

GLOSSARY

ACTIVE DUNE. A hill or accumulation of sand shaped by wind. A dune is active when constantly changing form under wind currents. Generally, an active dune is bare of vegetation.

ACTIVE RAPTOR NESTING SITE. An active raptor nest is one that has been occupied within the past 3 years.

ACTIVE GREATER SAGE-GROUSE LEK. Any lek that has been attended by male sage-grouse during the strutting season. Presence can be documented by observation of birds using the site or by signs of strutting activity.

ACTIVE USE. The current authorized use, including livestock grazing and conservation use. Active use may constitute a portion, or all, of permitted use. Active use does not include temporary nonuse or suspended use of forage within all or a portion of an allotment.

ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT. Adaptive management is a systematic process for continually improving management policies and practices by learning from the outcomes of actions over time. It employs management programs that are designed to continuously compare selected policies or practices and is an integrated method for addressing uncertainty that focuses on implementing actions, thoroughly monitoring results, and modifying actions when warranted. It recognizes that the complex interrelationships of physical, biological, and social components of the ecosystem and how they would react to land management practices are often not fully understood when land-use management plans are developed.

ALLOTMENT. An area allocated for livestock use by one or more qualified grazing permittees including prescribed numbers and kinds of livestock under one plan of management.

ANIMAL INN. An information and education program focused on the value of dead, dying, and hollow trees for wildlife and fish. Animal Inn is an awareness-building program, not a regulatory program.

ANIMAL UNIT MONTH (AUM). The amount of forage to sustain one mature cow or the equivalent, based on an average daily forage consumption of 26 pounds of dry matter per day. The equivalent animal units for other ungulate species, based on a weight conversion (3 percent body weight per day), are: 10.5 for antelope; 7.6, deer; 2.1, elk; 1.2, moose; 0.9, wild horses; and 5.2, sheep.

APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT LEVEL (AML). The optimum number of wild horses that provides a thriving natural ecological balance on the public range.

AQUIFER. A saturated, permeable sediment or rock that can transmit significant quantities of water under hydraulic gradients.

AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC). Areas within the public lands 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, fish and wildlife resources, or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards. The identification of a potential ACEC shall not, of itself, change or prevent change of the management or use of public lands.

AVOIDANCE AREA. Areas on public lands where future rights-of-way may be granted only when no feasible alternative route or designated right-of-way corridor is available.

BADLAND. Surface features characterized by sharp erosional scar sculpture of weak rocks, forming steep, furrowed, and fantastically shaped hills, labyrinth-like drainage patterns, and normally dry watercourses.

BIODIVERSITY. See Biological Diversity

BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY. Refers to the variety of life and its processes and includes the variety of living organisms, the genetic differences among them, and the communities and ecosystems in which they occur.

CANDIDATE SPECIES. A plant or animal species whose numbers are declining so rapidly that official listing as threatened or endangered pursuant to Section 4 of the Endangered Species Act may become necessary as a conservation measure. Declines may be due to one or more factors, including: destruction, modification, or curtailment of the species' habitat or range; overutilization for commercial, sporting, scientific, or educational purposes; disease or predation; the inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; or other factors.

CASUAL USE. Activities that involve practices which do not ordinarily lead to any appreciable disturbance or damage to lands, resources, and improvements. For example, activities which do not involve use of heavy equipment or explosives and which do not involve vehicular movement except over established roads and trails are casual use.

CHECKERBOARD LAND PATTERN. Alternating sections of federally owned lands with private or State lands on either side of the Union Pacific railroad in southwestern Wyoming. This pattern of land ownership looks like a checkerboard on maps using different colors to show land status.

CHERRYSTEMMED. A WSA boundary which is drawn around a dead-end road or other linear feature to exclude it from the WSA.

CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL (COA). Conditions or provisions (requirements) under which a site-specific surface disturbing or human presence activity (APD, sundry notice, ROW, etc.) is approved.

CONNECTIVITY AREA. A key wildlife habitat area that connects and includes crucial big game habitats. The area includes topographic relief for escape cover, important year-round forage, crucial winter range, and birthing areas for a majority of the deer and elk populations. The area allows for free movement of animals among the various habitat components, and provides an important migratory corridor throughout the year.

