

INTERNAL DRAFT

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# Appendix U

Glossary

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# Appendix U. Glossary

- 1
- 2 **Abandoned (pertaining to raptor nests):** A nest site that does not exhibit evidence of use, such as  
3 greenery in the nest, fresh whitewash, obvious nest maintenance, and the observed presence of adults or  
4 young at the nest, for a period of seven consecutive years (verified through monitoring) would be deemed  
5 abandoned.
- 6 **Activity plan:** A detailed and specific plan for managing a single resource program or plan element  
7 undertaken as needed to implement the more general resource management plan decisions. An activity plan  
8 is prepared for specific areas to reach specific resource management objectives within stated timeframes.
- 9 **Adaptive management (AM) or adaptive resource management (ARM):** A structured, iterative  
10 process of optimal decision making in the face of uncertainty, with an aim to reducing uncertainty over time  
11 via system monitoring.
- 12 **Adverse visual impact:** Any modification in land forms, water bodies, or vegetation, or any introduction  
13 of structures, which negatively interrupts the visual character of the landscape and disrupts the harmony of  
14 the basic elements (i.e., form, line, color, and texture).
- 15 **Aesthetics:** Relates to the pleasurable characteristics of a physical environment as perceived through the  
16 five senses of sight, sound, smell, taste, and touch.
- 17 **Agency:** Any federal, state, or county government organization participating with jurisdictional  
18 responsibilities.
- 19 **Air quality:** A measure of the health-related and visual characteristics of the air, often derived from  
20 quantitative measurements of the concentrations of specific injurious or contaminating substances.
- 21 **Air Quality Class I and II Areas:** Regions in attainment areas where maintenance of existing good air  
22 quality is of high priority. Class I areas are those that have the most stringent degree of protection from  
23 future degradation of air quality, such as national parks. Class II areas permit moderate deterioration of  
24 existing air quality, such as lands administered by the BLM.
- 25 **Allocated uses:** The BLM allocates cultural resources to one of five categories including 1) scientific use,  
26 2) conservation for future use, 3) traditional use, 4) public use, or 5) experimental use. If cultural resources  
27 are evaluated as lacking significant values, they are categorized as discharged from management.
- 28 **Allotment Management Plan (AMP):** A written program of livestock grazing management including  
29 supportive measures, if required. An AMP is designed to attain specific management goals in a grazing  
30 allotment and is prepared cooperatively with the permittee(s) or lessee(s).
- 31 **Allotment (range):** A designated area of land available for livestock grazing upon which a specified number  
32 and kind of livestock may be grazed under management of an authorized agency.
- 33 **All-terrain vehicle (ATV):** A small, amphibious motor vehicle with wheels or tractor treads for traveling  
34 over rough ground, snow, or ice, as well as on water. For the purposes of this document, an ATV is defined  
35 as a motor vehicle that: 1) is designed primarily for recreational nonhighway all-terrain travel, 2) is 50 or  
36 fewer inches in width, 3) has an unladen weight of 800 pounds or less, 4) travels on three or more low  
37 pressure tires, and 5) has a seat designed to be straddled by the operator, and handlebars for steering  
38 control.

- 39 **Alluvial deposit:** Sedimentary matter, such as sand and mud, deposits by flowing water, generally of  
40 comparatively recent times.
- 41 **Ambient (air):** The surrounding atmospheric conditions to which the general public has access.
- 42 **Amphibolite:** A rock consisting mainly of amphibole and plagioclase.
- 43 **Analysis:** An examination of existing and/or recommended management needs and their relationships in  
44 order to discover and display the outputs, benefits, effects, and consequences of initiating a proposed action.
- 45 **Analysis of the Management Situation (AMS):** Assessment of the current management direction. It  
46 includes a consolidation of existing data needed to analyze and resolve identified issues, a description of  
47 current BLM management guidance, and a discussion of existing problems and the opportunities for solving  
48 them.
- 49 **Andesite:** A volcanic rock composed essentially of andesine and one or more mafics.
- 50 **Angle of observation:** The angle, both vertical and horizontal, between a viewer's line of sight and the  
51 landscape being viewed.
- 52 **Animal unit month (AUM):** The amount of forage needed for one animal unit for one month.
- 53 **Anthropogenic disturbance:** A human-caused disturbance that causes an alteration in wildlife habitat; can  
54 severely affect wildlife populations and ecosystem dynamics by altering one or many components of an  
55 ecosystem.
- 56 **Anticline:** A fold that is convex upward.
- 57 **Aquifer:** A groundwater bearing rock unit (unconsolidated or bedrock) that will yield water in a usable  
58 quantity to a well or spring.
- 59 **Archaeological site:** A discrete location that provides physical evidence of past human use.
- 60 **Archaeology:** The scientific study of physical evidence of the human prehistoric and historic past through  
61 recovery and analysis of artifacts, features, and sites.
- 62 **Area of critical environmental concern (ACEC):** An area of public lands designated by the BLM for  
63 special management attention to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or  
64 scenic values, fish and wildlife resources, or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life/provide  
65 safety from natural hazards.
- 66 **Argillaceous:** Rocks composed of clay minerals.
- 67 **Arkose:** Sandstone containing 25 percent or more of feldspars, usually derived from silicic igneous rocks.
- 68 **Artifact:** A human-made object.
- 69 **Attainment area:** An area that meets a federal primary or secondary ambient air quality standard for the  
70 pollutant.
- 71 **Avoidance area:** An area designated on a land use plan for which use for a ROW should be avoided if at  
72 all possible.
- 73 **Background distance zone:** The visible area of a landscape which lies beyond the foreground  
74 middleground. Usually from a minimum of three to five miles to a maximum of about 15 miles from a travel

