

1 9.0 Glossary

Access road	A road used specifically by an operator to access a Project well pad or other project component.
Acre-foot	Volume of water required to cover 1 acre to a depth of 1 foot; equivalent to a volume of 43,560 cubic feet, approximately 325,829 gallons, or approximately 7,758 barrels of water.
Alluvial	Pertaining to material or processes associated with transportation or deposition of soil and rock by flowing water (e.g., streams and rivers).
Alluvium	Unconsolidated or poorly consolidated gravel, sands, and clays deposited by streams
Ambient noise	Total, all-encompassing noise associated with a given environment and time.
Aquifer	A body of rock that is sufficiently permeable to conduct groundwater and to yield economically significant quantities of water to wells and springs.
Archaeology	The scientific study of material remains (as fossil relics, artifacts, and monuments) of past human life and activities.
Barrel	Volume of water equivalent to 42 gallons of water; approximately 7,758 barrels are equivalent to 1 acre-foot of water.
Botany	A branch of biology dealing with plant life.
Completion	A generic term used to describe the assembly of downhole tubulars and equipment required to enable safe and efficient production from an oil or gas well.
Condensate	A low-density, high-API gravity liquid hydrocarbon phase that generally occurs in association with natural gas. Its presence as a liquid phase depends on temperature and pressure conditions in the reservoir allowing condensation of liquid from vapor.
Core Areas	Greater sage-grouse core population areas designed to identify habitats necessary to promote greater sage-grouse population viability and ensure stable populations persist in the face of human development.
Critical habitat	Habitat that is present in minimum amounts and is the determining factor in the potential for population maintenance and growth.
Crude oil	A general term for unrefined petroleum or liquid petroleum.
Cumulative effects	The combined environmental impacts that accrue over time and space from a series of similar or related individual actions, contaminants, or projects. Although each action may seem to have a negligible impact, the combined effect can be significant. Included are activities of the past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future; synonymous with cumulative impacts.
Cuttings	Small pieces of rock that break away due to the action of the bit teeth.

dBA	A-weighting. The most commonly used frequency weighting measure; simulates human sound perception and correlates well with human perception of the annoying aspects of noise.
Depletion	The drop in reservoir pressure or hydrocarbon reserves resulting from production of reservoir fluids.
Direct impacts	Impacts that are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place (40 Code of Federal Regulations 1508.7); synonymous with direct effects.
Directional drill	A means of subterranean drilling that can be carried out and controlled in terms of depth and direction.
Disturbed area	An area where natural vegetation and soils have been removed.
Endangered species	Any species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Plant or animal species identified by the Secretary of the Interior as endangered in accordance with the 1973 Endangered Species Act.
Floodplain	That portion of a river valley, adjacent to the channel, that is built of sediments deposited during the present regimen of the stream and that is covered with water when the river overflows its banks at flood stages. The 100-year floodplain is that portion of the river valley adjacent to the channel, which has a 1 in 100 chance of being inundated in a given year.
Formation	A body of rock that is sufficiently distinctive and continuous that it can be mapped. In stratigraphy, a formation is a body of strata of predominantly one type or combination of types; multiple formations form groups, and subdivisions of formations are members.
Fugitive dust	Dust particles suspended randomly in the air from road travel, excavation, and rock loading operations.
Drilling mud	A term that is generally synonymous with drilling fluid and that encompasses most fluids used in hydrocarbon drilling operations, especially fluids that contain significant amounts of suspended solids, emulsified water, or oil.
Gathering pipeline	Typically smaller diameter pipelines connecting production wells to central gathering locations, such as tank batteries for hydrocarbon liquids or compressor stations for natural gas. For natural gas, gathering pipelines are upstream of transmission pipelines, which are upstream of distribution pipelines.
General Habitat Management Area (GHMA)	BLM-managed and National Forest System lands where some special management would apply to sustain greater sage-grouse populations. GHMAs are areas of occupied seasonal or year-round habitat outside of PHMAs.
Hydrocarbon resources	Naturally occurring organic compounds comprising hydrogen and carbon. The most common hydrocarbons are natural gas, oil, and coal.
Impact	A modification in the status of the environment brought about by the Proposed Action or an alternative.

Indirect impacts	Impacts that are caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance but are still reasonably foreseeable (40 Code of Federal Regulations 1508.8); synonymous with indirect effects.
Injection well	A well in which fluids are injected rather than produced, the primary objective typically being to maintain reservoir pressure. Two main types of injection are gas and water.
Intermittent stream	A stream that flows only part of the time or during part of the year.
Irretrievable	Applies primarily to the lost production of renewable natural resources during the life of the project.
Irreversible	Applies primarily to the use of nonrenewable resources, such as minerals, cultural resources, wetlands, or to those factors that are renewable only over long time spans, such as soil productivity. Irreversible also includes loss of future options.
Lek	An assembly area where grouse conduct display and courtship behavior.
Migration	The long-distance movement of wildlife, usually between breeding and non-breeding areas.
Mitigate, Mitigation	To cause to become less severe or harmful; actions to avoid, minimize, rectify, reduce or eliminate, and compensate for impacts to environmental resources.
National Environmental Policy Act	The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969; the national charter for protecting the environment. NEPA establishes policy, sets goals, and provides means for carrying out the policy. Regulations from 40 Code of Federal Regulations 1500-1508 implement the act.
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)	A part of the Clean Water Act that requires point source dischargers to obtain Elimination System permits. These permits are referred to as NPDES permits and are administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)	A list, maintained by the National Park Service, of areas that have been designated as being of historical significance.
Native species	Plants or animals that originated in the area in which they are found (i.e., they naturally occur in that area).
Noise	Unwanted sound; one that interferes with one's hearing of something; a sound that lacks agreeable musical quality or is noticeably unpleasant.
Paleontology	A science dealing with the life of past geological periods as known from fossil remains.
Perforation	The communication tunnel created from the casing or liner into the reservoir formation, through which oil or gas is produced.
Perennial stream	A stream or reach of a stream that flows throughout the year.
Plug and abandon	To prepare a well to be closed permanently, usually after either logs determine there is insufficient hydrocarbon potential to complete the well, or after production operations have drained the reservoir.