CONSUMPTIVE USE. Recreation activities which consume natural resources. Hunting and fishing are regarded as consumptive recreation because wildlife species are consumed. Rockhounding is consumptive because nonrenewable resources are removed.

CONTROL LINE. Comprehensive term for all constructed or natural barriers and treated fire edges used to control a fire.

CONTROLLED SURFACE USE (CSU). With a controlled surface use stipulation, use and occupancy is allowed (unless restricted by another stipulation), but identified resource values require special operational constraints that may modify the lease rights. Controlled Surface Use is used for operating guidance, not as a substitute for the NSO or timing limitation stipulations.

CRUCIAL HABITAT (RANGE). Crucial habitat can describe any particular seasonal range or habitat component (often winter or winter/yearlong range in Wyoming) but describes that component which has been documented as the determining factor in a population's ability to maintain itself at a certain level (theoretically at or above the population objective) over the long term. Example: The total crucial winter range for an elk herd unit should be available, relatively intact, and allow a population at objective to survive the winter in adequate body condition and to maintain average reproductive rates 8 out of 10 years.

CURRENT ANNUAL GROWTH. The amount of forage produced by a plant in one growing season.

DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION. A future land or resource condition that achieves a set of compatible multi-resource goals and objectives.

DESIRED PLANT COMMUNITY. The plant community which provides the vegetation attributes required for meeting or exceeding RMP vegetation objectives. The desired plant community must be within an ecological site's capability to produce these attributes through natural succession, management action, or both (BLM Wyoming Instruction Memorandum 91-290, 5/29/91).

DISRUPTIVE ACTIVITIES. The physical presence, sounds, and movements of people and their activities (on, below, or above the land surface) that may cause displacement of or excessive stress to wildlife during critical life stages (breeding, nesting, birthing) or during periods of severe weather conditions.

DISTURBANCE ZONE. Area of influence around a disturbance causing a change in animal behavior such as: leaving the area, increased stress, abandoning young, not breeding, and aberrant behavior. Examples of disturbances include: road construction and road use, facility construction and placement, pipeline construction, field facility maintenance, rights-of-way construction, range improvement construction.

DROUGHT. A period of relatively long duration with substantially below-normal precipitation, usually occurring over a large area.

ECOLOGICAL CONDITION. See Ecological Status

ECOLOGICAL STATUS. Defined in the Bureau's monitoring manuals as "the present state of vegetation of a range site in relation to the potential natural community for the site. Ecological status is use independent. It is an expression of the relative degree to which the kinds, proportions, and amounts of plants in a plant community resemble that of the potential natural community. The four ecological status classes correspond to 0-25, 26-50,

51-75, or 77-100 percent similarity to the potential natural community and are called early seral, mid seral, late seral, and potential natural community, respectively, (this replaces range condition)."

EOLIAN ICE-CELLS. Perennial ice formed from snowfall and insulated from summer heat by a cover of windblown sands. This ice feeds small ponds within the dunes.

ERODIBILITY. The tendency of a soil to erode as influenced by texture under specified salts, structure, or slope.

EXCLOSURE. Study or experimental plot rested from livestock grazing.

EXCLUSION AREA. Areas where future rights-of-way may be granted only when mandated by law.

EXISTING ROADS AND VEHICLE ROUTES. Defined as routes existing prior to the date of designation, constructed or created by the frequent passage of motor vehicles, and receive regular and continuous use. Additional vehicle routes may be authorized as need dictates.

EXTIRPATION. Extermination.

FINE FUELS. Fast-drying dead fuels, generally characterized by a comparatively high surface area-to-volume ratio, which are less than 1/4 inch in diameter and have a time lag of one hour or less. These fuels (grass, leaves, needles, etc.) ignite readily and are consumed rapidly by fire when dry.

FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN. Statement, for a specific area, of fire policy, objective, and prescribed action; may include maps, charts, tables, and statistical data.