- 75 route, use area, or other observer point. Atmospheric conditions in some areas may limit the maximum to  
76 about eight miles or less.
- 77 **Basic elements:** The four design elements (form, line, color, and texture) that determine how the  
78 character of a landscape is perceived.
- 79 **Basal area:** The cross sectional area of a single stem, including the bark, or of all stems of a species  
80 expressed per unit of land area. (Example: the basal area for a 14 inch tree at breast height is approximately  
81 one square foot. A stand of trees with an average of 140 trees per acre all 14 inches in diameter would be  
82 140 square feet per acre.)
- 83 **Basin:** A depressed area having no surface outlet (topographic basin); a physiographic feature or subsurface  
84 structure that is capable of collecting, storing, or discharging water by reason of its shape and the  
85 characteristics of its confining material (water); a depression in the earth's surface, the lowest part often  
86 filled by a lake or pond (lake basin); a widened part of a river or canal (drainage, river, stream basin).
- 87 **Basin and Range:** Topography characterized by a series of tilted-fault block mountain ranges and broad  
88 intervening basins.
- 89 **Bentonite:** A sedimentary rock formed from the alteration in place of volcanic ash.
- 90 **Best management practices (BMP):** Activities that are added to typical operation, construction, or  
91 maintenance efforts that help to protect environmental resources by avoiding or minimizing impacts of an  
92 action.
- 93 **Biodiversity:** The variety of life and its processes, and the interrelationships within and among various levels  
94 of ecological organization. Conservation, protection, and restoration of biological species and genetic  
95 diversity are needed to sustain the health of existing biological systems. Federal resource management  
96 agencies must examine the implications of management actions and development decisions on regional and  
97 local biodiversity.
- 98 **Biological community:** The living part of an ecosystem. Communities change with succession, thereby  
99 forming distinctive ecological units both in time and space. The plant community and the animal community  
100 together form the biotic community. Size is not implied (i.e., organisms associated with a decaying log or  
101 with an entire forest each represent communities).
- 102 **Biological Soil Crusts:** Communities of highly specialized autotrophic organisms consisting of a complex  
103 mosaic of cyanobacteria, green algae, mosses, lichens microfungi and other bacteria.
- 104 **Board feet:** A measurement of lumber volume. A board foot is equal to 144 cubic inches of wood.
- 105 **Bolson:** A basin, depression, or valley having no outlet.
- 106 **Breccia:** Fragmental rock whose components are angular.
- 107 **BLM sensitive species:** Species requiring special management consideration to promote their  
108 conservation and reduce the likelihood and need for future listing under the ESA. Designated by the BLM  
109 State Director. All federally listed candidate species, proposed species, and delisted species in the 5 years  
110 following delisting will be conserved as BLM sensitive species (BLM H-6840).
- 111 **Broadcast burn:** A prescribed fire ignited in areas with little or no forest canopy present. Broadcast burning  
112 is used in grasslands, shrublands, and oak woodlands for habitat restoration and fuels reduction purposes.  
113 This type of burning can be beneficial for protecting and enhancing sage grouse habitat and mule deer and  
114 elk winter ranges.

- 115 **Bureau of Land Management (BLM):** An agency of the US Department of the Interior responsible for  
116 managing most federal government subsurface minerals. It has surface management responsibility for federal  
117 lands designated under the FLPMA of 1976.
- 118 **Calcarenite:** A deposit composed of cemented sand-size grains of calcium carbonate.
- 119 **Caldera:** A large basin-shaped volcanic depression, more or less circular in form, the diameter of which is  
120 many times greater than that of the included volcanic vent(s).
- 121 **Caliche:** Desert soil formed by near surface crystallization of calcite.
- 122 **Candidate species:** A plant or animal that has been studied and the US Fish and Wildlife Service has  
123 concluded that they should be proposed for addition to the federal endangered and threatened species list.  
124 These species have formerly been referred to as Category I candidate species. From the February 28, 1996  
125 *Federal Register*, page 7597: “those species for which the Service has on file sufficient information on biological  
126 vulnerability and threat(s) to support issuance of a proposed rule to list but issuance of the proposed rule is  
127 precluded.”
- 128 **Carbon monoxide:** A colorless, odorless, poisonous gas, produced by incomplete burning of carbon-based  
129 fuels including gasoline, oil, and wood. Carbon monoxide is also produced from incomplete combustion of  
130 many natural and synthetic products.
- 131 **Cave:** Any naturally occurring void, cavity, recess, or system of interconnected passages which occurs  
132 beneath the surface of the earth or within a cliff or ledge [including any cave resource therein, but not  
133 including any vug (a small cavity in a rock), mine, tunnel, aqueduct, or other manmade excavation] which is  
134 large enough to permit an individual to enter, whether or not the entrance is naturally formed or manmade.  
135 Such term shall include any natural pit, sinkhole, or other feature that is an extension of the entrance.
- 136 **Characteristic:** A distinguishing trait, feature, or quality.
- 137 **Characteristic landscape:** The established landscape within an area being viewed. This does not  
138 necessarily mean a naturalistic character. It could refer to an agricultural setting, an urban landscape, a  
139 primarily natural environment, or a combination of these types.
- 140 **Class I area (for air quality):** Certain Wilderness areas greater than 5,000 acres, national memorial parks  
141 greater than 5,000 acres, national parks greater than 6,000 acres, and international parks that were in  
142 existence on or before August 7, 1977.
- 143 **Class II area (for air quality):** By default, all areas not designated as Class I areas.
- 144 **Class III Wilderness Area (for air quality):** Areas deserving of preservation, including Wilderness areas  
145 established by the Wilderness Act.
- 146 **Clastics:** Rock fragments that have been moved from their places of origin.
- 147 **Clean Air Act (CAA):** Federal legislation governing air pollution. The CAA established NAAQS for carbon  
148 monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, particulate matter, sulfur dioxide, and lead. PSD classifications define the  
149 allowable increased levels of air quality deterioration above legally established levels. They include the  
150 following:
- 151 • Class I – Minimal additional deterioration in air quality (certain national parks and Wilderness areas)
  - 152 • Class II – Moderate additional deterioration in air quality (most lands)
  - 153 • Class III – Greater deterioration for planned maximum growth (industrial areas)

- 154 **Clean Water Act (CWA):** Federal legislation governing water quality enforced by the EPA.
- 155 **Climate:** the long-term average of annual and seasonal weather conditions in a region.
- 156 **Cohesive Strategy (Current) Condition Classes:** The Cohesive Strategy for national fire planning  
157 defines three current condition classes as follows:
- 158 • **Condition Class 1:** Fire regimes are within a historical range, and the risk of losing key ecosystem  
159 components is low. Vegetation attributes (species composition and structure) are intact and  
160 functioning within an historical range.
  - 161 • **Condition Class 2:** Fire regimes have been moderately altered from their historical range. The  
162 risk of losing key ecosystem components is moderate. Fire frequencies have departed from their  
163 historical frequencies by one or more return intervals (either increased or decreased). This results  
164 in moderate changes to one or more of the following: fire size, intensity and severity, and landscape  
165 patterns. Vegetation attributes have been moderately altered from their historical range.
  - 166 • **Condition Class 3:** Fire regimes have been significantly altered from their historical range. The risk  
167 of losing key ecosystem components is high. Fire frequencies have departed from historical  
168 frequencies by multiple return intervals. This results in dramatic changes to one or more of the  
169 following: fire size, intensity, and severity, and landscape patterns. Vegetation attributes have been  
170 significantly altered from their historical range.
- 171 **Cohesive Strategy (Current) Fire Regimes:** The Cohesive Strategy for national fire planning defines  
172 historical natural fire regimes as follows:
- 173 • Fire regime I: 0 to 35-year frequency, nonlethal
  - 174 • Fire regime II: 0 to 35-year frequency, lethal
  - 175 • Fire regime III: 35 to 100+ year frequency, mixed
  - 176 • Fire regime IV: 35 to 100+ year frequency, lethal
  - 177 • Fire regime V: 200+ frequency, lethal
- 178 **Colluvium:** Consists of alluvium in part and angular fragments of the original rocks.
- 179 **Comprehensive travel management:** **Open area** means an area where all types of vehicle use is  
180 permitted at all times, anywhere in the area subject to the operating regulations and vehicle standards.  
181 **Limited area** means an area restricted at certain times, in certain areas, and/or to certain vehicular use.  
182 These restrictions may be of any type, but can generally be accommodated within the following type of  
183 categories: Numbers of vehicles; types of vehicles; time or season of vehicle use; permitted or licensed use  
184 only; use on existing roads and trails; use on designated roads and trails; and other restrictions. **Closed**  
185 **area** means an area where off-road vehicle use is prohibited. Use of off-road vehicles in closed areas may  
186 be allowed for certain reasons; however, such use shall be made only with the approval of the authorized  
187 officer.
- 188 **Community:** The living part of an ecosystem. Communities change with succession, thereby forming  
189 distinctive ecological units both in time and space. The plant community and the animal community together  
190 form the biotic community. Size is not implied (i.e., organisms associated with a decaying log or with an  
191 entire forest each represent communities).
- 192 **Conodont:** A microfossil occurring in various jagged or toothlike shapes and constituting the hard remains  
193 of an extinct marine animal of the order Conodonta.
- 194 **Conserve/Conservation Strategy:** A strategy outlining current activities or threats that are contributing  
195 to the decline of a species, along with the actions or strategies needed to reverse or eliminate such a decline

