, Winnemucca District Office, are approved by the land use manager and are adopted as policy for the Winnemucca District Office.

**STANDARDS FOR RANGELAND HEALTH.** Standards of land health are expressions of levels of physical and biological condition or degrees of function required for healthy lands and sustainable uses, and define minimum resource conditions that must be achieved and maintained.

**SUITABLE RIVER.** A river segment found, through administrative study by an appropriate agency, to meet the criteria for designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, specified in Section 4(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

**SURFACE DISTURBANCE.** Any disruption of the soil or vegetation beyond what is described under the casual use definitions and which results in soil surface detachment, mixing or alteration.

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.** Post-operational land uses that intend to benefit local communities and economies, while ensuring the well-being of the environment.

**SUSTAINED YIELD.** The continuation of a healthy desired plant community.

**TEMPORARY NON-RENEWABLE (TNR).** A temporary non-renewable grazing permit or lease is issued on an annual basis to qualified applicants when forage is temporarily available, provided this use is consistent with multiple use objectives and does not interfere with existing livestock operations on public lands.

**THRIVING NATURAL ECOLOGICAL BALANCE.** A “thriving ecological balance” is defined as follows: “The goal of wild horse and burro management should be to maintain a thriving ecological balance between wild horse and burro populations, wildlife, livestock and vegetation, and to protect the range from the deterioration associated with overpopulation of wild horses and burros.” (109 IBLA 115; also reference Dahl vs. Clark, supra at 592).

**TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS.** Salt or an aggregate of carbonates, bicarbonates, chlorides, sulfates, phosphates, and nitrates of calcium, magnesium, manganese, sodium, potassium, and other cations that form salts.

**TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL).** A calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards, and an allocation of that amount to the pollutant’s sources.

**TRADITIONAL CULTURAL PROPERTIES (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 that (b) are important in maintaining the community’s continuing cultural identity.

**TRAIL.** A linear route managed for human-power (such as hiking or bicycling), stock (such as horses), or off-highway vehicle forms of transportation or for historical or heritage values. Trails are not generally managed for use by four-wheel drive or high-clearance vehicles.

**TRANSPLANT.** The act of releasing or planting native species into habitat not previously occupied by that species for the purpose or intent of creating self-sustaining populations in the wild state (BLM Manual Section 1745).

**TRESPASS.** Any unauthorized use of public land.

**UNDERSTORY.** That portion of a plant community growing underneath the taller plants on a site.

**UPLAND.** Land at a higher elevation than the alluvial plain or low stream terrace; all lands outside the riparian-wetland and aquatic zones.

**UTILITY CORRIDOR.** Tract of land varying in width forming a passageway through which various commodities, such as oil, gas, and electricity, are transported.

**VEGETATION RELEASE CRITERIA.** Objectives used at a revegetation site to determine whether 1) the desirable species have been successfully established and provide sufficient cover to adequately protect the site from soil erosion, 2) there is evidence that a self-sustaining community has established, and 3) vegetative reproduction and establishment of the desirable seeded species has occurred. Revegetation monitoring activities are oriented toward addressing whether these criteria have been met.

**VEGETATION TYPE.** A plant community with immediately distinguishable characteristics based on and named after the apparent dominant plant species.

**VEGETATIVE COMMUNITY TYPE.** Refers to the species or various combinations of species that dominate or appear to dominate an area of rangeland or habitat.

**VERTEBRATE.** An animal having a backbone or spinal column.

**VIEWSHED.** The panorama from a given viewpoint that encompasses the visual landscape, including everything visible within a 360-degree radius.

**VISUAL RESOURCES.** The visible physical features on a landscape, (topography, water, vegetation, animals, structures, and other features) that make up the scenery of the area.

**VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (VRM).** The inventory and planning actions taken to identify visual resource values and to establish objectives for managing those values and the management actions taken to achieve the visual resource management objectives.

**VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CLASSES.** Categories assigned to public lands based on scenic quality, sensitivity level, and distance zones. VRM classes identify the degree of acceptable visual change within a characteristic landscape. There are four classes:

- **VRM Class I**—Preserves the existing characteristic landscape and allows for natural ecological changes only. Includes congressionally authorized areas (wilderness), WSAs and areas approved through the RMP where landscape modification activities would be restricted.
- **VRM Class II**—Retains the existing characteristic landscape. The level of change in any of the basic landscape elements due to management activities would be low and not evident.
- **VRM Class III**—Partially retains the existing characteristic landscape. The level of change in any of the basic landscape elements due to management activities may be moderate and - evident.
- **VRM Class IV**—Provides for major modifications of the characteristic landscape. The level of change in the basic landscape elements due to management activities can be high. Such activities may dominate the landscape and be the major focus of viewer attention.

**WATERSHED.** Topographical region or area delineated by water draining to a particular watercourse or body of water.

**WETLANDS.** Permanently wet or intermittently water-covered areas, such as swamps, marshes, bogs, potholes, swales, and glades.

**WILDERNESS.** An area formally designated by Congress as a part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

**WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS.** Identified by Congress in the Wilderness Act of 1964, namely, size, naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation, and supplemental values, such as geological, archaeological, historical, ecological, scenic, or other features.

**WILDERNESS STUDY AREA (WSA).** A roadless area that has been inventoried (but not designated by Congress) and found to have wilderness characteristics as described in Section 603 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976 and Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

**WILDFIRE.** An unplanned, unwanted wildland fire, including unauthorized human-caused fires, escaped allowed-fire-for-resource-benefit events, escaped prescribed fire projects, and all other wildland fires where the objective is to put the fire out.

**WILDLAND FIRE.** Any non-structure fire that occurs in the wildland. The three distinct types of wildland fire are wildfire, allow fire for resource benefit, and prescribed fire.

**WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE (WUI).** The line, area, or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels.

**WINTER RANGE.** A Nevada Department of Wildlife definition that applies to elk and mule deer habitat. That part of the overall range where 90 percent of the individuals are located during the average five winters out of ten from the first heavy snowfall to spring green up or during a site-specific period of winter.

**WITHDRAWAL.** An action that restricts the use of public land and segregates the land from the operation of some or all of the public land and mineral laws. Withdrawals are also used to transfer jurisdiction of management of public lands to other federal agencies.

**YEAR-LONG GRAZING.** Continuous grazing for a calendar year.