FIRE SUPPRESSION. All work and activities associated with fire-extinguishing operations, beginning with discovery and continuing until the fire is completely extinguished.

FLOCKETS. A local term for the ponds and associated wet meadows created in the Sand Dunes from melting eolian ice cells.

FLUID MINERAL. Oil, gas, and geothermal resources.

FORAGE. Vegetation of all forms available and of a type used for animal consumption.

FUEL LOAD. Oven-dry weight of fuel per unit area (usually expressed in tons/acre).

FUEL TREATMENT. Any manipulation or removal of fuels to reduce the likelihood of ignition and/or to lessen potential damage and resistance to control (e.g., lopping, chipping, crushing, piling, and burning).

FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE). A measurement of employment that is not equal to jobs or persons; rather, it is based on hours worked (e.g., one person full time or 2 people half time both equal 1 FTE).

FUNCTIONAL - AT RISK. Riparian-wetland areas that are in functional condition but an existing soil, water, or vegetation attribute makes them susceptible to degradation (Prichard, et al. 1993).

GREATER SAGE-GROUSE CONCENTRATION AREA. Greater sage-grouse leks, nesting habitat, early and late brood-rearing habitat and winter concentrations of birds.

GROWING SEASON. In temperate climates, that portion of the year when temperature and moisture are usually most favorable for plant growth.

HABITAT. A specific set of physical conditions in a geographic area(s) that surrounds a single species, a group of species, or a large community. In wildlife management, the major components of habitat are food, water, cover, and living space.

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL. A comprehensive term that has been adopted by BLM to include a wide range of hazardous/toxic substances and hazardous wastes that require special management.

HERITAGE RESOURCES. Physical remains of human activity (artifacts, ruins, burial mounds, petroglyphs, etc.) having scientific, prehistoric, or social values.

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE. A geographic area, including both historic and natural features, associated with an event, person, activity, or design style that is significant in American history.

HISTORIC RAPTOR NESTING SITE. An area of high topographic relief, particularly cliff areas, known to have supported concentrations of nesting raptors, such as Cedar Canyon, Four-J Basin, Kinney Rim, etc.

HUMAN-CAUSED FIRE. Any fire caused directly or indirectly by person(s).

HUNTER-DAY. The presence of one person in an area for the purpose of engaging in a hunting activity during all or part of a calendar day.

HYDRIC SOIL. A soil that is saturated, flooded, or ponded long enough during the growing season to develop anaerobic conditions in the upper part.

HYDROPHOPIC SOILS. Water-repellant soils.

HYDROPHYTE. Any plant that grows in water or on a substrate that is at least periodically deficient in oxygen as a result of excessive water content; plants typically found in wetlands and other aquatic habitats.

HYDROPHYTIC VEGETATION. Plant life growing in water or on a substrate that is at least periodically deficient in oxygen as a result of excessive water content.

IMPACT. Synonymous with effects. Includes ecological, aesthetic, historic, cultural, economic, social, or health, whether direct, indirect, or cumulative. Impacts may also include those resulting from actions which may have both beneficial and detrimental (adverse) effects. Impacts may be considered as direct, indirect, or cumulative:

Direct: Impacts caused by an action occurring at the same time and place.

Indirect: Impacts caused by the proposed action and occurring later in time or farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable.

Cumulative: Those which result from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions.

INHOLDING. A non-Federal parcel of land that is completely surrounded by Federal land.

INTERMITTENT STREAM. A stream or part of a stream that flows only in direct response to precipitation. It receives little or no water from springs and is dry for most of the year.

INVASIVE. A non-native species (with respect to a particular ecosystem) whose introduction does or is likely to cause harm to the economy, environment, or human health.

LEASABLE MINERALS. Minerals subject to lease by the Federal Government; include oil and gas, coal, phosphate, sodium, potash, and oil shale, as well as geothermal resources.

LEASE NOTICE. These notices (not to be confused with Notices to Lessees) are attached to leases and provide detailed information concerning limitations that already exist in law, lease terms, regulations, or operational orders. A Lease Notice also addresses special items the lessee should consider when planning operations, but does not impose new or additional restrictions.