- 196 or threats. Conservation strategies are generally developed for species of plants and animals that are  
197 designated as BLM sensitive species or that have been determined by the USFWS or National Marine  
198 Fisheries Service to be federal candidates under the ESA.
- 199 **Contrast:** Opposition or unlikeness of different forms, lines, colors, or textures in a landscape.
- 200 **Contrast rating:** A method of analyzing the potential visual impacts of proposed management activities.
- 201 **Controlled surface use (CSU):** CSU is a category of moderate constraint stipulations that allows some  
202 use and occupancy of public land while protecting identified resources or values and is applicable to fluid  
203 mineral leasing and all activities associated with fluid mineral leasing (e.g., truck-mounted drilling, stationary  
204 drill rigs in unison, geophysical exploration equipment off designated routes, and construction of wells and/or  
205 pads). CSU areas are open to fluid mineral leasing, but the stipulation allows the BLM to require special  
206 operational constraints or setbacks to protect the specified resource or value.
- 207 **Corridor:** A wide strip of land within which a proposed linear facility (e.g., pipeline, transmission line) could  
208 be located.
- 209 **Corrosivity:** A characteristic defining a hazardous waste. A solid waste that is defined as corrosive  
210 demonstrates the capability to destroy gradually by chemical action.
- 211 **Critical habitat:** Specific geographic areas, whether occupied by listed species or not, that are determined  
212 to be essential for the conservation and management of listed species, and that have been formerly described  
213 in the *Federal Register* (USFWS).
- 214 **Cubic feet per second (cfs):** As a rate of stream flow, a cubic foot of water passing a reference section  
215 in one second of time. One cfs flowing for 24 hours will yield 1.983 acre-feet of water.
- 216 **Cultural modification:** Any human-caused change in the land form, water form, vegetation, or the addition  
217 of a structure that creates a visual contrast in the basic elements (form, line, color, texture) of the naturalistic  
218 character of a landscape.
- 219 **Cultural resources:** A cultural resource is any definite location of past human activity, occupation, or use,  
220 identifiable through inventory, historical documentation, or oral evidence. Cultural resources include  
221 archaeological, historic, or architectural sites, structures, places, objects, and artifacts, as well as traditional  
222 cultural properties.
- 223 **Cumulative impacts:** Additional and interactive combinations of activities that are not necessarily  
224 individually quantitatively different, but together require different management techniques and applications.  
225 Cumulative impacts occur when there are multiple infringements on the same values.
- 226 **Dacite:** The extrusive equivalent of quartz diorite.
- 227 **Decision Area:** Public lands (BLM-administered) and private split-estate (i.e., private surface acreage  
228 overlying federally owned minerals) within the Planning Area are referred to in this document as the BLM's  
229 Decision Area.
- 230 **Developed recreation:** Recreation that requires facilities that result in further concentrated use of the  
231 area. For example, OHVs require parking lots and trails. Campgrounds require roads, picnic tables, and toilet  
232 facilities.
- 233 **Diabase:** Rock of basaltic composition, essentially of labradorite and pyroxene.



- 234 **Diatreme:** General term for a volcanic vent or pipe emplaced in rocks by the explosive energy of gas-  
235 charged magmas.
- 236 **Diorite:** Plutonic rock composed of sodic plagioclase and hornblende, biotite, or pyroxene.
- 237 **Disconformity:** An unconformity between parallel strata.
- 238 **Dispersed recreation:** Recreation that does not occur in a developed recreation site, such as hunting,  
239 backpacking, and scenic driving.
- 240 **Distance zones:** A subdivision of the landscape as viewed from an observer position. The subdivision  
241 (zones) includes foreground-middleground, background, and seldom seen.
- 242 **Dolomite:** A mineral composed of calcium, magnesium, and oxygen.
- 243 **Dry deposition:** The transfer of airborne gaseous and particulate material from the atmosphere to the  
244 Earth's surface.
- 245 **Easement:** A right or privilege one may have on another's land.
- 246 **Easement, scenic:** A right to make use of land to protect the scenic values.
- 247 **Ecosystem:** Any area or volume in which there is an exchange of matter and energy between living and  
248 nonliving parts; that is, the biotic community together with soil, air, water, and sunlight form an ecosystem.  
249 Ecosystems are the best units for studying the flow of energy and matter.
- 250 **Ecoregion:** A large area of land and water that contains a geographically distinct assemblage of natural  
251 communities, with similar landforms, climate, ecological processes, and vegetation. They typically span  
252 millions of acres and multiple states.
- 253 **Endangered species:** The classification provided to an animal or plant in danger of extinction within the  
254 foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range (USFWS).
- 255 **Enhancement:** A management action designed to improve visual quality.
- 256 **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS):** A document prepared to analyze the impacts on the  
257 environment of a proposed action and released to the public for review and comment. An EIS must meet  
258 the requirements of the NEPA, the CEQ, and the directives of the agency responsible for the proposed  
259 action.
- 260 **Eolian:** Relating to, caused by, or carried by the wind.
- 261 **Ephemeral stream:** A stream that flows only in direct response to precipitation and its channel is at all  
262 times above the water table.
- 263 **Equestrian:** Of horses, horsemen, or horseback riding.
- 264 **Erosion:** The wearing away of the land surface by running water, wind, ice, or other geologic agents, and by  
265 such processes as gravitation creep.
- 266 **Evaporation:** Conversion of water from the liquid phase to the gaseous phase.
- 267 **Exclusion area:** An environmentally sensitive area where ROWs would be granted only in cases where  
268 there is a legal requirement to provide such access.
- 269 **Facies:** General appearance or nature of one part of a rock body as contrasted with other parts.