Primary production or recovery	The means by which the initial reservoir production is achieved, such as natural production from a gas-drive reservoir. In many cases, a secondary recovery method, such as waterflood, is required to maintain a viable reservoir production rate.
Priority Habitat Management Area (PHMA)	BLM-managed and National Forest System lands identified as having the highest value to maintaining sustainable greater sage-grouse populations. Areas of PHMA largely coincide with areas identified as Priority Areas for Conservation in the USFWS Conservation Objectives Team report (USFWS 2013) and contain designated core population areas (Core Areas) and connectivity areas designated under EO 2015-4.
Produced water	Groundwater pumped to the surface during reservoir production.
Production tubing	A wellbore tubular used to produce reservoir fluids. Production tubing is assembled with other completion components to make up the production string.
Raptor	Birds of prey, such as hawks, eagles, and owls.
Reclamation	Rehabilitation of a disturbed area to make it acceptable for designated uses. This process consists of two stages, interim and final: <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Interim Reclamation – Involves shaping, stabilizing, re-vegetating, or otherwise treating disturbed areas in order to provide a self-sustaining and productive use of the land during production operations.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Final Reclamation – Involves returning the land to a condition after production and operations cease that approximates the condition prior to disturbance and maintains a stable and productive condition compatible with the land use.</p>
Reserve pit	An earthen-bermed storage area for discarded drilling mud.
Reservoir	A subsurface body of rock having sufficient porosity and permeability to store and transmit fluids.
Residual Impact	Unavoidable adverse impact to a resource that remain after implementation of mitigation has been applied.
Rig	The machine used to drill a wellbore. The rig includes virtually everything except living quarters. Major components of the rig include the mud tanks, the mud pumps, the derrick or mast, the drawworks, the rotary table or topdrive, the drillstring, the power generation equipment and auxiliary equipment.
Right-of-Way (ROW)	Strip of land or corridor designated via an administrative grant through which a pipeline, power line, access road, or maintenance road would pass.
Riparian	Situated on or pertaining to the bank of a river, stream, or other body of water. Riparian is normally used to refer to plants of all types that grow along streams, rivers, or at spring and seep sites.
Roost	A place where birds customarily rest.
Runoff	That part of precipitation that appears in surface streams; precipitation that is not retained on the site where it falls and is not absorbed by the soil.

Scoping	Discussion with and disclosure to agencies and the public with regard to a project or undertaking wherein areas of concern or issues to be addressed in a NEPA document are determined.
Sediment	Material suspended in or settling to the bottom of a liquid. Sediment input comes from natural sources, such as soil erosion and rock weathering, as well as construction activities or anthropogenic sources, such as forest or agricultural practices.
Sediment yield	Quantification of the amount of sediment transported.
Shale	A fine-grained, fissile, detrital sedimentary rock formed by consolidation of clay- and silt-sized particles into thin, relatively impermeable layers. It is the most abundant sedimentary rock.
Split estate land	Lands with separate surface and mineral ownership.
Stratigraphy	Form, arrangement, geographic distribution, chronological succession, classification, and relationships of rock strata.
Suitable wildlife habitat	A specific set of physical conditions that surround a species, group of species, or a large community. In wildlife management, the major constituents of habitat are considered to be food, water, cover, and living space.
Tertiary	The geologic span of time between 65 and 3 to 2 million years ago.
Threatened species	Any species of plant or animal that is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
Visual resource	The composite of basic terrain, geologic features, water features, vegetation patterns, and land use effects that typify a land unit and influence the visual appeal the unit may have for viewers.
Water disposal well	A well used for disposal or injection of produced water or other fluids.
Watershed	A region or area bounded peripherally by a water parting and draining ultimately to a particular watercourse or body of water.
Well casing	Large-diameter pipe lowered into an openhole and cemented in place. The well designer must design casing to withstand a variety of forces, such as collapse, burst, and tensile failure, as well as chemically aggressive brines. Casing is run to protect fresh-water formations, isolate a zone of lost returns or isolate formations with significantly different pressure gradients.
Well pad	A temporary drilling site, usually constructed of local materials such as gravel, shell or even wood. After the drilling operation is over, most of the pad is usually removed or contoured.
Wellbore	Includes the openhole or uncased portion of the well. Borehole may refer to the inside diameter of the wellbore wall, the rock face that bounds the drilled hole. Synonym: borehole.
Wellhead	The surface termination of a wellbore that incorporates facilities for installing casing hangers during the well construction phase.

Wetlands	Areas that are inundated by surface or groundwater with a frequency sufficient to support (and under normal circumstances do or would support) a prevalence of vegetation or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction.
Workover	The process of performing major maintenance or remedial treatments on an oil or gas well. In many cases, workover implies the removal and replacement of the production tubing string after the well has been killed and a workover rig has been placed on location.
Year-round development	Granting of exceptions to timing limitations for raptor nests and greater sage-grouse leks in non-core areas for several wells over extended periods of time on BLM administered public surface and minerals (not on USFS administered surface). This would occur only under Alternative B (Proposed Action).
Zone	A slab of reservoir rock bounded above and below by impermeable rock.