LOCATABLE MINERALS. Minerals subject to disposal and development through 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.

MECHANIZED VEHICLES. Mechanical transport designed to replace human labor and/or human physical capabilities. Mechanized vehicles include mountain bikes, horse drawn wagons, big game carriers, hand carts, and hang gliders.

MINERAL POTENTIAL:

High: Those lands currently producing oil or gas or having high current industry interest.

Moderate: Those lands which have had oil and gas shows in favorable geologic environments.

Low: Those lands where either the geologic environment appears to be favorable for the accumulation of oil and gas, or where little or no information is available to evaluate the oil and gas potential.

MINIMUM HEIGHTS. The amount of plant material remaining during the grazing season.

MODIFICATION. A fundamental change in the provisions of a lease stipulation, either temporarily or for the term of the lease. A modification may include an exemption from or

alteration to a stipulated requirement. The modification may or may not apply to all other sites within the leasehold to which the restrictive criteria apply.

MOUNTAIN PLOVER AGGREGATION AREA. An area with two or more observations, (within two miles of each other during one breeding season) of one of the following: territorial adults nests, adult distraction displays, or broods.

MULTIPLE USE. In Section 103 of FLPMA, "... management of the public lands and their various resource values so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people; making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; the use of some land for less than all the resources; a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including but not limited to, recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific, and historical values; and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources without permanent impairment of the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment with relative consideration being given to the relative values of the resources and not necessarily to the combination of uses that will give the greatest return or the greatest unit output."

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES. A list of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture.

NATIVE AMERICAS RESPECTED PLACE. A physical location about which Native American tribal representatives have expressed concern. The location could be a traditional cultural property, a sacred site, or a site important to tribal history. Management strategies at these sites may be different from those commonly used at typical archeological sites. For instance, viewsheds are usually important, and other issues, including audible intrusions, may need to be considered. Data recovery mitigation is usually not an appropriate mitigation at a respected place.

NATURALNESS. In Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act, the wilderness characteristic in which an area "generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable."

NON-CONSUMPTIVE RECREATION. Wildlife-associated recreation which is not fishing, hunting, or trapping. Nonharvesting activities, such as feeding, photographing, and observing fish and other wildlife, picnicking, camping, etc., are nonconsumptive wildlife activities.

NONFUNCTIONAL. Riparian-wetland areas that clearly are not providing adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris to dissipate stream energy associated with high flows and thus are not reducing erosion, improving water quality, etc., as listed in PROPER FUNCTIONING CONDITION.

NO SURFACE OCCUPANCY (NSO). No surface disturbing activities or surface disturbance, of any nature or for any purpose, will be allowed in the area of concern.

NOTICE TO LESSEES (NTL). An NTL is a written order issued by the authorized officer to implement regulations and operating orders. It serves as instructions on specific item(s) of importance within a State, District, or Area.

OCCUPIED HABITAT. Habitat that has a species present at some time of the year. This can include yearlong habitat, winter ranges, and movement corridors.

OCCUPIED RAPTOR NESTING SITE. An area of high topographic relief that raptor contains raptors or eggs or on which nest building is actively occurring.

OCCUPIED SAGE-GROUSE LEK. A lek that has been active during at least one strutting season within the last ten years.

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE. Any motorized vehicle capable of, or designated for, travel on or immediately over land, water, or other natural terrain, excluding: (1) any nonamphibious registered motorboat; (2) any military, fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle while being used for emergency purposes; (3) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by the authorized officer, or otherwise officially approved; (4) vehicles in official use; and (5) any combat or combat support vehicle when used in times of national defense emergencies (43 CFR 8340.0-5(a)).

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE MANAGEMENT DESIGNATIONS. Designations apply to all off-road vehicles regardless of the purposes for which they are being used. Emergency vehicles are excluded. The ORV designation definitions have been developed in cooperation with representatives of the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Park Service, and BLM State and District personnel. BLM recognizes the differences between off-road vehicles and over-the-snow vehicles in terms of use and impact. Therefore, travel by over-the-snow vehicles will be permitted off existing routes and in all open or limited areas (unless otherwise specifically limited or closed to over-the-snow vehicles) if they are operated in a responsible manner without damaging the vegetation or harming wildlife.