- 270 **Fanglomerate:** Composed of heterogeneous materials which were originally deposited in an alluvial fan  
271 but which since deposition have been cemented into solid rock.
- 272 **Federal lands:** Lands, or interests in lands (such as easements and ROWs), owned by the US.
- 273 **Fire behavior:** The manner in which a fire reacts to the influences of fuel, weather, and topography.
- 274 **Fire frequency:** A general term referring to the recurrence of fire in a given area over time. It is sometimes  
275 stated as number of fires per unit time in a designated area. It is also used to refer to the probability of an  
276 element burning per unit time.
- 277 **Fire intensity:** The effects of fire on the aboveground vegetation generally described in terms of mortality.
- 278 **Fire Management Units:** Predetermined areas that have similar fuels, topography, management  
279 objectives, and resource needs that allow each area to be managed as a unit.
- 280 **Fire regimes:** The characteristics of fire in a given ecosystem, including factors such as frequency, intensity,  
281 severity, and patch size. The terms used for the different fire regimes are: Nonlethal, Mixed I, Mixed2, and  
282 Lethal. Nonlethal fires are generally of the lowest intensity and severity with the smallest patches of mortality,  
283 while lethal fires are generally of the highest intensity and severity with the largest patches of mortality. The  
284 others fall in between.
- 285 **Fire Regime Condition Class (FRCC):** Fire Regime Condition Classes are a qualitative measure  
286 describing the degree of departure from historical fire regimes, possibly resulting in alterations of key  
287 ecosystem components such as species composition, structural stage, stand age, canopy closure, and fuel  
288 loadings. One or more of the following activities may have caused this departure: fire exclusion, timber  
289 harvesting, livestock grazing, introduction and establishment of exotic plant species, introduced insects and  
290 disease, or other management activities.
- 291 **Fire severity:** Fire effects at and below the ground surface. Describes the impacts on organic material on  
292 the ground surface, changes to soils, and mortality of below-ground vegetative buds, roots, rhizomes, and  
293 other organisms.
- 294 **Fire suppression tactics:** The tactical approaches regarding suppression of a wildland fire. These range  
295 from control, confine, contain, and monitor. Control is the most aggressive tactic, while Monitor is the least.
- 296 **Fire use:** The combination of wildland fire use and prescribed fire application to meet resource objectives.
- 297 **Floodplain:** The area that borders a water body and is subject to flooding on a periodic basis.
- 298 **Floodprone area width:** The area that would be expected to be covered by water if the wetted stream  
299 depth were twice as high as the full bank height, determined at the deepest part on a given transect. This  
300 width is then extrapolated over the length of the stream reach by averaging several random transects taken  
301 within the project area.
- 302 **Fluid minerals:** In this case, oil, gas, and geothermal resources.
- 303 **Forecast:** Is a prediction of the changes in the resource anticipated given current management.
- 304 **Foreground-middleground distance zones:** The area visible from a travel route, use area, or other  
305 observation point to a distance of three to five miles. The outer boundary of this zone is defined as the point  
306 where the texture and form of individual plants are no longer apparent in the landscape. Vegetation is  
307 apparent only in patterns or outline.

- 308 **Forest health:** The perceived condition of a forest derived from concerns about such factors as its age,  
309 structure, composition, function, vigor, presence of unusual levels of insects and disease, and resilience to  
310 disturbance. The perception and interpretation of forest health are influenced by individual and cultural  
311 viewpoints, land management objectives, spatial and temporal scales, the relative health of the stands that  
312 comprise the forest, and the appearance of the forest a point in time.
- 313 **Form:** The mass or shape of an object or objects which appear unified, such as a vegetative opening in a  
314 forest, a cliff formation, or a water tank.
- 315 **Fossil:** The remains or traces of an organism preserved by natural processes in the earth's crust. This would  
316 include plants and animals, their tracks, burrows, and other imprints, and are considered a nonrenewable  
317 resource. It does not include minerals such as coal, oil and gas, and tar sands.
- 318 **Geocacher:** A person who participates in geocaching, by either placing or searching for geocaches.
- 319 **Hand-pile burn:** A prescribed fire used to ignite hand or machine piles of cut vegetation resulting from  
320 vegetation or fuel management activities. Piles are generally burned during the wet season to reduce damage  
321 to the residual trees and to confine the fire to the footprint of the pile. Pile burning allows time for the  
322 vegetative material to dry out and will produce less overall smoke by burning hot and clean.
- 323 **Humate:** Black, acidic, organic matter composed of esters and salts of humic acid and carbonaceous  
324 mudrocks.
- 325 **Igneous:** Rocks formed by solidification from a molten or partially molten state.
- 326 **Ignitability:** A characteristic defining a hazardous waste. A solid waste that is defined as ignitable is one that  
327 exhibits any of the capability to ignite under certain regulatory circumstances.
- 328 **Indian Sacred Sites:** Any specific, discrete, narrowly delineated location on federal land that is identified  
329 by an Indian tribe, or Indian individual determined to be an appropriately authoritative representative of an  
330 Indian religion, as sacred by virtue of its established religious significance to, or ceremonial use by, an Indian  
331 religion; provided that the tribe or appropriately authoritative representative of an Indian religion has  
332 informed the agency of the existence of such a site.
- 333 **Indicator:** Is an attribute, the presence or absence of which is a visible and/or measurable sign or index of  
334 the condition of the resource.
- 335 **Indian Trust Assets:** Legal interests in property held in trust by the US for Indian tribes or individuals,  
336 such as lands, minerals, hunting and fishing rights, and water rights.
- 337 **Intermittent:** Coming and going at intervals: not continuous.
- 338 **Interim Management Policy:** An interim measure governing lands under Wilderness review. This policy  
339 protects wilderness study areas from impairment of their suitability as Wilderness.
- 340 **Intertonguing:** The disappearance of sedimentary bodies in laterally adjacent masses owing to splitting into  
341 many thin units (tongues), each of which reaches an independent pinch-out termination.
- 342 **Intrusive:** Rock that consolidated from magma beneath the surface of the earth.
- 343 **Invasive species:** An alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental  
344 harm or harm to human health.