Closed: Vehicle travel is prohibited in the area. Access by means other than motorized vehicle is permitted.

Open: Vehicle travel is permitted in the area (both on and off roads) if the vehicle is operated responsibly in a manner not causing, or unlikely to cause significant, undue damage to or disturbance of the soil, wildlife, wildlife habitat, improvements, cultural, or vegetative resources or other authorized uses of the public lands.

Limited:

- a. Vehicle travel is permitted only on existing roads and vehicle routes which were in existence prior to the date of designation in the Federal Register. Vehicle travel off of existing vehicle routes is permitted only to accomplish necessary tasks and only if such travel does not result in resource damage. Random travel from existing vehicle routes is not allowed. Creation of new routes or extensions and/or widening of existing routes is not allowed without prior written agency approval.
- b. Vehicle travel is permitted only on roads and vehicle routes designated by BLM. In areas where final designation has not been completed, vehicle travel is limited to existing roads and vehicle routes as described above. Designations are posted as follows:
 1. Vehicle route is open to vehicular travel.
 2. Vehicle route is closed to vehicular travel.

c. Vehicle travel is limited by number or type of vehicle. Designations are posted as follows:

1. Vehicle route limited to four-wheel drive vehicles only.
2. Vehicle route is limited to motorbikes only.
3. Area is closed to over-the-snow vehicles.

d. Vehicle travel is limited to licensed or permitted use.

e. Vehicle travel is limited to time or season of use. Posed as follows:

Seasonal closure to all motor vehicles (the approximate dates of closure are indicated).

f. Where specialized restrictions are necessary to meet resources management objectives, other limitations may also be developed. Posted as follows:

Recreational OHV play areas.

PALEOSOL. A term used by archeologists and some geologists to refer to an ancient soil deposit. Paleosols are particularly important because they often contain evidence about some of the earliest cultures to inhabit North America.

PERENNIAL STREAM. A stream or reach of a stream which flows continuously throughout the year, and whose upper surface generally stands lower than the water table in the region adjoining the stream. A permanent or live stream.

PERMANENT FACILITY. Any structure that exists on location for one year or more.

PERMITTED USE. The forage allocated by, or under the guidance of, an applicable land use plan for livestock grazing in an allotment under a permit or lease and is expressed in AUMs.

POTENTIAL HABITAT. An area which displays similar environmental characteristics (such as elevation, soil type, precipitation, associated species, slope and aspect) as the known habitat of the subject species.

PRECIPITATION. Any or all forms of water particles, liquid or solid, that fall from the atmosphere and reach the ground.

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

PRESCRIBED FIRE. A fire burning within prescription, resulting from planned or unplanned ignition.

PRESCRIPTION. Written statement defining objectives to be attained as well as temperature, humidity, wind direction and wind speed, fuel moisture content, and soil

moisture under which the fire will be allowed to burn, generally expressed as acceptable ranges of the various indices, and the limit of the geographic area to be covered.

PROPER FUNCTIONING CONDITION. Riparian-wetland areas that contain adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris to dissipate stream energy associated with high water flows, thereby reducing erosion and improving water quality; filter sediment, capture bedload, and aid floodplain development; improve flood-water retention and ground-water recharge; develop root masses that stabilize stream banks against cutting action; develop diverse ponding and channel characteristics to provide the habitat and the water depth, duration, and temperature necessary for fish production, waterfowl breeding, and other uses; and support greater biodiversity. The functioning condition of riparian-wetland areas is a result of interaction among geology, soil, water, and vegetation. See also FUNCTIONAL-AT RISK, NONFUNCTIONAL. (Prichard, et al. 1993)

PUBLIC LAND. Land administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

RANGELAND IMPROVEMENTS. Any activity or program on or relating to rangelands that is designed to improve forage production, change vegetation composition, control patterns of use, provide water, stabilize soil and water conditions, and enhance habitat for livestock, wildlife, and wild horses and burros. Rangeland improvements include land treatments (e.g., chaining, seeding, burning, etc.), stockwater developments, fences, and trails.