- 345 **Jeopardy:** Under the ESA, jeopardy occurs when an action is reasonably expected, directly or indirectly, to  
346 diminish a species' numbers, reproduction, or distribution so that the likelihood of survival and recovery in  
347 the wild is appreciably reduced (USFWS).
- 348 **Jurisdiction:** The legal right to control or regulate use of land or a facility. Jurisdiction requires authority,  
349 but not necessarily ownership.
- 350 **Karst:** Topography characterized by closed depressions, sinkholes and caves.
- 351 **Key features:** Are the geographic location, distribution, areas, or types of resource features that should  
352 guide the allocation of land uses or management decisions.
- 353 **Key habitat type:** Describes the necessary features of optimal habitat for a given wildlife species.
- 354 **Key observation point (KOP):** One or a series of points on a travel route or at a use area or a potential  
355 use area, where the view of a management activity would be most revealing.
- 356 **Laccolith:** A concordant, intrusive body that has domed up the overlying rocks.
- 357 **Land cover type:** Describes a defined area of land in terms of the present vegetative community.
- 358 **Landscape:** An aggregate of different but interacting landforms, sometimes united by a cultural attribute  
359 (e.g., a mosaic of farmland, including tilled fields, woodlots, stock ponds, swales, and fencerows). Landscape  
360 ecology generally operates at a scale of at least many hectares or, more often, several square kilometers.
- 361 **Landscape character:** The arrangement of a particular landscape as formed by the variety and intensity  
362 of the landscape features and the four basic elements of form, line, color, and texture. These factors give the  
363 area a distinctive quality which distinguishes it from its immediate surroundings.
- 364 **Landscape features:** The land and water form, vegetation, and structures which compose the  
365 characteristic landscape.
- 366 **Lapilli:** Essential, accessory, and accidental volcanic ejecta.
- 367 **Laramide orogeny:** Process of forming mountains, particularly by folding and thrusting, beginning in  
368 Jurassic or Lower Cretaceous time until Lower Eocene time.
- 369 **Latillas:** relatively straight, slender saplings (1½ to 2 inches in diameter), used in traditional Southwestern  
370 architecture when stripped of bark and laid across the log roof beams, or vigas, as decking.
- 371 **Lease:** An authorization or contract by which one party (lessor) conveys the use of property, such as real  
372 estate, to another (lessee) in return for rental payments. In addition to rental payments, lessees also pay  
373 royalties (a percentage of value) to the lessor from resource production.
- 374 **Leasable minerals:** Those minerals or materials designated as leasable under the Mineral Leasing Act of  
375 1920. They include coal, phosphate, asphalt, sulfur, potassium and sodium minerals, and oil, gas, and  
376 geothermal resources.
- 377 **Lease notice (LN):** A lease notice (LN) provides more detailed information concerning limitations that  
378 already exist in law, lease terms, regulations, or operational orders. A lease notice also addresses special  
379 items that lessees should consider when planning operations, but it does not impose additional restrictions.  
380 Lease notices are not an RMP-level decision, and new lease notices may be added to fluid mineral leases at  
381 the time of sale. Lease notices apply only to leasable minerals (e.g., oil, gas, and geothermal) and not to other  
382 types of leases, such as livestock grazing or coal leases.

- 383 **Lentic:** Of or relating to or living in still waters (as lakes or ponds).
- 384 **Lentil:** A minor rock-stratigraphic unit, a subdivision of a formation similar in rank to a member.
- 385 **Line:** The path, real or imagined, that the eye follows when perceiving abrupt differences in form, color, or  
386 texture. Within landscapes, lines may be found as ridges, skylines, structures, changes in vegetative types, or  
387 individual trees and branches.
- 388 **Listed Species:** Species that are designated under the Endangered Species Act as either Threatened or  
389 Endangered, which may include members of the Plant, Animal or Fungi–Lichen Kingdoms (BLM H-6840).
- 390 **Listing:** The formal process through which the US Fish and Wildlife Service adds species to the Federal List  
391 of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants.
- 392 **Locatable mineral:** Any valuable mineral that is not salable or leasable, including gold, silver, copper, and  
393 uranium, that may be developed under the General Mining Law of 1872.
- 394 **Lotic:** Of, relating to, or living in actively moving water.
- 395 **Maar:** A crater formed by violent explosion not accompanied by igneous extrusion.
- 396 **Management activity:** A surface disturbing activity undertaken on the landscape for the purpose of  
397 harvesting, traversing, transporting, protecting, changing, replenishing, or otherwise using resources.
- 398 **Metamorphic:** Rocks formed in the solid state in response to changes in temperature, pressure, and  
399 chemical environment.
- 400 **Migratory Bird:** An individual of any species protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (list can be viewed  
401 in 50 CFR 10.13).
- 402 **Mineral entry:** The location of mining claims by an individual to protect his/her right to a valuable mineral.
- 403 **Mineral potential:**
- 404 • **High:** Those lands currently producing oil or gas or having high current industry interest.
  - 405 • **Moderate:** Those lands, which have demonstrated oil and gas potential based on favorable geologic  
406 environments.
  - 407 • **Low:** Those lands where either the geologic environment appears to be favorable for the  
408 accumulation of oil and gas, or where little or no information is available to evaluate the oil and gas  
409 potential.
- 410 **Mineral rights:** Outstanding third-party rights or an interest in minerals not owned by the person or party  
411 conveying the land to the United States. Mineral rights are an exception in a deed that is the result of prior  
412 conveyance separating title of certain minerals from the surface estate.
- 413 **Mineral withdrawal:** A withdrawal for public lands, which are potentially valuable for leasable minerals.  
414 This precludes the disposal of the lands except with a mineral reservation, or unless the lands are found to  
415 not be valuable for minerals.
- 416 **Mitigation measures:** Methods or procedures designed to reduce or lessen the adverse impacts caused  
417 by management activities.
- 418 **Monzonite:** Granular plutonic rock with about equal amounts of orthoclase and plagioclase.

- 419 **Multidisciplinary team:** A group specialists with different backgrounds, assembled to solve a problem.  
420 The problem is broken into pieces and each specialist works on a portion of the problem. Partial solutions  
421 are then linked together to provide the final solutions.
- 422 **Multiple use:** Multiple use as defined by the Multiple Use – Sustained Yield Act 1960 means: 1) the  
423 management of all the various renewable surface resources so that they are used in the combination that  
424 will best meet the needs of the American people, 2) making the most judicious use of the land for some or  
425 all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic  
426 adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions, 3) that some land will be used for less than  
427 all of the resources, and 4) and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources, each  
428 with the other, without impairment of the productivity of the land, with consideration being given to the  
429 relative values of the various resources, and not necessarily the combination of uses that will be given the  
430 greatest dollar return or the greatest unit output.
- 431 **National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS):** The allowable concentrations of air pollutants  
432 in the air specified by the federal government. The air quality standards are divided into primary standards  
433 (based on the air quality criteria and allowing an adequate margin of safety and requisite to protect the public  
434 health) and secondary standards (based on the air quality criteria and allowing an adequate margin of safety  
435 and requisite to protect the public welfare) from any unknown or expected adverse effects of air pollutants.
- 436 **National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA):** An act that encourages productive and enjoyable  
437 harmony between humans and their environment and promotes efforts to prevent or eliminate damage to  
438 the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of humans; enriches understanding of  
439 the ecological systems and natural resources important to the nation, and established the CEQ.
- 440 **National Fire Danger Rating System (NFDRS):** The National Fire Danger Rating System is a set of  
441 computer programs and algorithms that allow land management agencies to estimate today's or tomorrow's  
442 fire danger for a given rating area. NFDRS characterizes fire danger by evaluating the approximate upper  
443 limit of fire behavior in a fire danger rating area during a 24-hour period. Calculations of fire behavior are  
444 based on fuels, topography and weather, or what is commonly called the fire triangle.
- 445 **National Register of Historic Places (NRHP):** A listing of architectural, historical, archaeological, and  
446 cultural sites of local, state, or national significance. The list of sites was established by the Historic  
447 Preservation Act of 1966 and is maintained by the NPS.
- 448 **Native species:** With respect to a particular ecosystem, a species that, other than as a result of an  
449 introduction, historically occurred or currently occurs in that ecosystem.
- 450 **Naturalistic character:** A landscape setting where the basic elements are displayed in a composition that  
451 appears unaltered by man.
- 452 **Nitrogen oxides:** Produced from burning fuels, including gasoline and coal. Nitrogen oxides are smog  
453 formers, which react with volatile organic compounds to form smog. Nitrogen oxides are also major  
454 components of acid rain.
- 455 **Nonattainment area:** An area that does not meet (or that contributes to ambient air quality in a nearby  
456 area that does not meet) any of the federal primary or secondary ambient air quality standards for the  
457 pollutant.
- 458 **Non-Functional:** Riparian-wetland areas that clearly are not providing adequate vegetation, landform, or  
459 woody debris to dissipate energies associated with flow events, and thus are not reducing erosion, improving  
460 water quality, etc.

461 **No surface occupancy (NSO):** Use or occupancy of the land surface for fluid mineral exploration or  
 462 development and all activities associated with fluid mineral leasing (e.g., truck-mounted drilling, stationary  
 463 drill rigs in unison, geophysical exploration equipment off designated routes, and construction of wells and/or  
 464 pads) are prohibited to protect identified resource values. The NSO stipulation is a category of major  
 465 constraints. NSO areas are open to fluid mineral leasing, but surface occupancy or surface-disturbing  
 466 activities associated with fluid mineral leasing cannot be conducted on the surface of the land. Access to fluid  
 467 mineral deposits would require directional and/or drilling from outside the boundaries of the NSO area.  
 468 This differs from areas identified as closed to leasing (NL) in which neither the surface area nor mineral  
 469 estate is available for fluid mineral leasing.

470 **Noxious weed:** A nonnative weed arbitrarily defined by law as being especially undesirable, troublesome,  
 471 and difficult to control. Weeds are designated noxious by the New Mexico Department of Agriculture for  
 472 the State of New Mexico.

473 **Observer position:** The placement and relationship of a viewer to the landscape which is being viewed.

474 **Off-highway vehicle (OHV):** A vehicle (including four-wheel drive, trail bikes, ATVs, and snowmobiles,  
 475 but excluding helicopters, fixed-wing aircraft, and boats) capable of traveling off road over land, water, ice,  
 476 snow, sand, marshes, and other terrain.

477 **OHV designations:**

- 478 • **Closed** – Applies to areas and trails where the use of OHVs is permanently or temporarily  
 479 prohibited. Emergency use of vehicles is allowed.
- 480 • **Limited** – Applies to areas and trails where the use of OHVs is subject to restrictions such as  
 481 limiting the number or types of vehicles allowed, dates and times of use (seasonal restrictions),  
 482 limiting use to existing roads and trails, or limiting use to designated roads or trails. Under the  
 483 designated roads and trails designation, use is allowed only on roads and trails that are signed for  
 484 use. Combinations of restrictions, such as limiting use to certain types of vehicles during certain  
 485 times of the year, are possible.
- 486 • **Open** – Applies to areas and trails where OHVs may be operated subject to operating regulations  
 487 and vehicle standards set forth in BLM Manual parts 8341 and 8343.

488 **Ozone:** A gas which is a variety of oxygen. The oxygen gas found in the air consists of two oxygen atoms  
 489 stuck together; this is molecular oxygen. Ozone consists of three oxygen atoms stuck together into an ozone  
 490 molecule. Ozone occurs in nature; it produces the sharp smell you notice near a lightning strike. High  
 491 concentrations of O<sub>3</sub> gas are found in a layer of the atmosphere—the stratosphere—high above the earth.  
 492 Stratospheric O<sub>3</sub> shields the earth against harmful rays from the sun, particularly ultraviolet B. Smog's main  
 493 component is O<sub>3</sub>; this ground-level O<sub>3</sub> is a product of reactions among chemicals produced by burning coal,  
 494 gasoline and other fuels, and chemicals found in products including solvents, paints, and hairsprays.

495 **Paleontological locality:** A geographic point or area where a fossil or associated fossils are found in a  
 496 related geological context. A paleontological locality is confined to a discrete stratigraphic layer, structural  
 497 feature, or physiographic area.

498 **Paleontology:** The science of animal and plant fossil remains.

499 **Paleozoic:** One of the eras of geologic time.

500 **Particulate Matter:** Includes dust, soot, and other tiny bits of solid materials that are released into and  
 501 move around in the air. Particulates are produced by many sources, including burning of diesel fuels by trucks  
 502 and buses, incineration of garbage, mixing, and application of fertilizers and pesticides, road construction,

503 industrial processes such as steel making, mining operations, agricultural burning (field and slash burning),  
504 and operation of fireplaces and woodstoves.

505 **Perennial channel:** A stream or river (channel) that has continuous flow in parts of its bed all year round  
506 during years of normal rainfall. Perennial streams are contrasted with intermittent streams which normally  
507 cease flowing for weeks or months each year, and with ephemeral channels that flow only for hours or days  
508 following rainfall. During unusually dry years, a normally perennial stream may cease flowing, becoming  
509 intermittent for days, weeks, or months depending on severity of the drought.

510 **Perlite:** A volcanic glass having numerous concentric cracks which give rise to perlitic structure.

511 **Permit:** Permits are one of three forms of a land use authorization (the others are leases and easements).  
512 Permits are short-term, revocable authorizations to use public lands for specific purposes that involve either  
513 little or no land improvement, construction, or investment which can be amortized within the term of the  
514 permit. A permit conveys no possessory interest. The permit is renewable at the discretion of the authorized  
515 officer and may be revoked in accordance with its terms and applicable regulations.

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

518 **pH:** A number used by chemists to express the acidity of solutions, including water. A pH value lower than  
519 7 indicates an acidic solution, a value of 7 is neutral, and a value of higher than 7 indicates an alkaline solution.  
520 Most groundwater in the US has pH values ranging from about 6.0 to 8.5.

521 **Phyllite:** A rock intermediate in metamorphic grade between slate and schist.

522 **Physiographic province:** An extensive portion of the landscape normally encompassing many hundreds  
523 of square miles, which portrays similar qualities of soil, rock, slope, and vegetation of the same geomorphic  
524 origin (Fenneman 1946; Sahrhaftig 1975).

525 **Planning Area:** As used in this document, includes all land within the Planning Area boundaries regardless  
526 of jurisdiction or ownership.

527 **Pluton:** A body of igneous rock which formed beneath the surface of the earth by consolidation of magma.

528 **Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs):** Synthetic organic compounds that can accumulate in the bodies of  
529 fish and other organisms and cause death with enough exposure. Probable human carcinogen.

530 **Porphyritic:** A textural term for those igneous rocks in which larger crystals (phenocrysts) are set in a  
531 finer groundmass.

532 **Potable water:** Water that is suitable for drinking.

533 **Potential Fossil Yield Classification:** Geologic units are classified according to the PFYC system, usually  
534 at the formation or member level, based on the relative abundance of significant fossils and their sensitivity  
535 to adverse impacts. The classification uses a ranking of 1 through 5, with Class 5 assigned to units with a  
536 very high potential for fossils. The classifications are described below.

- 537 • **Class 1 – Very Low.** Igneous or metamorphic geologic units, or other units not likely to contain  
538 recognizable fossil remains. Management concern is negligible for Class 1 units and mitigation  
539 requirements are rarely necessary.
- 540 • **Class 2 – Low.** Sedimentary geologic units that are not likely to contain vertebrate fossils or  
541 significant nonvertebrate fossils. Management concern is low for Class 2 units and mitigation  
542 requirements are not likely.