RANGE READINESS. Stage of plant development at which grazing may begin in an area/pasture/allotment without damage to vegetation or soil.

RAPTOR. A bird of prey, such as an eagle, hawk, or owl.

RARE SPECIES. Wildlife species whose populations are consistently small and widely dispersed, or whose ranges are restricted to a few localities, such that any appreciable reduction in numbers, habitat availability, or habitat condition might lead toward extinction.

RECHARGE AREA. The surface area where water enters an aquifer to recharge the water-bearing strata in a groundwater system.

RECLAMATION. The reconstruction of disturbed ecosystems by returning the land to a condition approximate or equal to that which existed prior to disturbance, or to a stable and productive condition compatible with the land use plan. The immediate goal of reclamation is to stabilize disturbed areas and protect both disturbed and adjacent undisturbed areas from unnecessary degradation.

RECREATION VISITOR DAY. Any recreational activity taking place within a 24-hour period, or portion thereof, for each individual recreating on public lands.

RIPARIAN. Situated on or pertaining to the bank of a river, stream, spring, or other body of water. Normally used to refer to the plants of all types that grow rooted in the water table or streams, ponds, springs, etc.

SALABLE 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.

SALINITY. The concentration of dissolved salts in water. It is used to indicate the existence of saline soils. The electrical conductivity (EC) of a saturated extract is the standard measure of salinity and is expressed as mmhos/cm. Classes of salinity and their electrical conductivity level: nonsaline—less than 2; very slightly saline—2-4; slightly saline—4-8; moderately saline—8-16; strongly saline—greater than 16.

SEASONAL UTILIZATION. Seasonal utilization is the amount of utilization that has occurred before the end of the growing season.

SEASON-LONG USE. The term season-long use or passive, continuous grazing means grazing throughout the growing period, with little or no effort to control the amount of distribution of livestock use in area/pasture/allotments.

SECTION 106 CONSULTATION. Also known as the 36 CFR 800 process. Discussions between a federal agency official and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, State Historic Preservation Officer, and other interested parties concerning historic properties that could be effected by a specific undertaking. Section 106 is the portion of the National Historic Preservation Act that outlines the procedure. The procedure is codified in 36 CFR 800.

SEEDLINGS. A tree grown from seed that has not reached a height of three feet or a diameter of two inches.

SOLID WASTE. A solid waste is any solid, liquid, or contained gaseous material that is no longer used and is either disposed of, incinerated, recycled, or stored until needed again. Excluded from this definition of solid wastes (by 40 CFR 261.2) are: a) domestic sewage, b) industrial wastewater discharges from point sources, c) irrigation return flow, and d) in situ mining materials.

SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS. An area containing one or a combination of unique resources or values that receive more intensive management (e.g., ACECs, Special Recreation Management Areas, Wild & Scenic Rivers, etc.).

SPECIAL RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA. BLM administrative units established to direct recreation program priorities, including the allocation of funding and personnel, to those public lands where a commitment has been made to provide specific recreation activity and experience opportunities on a sustained yield basis. This includes a long-term commitment to manage the physical, social, and managerial settings to sustain these activity and experience opportunities. Delineation is based on administrative/management criteria including the existence of Congressional designations, similar or interdependent recreation values, homogenous or interrelated recreation uses, land tenure and use patterns, transportation systems, administrative efficiency, intensity of use, high resource values, public concerns, or interagency considerations. These areas usually require a high level of recreation investment and/or management. They include recreation sites, but recreation sites alone do not constitute a special recreation management area.

SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES. Wildlife and plant species either Federally listed or proposed for listing as endangered or threatened; state-listed or BLM determined priority species.

STABILIZED DUNE. A sand dune protected from wind action by a cover of vegetation.

STIPULATION. A restriction placed on an oil and gas lease or other use authorization to protect other resources (e.g., a seasonal restriction to protect big game in their winter range or in their calving areas). The restriction precludes or restricts activities.