- 543 • **Class 3 – Moderate or Unknown.** Fossiliferous sedimentary geologic units where fossil content  
544 varies in significance, abundance, and predictable occurrence; or sedimentary units of unknown fossil  
545 potential. Management concern may extend across the entire range of management. Ground-  
546 disturbing activities require sufficient assessment to determine whether significant resources occur  
547 in the area of the proposed action, and whether the action could affect the paleontological  
548 resources. Pre-disturbance surveys, monitoring, or avoidance procedures may be necessary.
- 549 • **Class 4 – High.** Geologic units containing known occurrences of significant fossils, but these  
550 occurrences may vary in local abundance and predictability. Management concern is moderate to  
551 high, depending on the potential impacts of the proposed action and local geologic conditions. Pre-  
552 disturbance field surveys are often needed, and avoidance or on-site monitoring may often be  
553 necessary during project activities.
- 554 • **Class 5 – Very High.** Highly fossiliferous geologic units that consistently and predictably produce  
555 significant fossils, and that are at risk of human-caused adverse impacts or natural degradation. Class  
556 5 areas merit a high level of management focus. Mitigation of ground disturbing activities, including  
557 pre-disturbance surveys, on-site monitoring, or avoidance procedures, are nearly always necessary.  
558 These units are often the focus of illegal collecting activities. Special management designations may  
559 be appropriate for protection or interpretation.
- 560 **Prescribed fire:** is a wildland fire originating from a planned ignition to meet specific objectives identified  
561 in a written, approved, prescribed fire plan for which NEPA requirements have been met prior to ignition.
- 562 **Proper Functioning Condition (Lentic):** Lentic riparian-wetland areas are functioning properly when  
563 adequate vegetation, landform or debris is present to: dissipate energies associated with wind action, wave  
564 action, and overland flow from adjacent sites, thereby reducing erosion and improving water quality; filter  
565 sediment and aid floodplain development; improve flood-water retention and ground-water recharge;  
566 develop root masses that stabilize islands and shoreline features against cutting action; restrict water  
567 percolation; develop diverse ponding characteristics to provide the habitat and the water depth, duration  
568 and temperature necessary for fish production, water-bird breeding, and other uses; and support greater  
569 biodiversity.
- 570 **Proposed species:** Any species of fish, wildlife, or plant that is proposed in the *Federal Register* to be listed  
571 under Section 4 of the Endangered Species Act (USFWS).
- 572 **Proprietary ACEC:** An ACEC, the location of which is not publicly available for reasons of resource  
573 protection as stipulated under the NHPA (16 USC 470w-2(a)–Confidentiality of the location of sensitive  
574 historic resources).
- 575 **Raptors:** Birds of prey, such as the eagle, falcon, hawk, owl, or vulture.
- 576 **Reactivity:** A characteristic defining a hazardous waste. A solid waste that is defined as reactive is one that  
577 is normally unstable and reacts violently without detonating, reacts violently with water, forms an explosive  
578 mixture with water, or generates toxic gases, vapors, or fumes when mixed with water, and is capable of  
579 detonation under proscribed circumstances.
- 580 **Reclamation:** The process of converting disturbed land to its former use or other productive uses.
- 581 **Regional physiography:** The mode of formation and spatial occurrence of the various rock types within  
582 the area, and the geologic structures and history that combined to produce the geologic conditions that  
583 exist in the area.
- 584 **Regression:** Gradual contraction of a shallow sea resulting in the emergence of land.

- 585 **Reserved mineral rights:** The retention of ownership of all or part of the mineral rights by a person or  
586 party conveying land to the United States. Conditions for the exercising of these rights have been defined in  
587 the Secretary of the Interior’s “Rules and Regulations to Govern Exercising of Mineral Rights Reserved  
588 Conveyance to the United States” attached to and made a part of deeds reserving mineral rights.
- 589 **Resource Management Plan (RMP):** A land use plan that establishes land use allocations, multiple-use  
590 guidelines, and management objectives for a given planning area. The RMP planning system has been used by  
591 the BLM since 1980.
- 592 **Resource Management Plan amendment:** A modification of one or more parts (e.g., decisions about  
593 livestock grazing) of an existing RMP.
- 594 **Resource Management Plan revision:** A complete or near-complete rewrite of an existing RMP.
- 595 **Restore/Restoration:** The process of restoring site conditions as they were before land disturbance.  
596 Restoration involves restoring a site to a specific point in time.
- 597 **Rhyolite:** The aphanitic (microcrystalline) equivalent of granite.
- 598 **Right-of-way (ROW):** Land authorized to be used or occupied for the construction, operation,  
599 maintenance, and termination of a project, pursuant to a ROW authorization.
- 600 **Riparian:** Situated on or pertaining to the bank of a river, stream, or other body of water. Normally used  
601 to refer to the plants of all types that grow along, around, or in wet areas.
- 602 **Riparian habitat:** Riparian habitat is defined as an area of land directly influenced by permanent (surface of  
603 subsurface) water. They have visible vegetation or physical characteristics reflective of permanent water  
604 influence.
- 605 **Roadless:** Refers to the absence of roads constructed and maintained by mechanical means.
- 606 **Roads:** Vehicle routes that are improved and maintained by mechanical means to ensure relatively regular  
607 and continuous use.
- 608 **Route:** A road, course, or way, for travel from one place to another.
- 609 **Salable minerals:** Minerals that may be sold under the Material Sale Act of 1947, as amended. Included  
610 are common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, and clay.
- 611 **Saturated:** When referring to soil, the maximum amount of water that can be held either when the soil is  
612 frozen or the spaces between the soil particles are filled with water. Any additional seepage over saturated  
613 soil will result in runoff.
- 614 **Scale:** The proportionate size relationship between an object and the surroundings in which the object is  
615 placed.
- 616 **Scenery:** The aggregate of features that give character to a landscape.
- 617 **Scenic area:** An area whose landscape character exhibits a high degree of variety and harmony among the  
618 basic elements which results in a pleasant landscape to view.
- 619 **Scenic quality:** The relative worth of a landscape from a visual perception point of view.
- 620 **Scenic quality evaluation key factors:** The seven factors (land form, vegetation, water, color, adjacent  
621 scenery, scarcity, and cultural modifications) used to evaluate the scenic quality of a landscape.