SURFACE DISTURBANCE. Refers to any action created through mechanized or mechanical means that would cause soil mixing or result in alteration or removal of soil or vegetation and expose the mineral soil to erosive processes. Used in the literal context of actual, physical disturbance and movement or removal of the land surface and vegetation.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES. As defined by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 as amended (P.L. 93-205; 87 Stat. 884), an endangered species means "any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range" and a threatened species means "any species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range." Whether a species is threatened or endangered is determined by the following factors: (1) present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or range; (2) overutilization for commercial, sporting, scientific, or educational purposes; (3) disease or predation; (4) inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; or (5) other natural or human-made factors.

TREAD LIGHTLY! A land use ethics program that encourages individuals and groups to minimize their direct impact on an area.

TRONA. A naturally occurring sodium sesquicarbonate that was formed in ancient saline lakes. It is generally honey or light brown in color, depending upon the impurities present. It is the major natural source of soda ash.

UTILIZATION. The portion of forage that has been consumed (or destroyed) by livestock, wild horses, wildlife, and insects during a specified period. The term is also used to refer to the pattern of such use (43 CFR 4100.0-5).

VEGETATION TREATMENTS. Land treatment projects designed to improve the growth of more desirable plant species. Biological, chemical, or mechanical methods of vegetation removal, including prescribed burns, are used.

VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CLASSES (definition of).

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

Class II. The objective of this class is to design proposed alterations so as to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be low. Management activities may be seen, but should not attract attention of the casual observer. Any changes must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.

Class III. The objective of this class is to design proposed alterations so as to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. Contrasts to the basic elements (form, line, color, and texture) caused by management activity may be evident and begin to attract attention in the characteristic landscape. However, the changes should remain subordinate to the existing characteristic landscape. Structures located in the foreground distance zone (0-1/2 mile) often create a contrast that exceeds the VRM class, even when designed to harmonize and blend with the characteristic landscape. This may be especially true when a distinctive architectural motif or style is designed. Approval by the Field Manager is required on a case-by-case basis to determine whether the structure(s) meet the acceptable VRM class standards, and if not, whether they add acceptable visual variety to the landscape.

Class IV. The objective of this class is to provide for management activities that require major modification of the existing character of the landscape. Contrasts may attract attention and be a dominant feature of the landscape in terms of scale; however, the change should repeat the basic elements (form, line, color, and texture) inherent in the characteristic landscape. Structures located in the foreground distance zone (0-1/2 mile) often create a contrast that exceeds the VRM class, even when designed to harmonize and blend with the characteristic landscape. This may be especially true when a distinctive architectural motif or style is designed. Approval by the Field Manager is required on a case-by-case basis to determine whether the structure(s) meet the acceptable VRM class standards, and if not, whether they add acceptable visual variety to the landscape.

WAIVER. A permanent exemption from a lease stipulation for the entire leasehold.

WATERSHED. All land and water within the confines of a drainage divide.

WETLAND. Lands where at least periodic inundation or saturation with water (either from the surface or subsurface) is the dominant factor determining the nature of soil development and the types of plant and animal communities living there. These include the entire zones associated with streams, lakes, ponds, springs, canals, seeps, wet meadows, and some aspen stands. Wetlands support all fish. They also support more species of wildlife (in higher densities) than any other habitat type in the planning area. They comprise less than one percent of the public land acreage.

Wetlands are lands transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water. For purposes of this document, wetlands must have one or more of the following three attributes: (1) at least periodically, the land supports predominantly hydrophytes, (2) the substrate is predominantly undrained hydric soil, and (3) the substrate is non-soil and is saturated with water or covered by shallow water at some time during the growing season of each year.

WILDERNESS STUDY AREA (WSA). Areas under study for possible inclusion as a Wilderness Area in the National Wilderness Preservation System.

WILDFIRE. Any fire occurring on wild land that neither meets management objectives nor occurs within a prescribed fire area, thus requiring a suppression response.

WILDLAND URBAN INTERFACE (WUI). Occurs where human structures meet or intermix with wild land vegetation.

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