- 622 **Scenic quality ratings:** The relative scenic quality (A, B, or C) assigned a landscape by applying the scenic  
623 quality evaluation key factors; scenic quality A being the highest rating, B a moderate rating, and C the lowest  
624 rating.
- 625 **Scenic quality rating unit:** A portion of the landscape which displays primarily homogenous visual  
626 characteristics of the basic landscape features (land and water form, vegetation, and structures).
- 627 **Scenic values:** see **Scenic quality** and **Scenic quality ratings**
- 628 **Schist:** A medium or coarse-grained metamorphic rock with sub-parallel orientation of the micaceous  
629 minerals which dominate its composition.
- 630 **Scoping:** A term used to identify the process for determining the scope of issues related to a proposed  
631 action and for identifying significant issues to be addressed in an EIS.
- 632 **Sedimentary:** Rocks formed by the accumulation of sediment in water or air.
- 633 **Seen area:** That portion of the landscape which is visible from roads, trails, rivers, campgrounds,  
634 communities, or other key observation positions.
- 635 **Seldom seen distance zone:** Portions of the landscape which are generally not visible from key  
636 observation points, or portions which are visible, but more than 15 miles distance.
- 637 **Sensitivity levels:** Measures (e.g., high, medium, and low) of public concern for the maintenance of scenic  
638 quality.
- 639 [Sensitive soils: Highly erodible soils or soils with a poor chance of successful reclamation after disturbance](#)  
640 [to the soil profile, or soils with slopes greater than 15 percent.](#)
- 641 [Sensitive soils are 1\) erosion-sensitive soils that have higher susceptibility to wind or water erosion, and 2\)](#)  
642 [reclamation-sensitive soils that would be difficult to restore or reclaim with vegetation after drastic](#)  
643 [disturbance of the soil profile has occurred. This sensitive soil description is based on detailed soil](#)  
644 [information found in soil surveys published by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in](#)  
645 [cooperation with other entities, including the BLM \(USDA NRCS 2011\). Due to soil mapping procedures,](#)  
646 [most soil mapping units \(the individual areas outlined on soil maps\) contain at least two major soil types that](#)  
647 [have different properties; the proportions of the different soils within the mapping unit are specified, but the](#)  
648 [spatial locations of the different soils are not shown. There is some overlap between the erosion-sensitive](#)  
649 [soils and reclamation-sensitive soils.](#)
- 650 [Erosion-sensitive soils would include those with higher susceptibility to wind erosion as indicated by a wind](#)  
651 [erosion potential rating of “high” or “very high” in the soil survey. Soils that are rated as such are due to a](#)  
652 [surface layer that has a sandy particle size, high carbonate content, low organic matter content, or no coarse](#)  
653 [fragment protection.](#)
- 654 [Erosion-sensitive soils also would include those with higher susceptibility to water erosion as indicated by a](#)  
655 [water erosion potential rating of “high” or “very high” in the soil survey. Soils that are rated as such are due](#)  
656 [to unfavorable particle sizes and low organic matter content, in combination with high runoff, that have low](#)  
657 [resistance to water erosion processes.](#)
- 658 [Reclamation-sensitive soils would include those with a rating of “poor” for potential reclamation in the soil](#)  
659 [survey, which indicates that revegetation and stabilization are expected to be difficult and costly following](#)  
660 [drastic disturbances such as oil and gas field development, temporary road construction, or similar](#)  
661 [disturbances. This rating of the disturbed soil and its subsequent reclamation potential are based on the soil](#)

662 [properties that affect erosion and stability of the surface and the vegetation productivity potential of the](#)  
663 [reclaimed soil. These properties include the content of sodium, salts, and calcium carbonate; reaction;](#)  
664 [available water capacity; edibility; texture; content of rock fragments; and content of organic matter and](#)  
665 [other features that affect fertility.](#)

666 **Sensitive species:** Species not yet officially listed but that are undergoing status review for listing on the  
667 USFWS official threatened and endangered list; species whose populations are small and widely dispersed or  
668 restricted to a few localities; and species whose numbers are declining so rapidly that official listing may be  
669 necessary.

670 **Seral classes:** Developmental stages in the growth of a forest from young to old.

671 **Shale:** Laminated sediment predominantly composed of clay.

672 **Shut-in well:** A well that is capable of producing, whose valves are closed to prevent production.

673 **Significant cultural resource:** Significances at the local, state, or national level is evaluated using criteria  
674 for listing on the NRHP. To be eligible, a property must ordinarily be at least 50 years old, and must be  
675 important in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or culture. It must possess integrity  
676 of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, or association. In addition, properties must meet  
677 at least one of the following four criteria:

- 678 • **Criterion A:** Associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns  
679 of our history
- 680 • **Criterion B:** Associated with the lives of persons significant in our past
- 681 • **Criterion C:** Embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction,  
682 or that represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or that represent a  
683 significant distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction
- 684 • **Criterion D:** Have yielded or may likely yield information important in prehistory or history

685 **Significant paleontological resource (also significant fossil resource):** Any paleontological resource  
686 that is considered to be of scientific interest, including most vertebrate fossil remains and traces, and certain  
687 rare or unusual invertebrate and plant fossils. A significant paleontological resource is considered to be  
688 scientifically important because it is a rare or previously unknown species, it is of high quality and well-  
689 preserved, it preserves a previously unknown anatomical or other characteristic, provides new information  
690 about the history of life on earth, or has identified educational or recreational value.

691 **Simulation:** A realistic visual portrayal which demonstrates the perceivable changes in landscape features  
692 caused by a proposed management activity. This is done through the use of photography, artwork, computer  
693 graphics, and other such techniques.

694 **Soil texture:** A soil property used to describe the relative proportion of different grain sizes of mineral  
695 particles in a soil. Particles are grouped according to their size into what are called soil separates. These  
696 separates are typically named clay, silt, and sand. Soil texture classification is based on the fractions of soil  
697 separates present in a soil. The soil texture triangle is a diagram often used to figure out soil textures.

698 **Special Status Species:** Collectively, federally listed or proposed and BLM sensitive species, which include  
699 both federally listed candidate species and delisted species within 5 years of delisting (BLM H-6840).

700 **Speleology:** The scientific study of caves; a composite science based on geology, hydrology, biology, and  
701 archaeology.

702 **Speleothems:** Dripstone features including stalagmites and stalactites.

- 703 **Split estate:** Refers to land where the mineral rights and the surface rights are owned by different parties.  
704 Owners of the mineral rights generally have a superior right.
- 705 **Stakeholders:** Means, but is not limited to, state, tribal, and local government agencies, academic  
706 institutions, the scientific community, nongovernmental entities including environmental, agricultural, and  
707 conservation organizations, trade groups, commercial interests, and private landowners.
- 708 **Stand density:** 1. a quantitative measure of stocking expressed either absolutely in terms of number of  
709 trees, **basal area**, or volume per unit area or relative to some standard condition. 2. A measure of the  
710 degree of crowding of trees within stocked areas commonly expressed by various growing space ratios, such  
711 as Stand Density Index.
- 712 **Stand density index (SDI):** An index of competitive interaction. Expressed as a maximum, it indicates the  
713 maximum density that a given species can attain at a given reference diameter. At 25 percent of maximum  
714 SDI, trees begin competing with each other (and begin to out compete understory species). At 35 percent  
715 of maximum SDI, trees fully occupy the site. At higher densities competition between trees either results in  
716 reduced growth and vigor on individual trees or may result in competitive stress and tree mortality (perhaps  
717 due in part to secondary agents such as insects that are attracted to stressed trees).
- 718 **Stewardship contracting:** Stewardship end results contracting projects are those activities used to  
719 accomplish the goals set forward in Section 323 of Public Law 108-7 whereby the Forest Service and the  
720 BLM would enter into contract or agreement, including consideration of source under public and private  
721 contracts, for services to achieve land management goals and meet local and rural community needs. In  
722 addition, the contract or agreement is awarded on a best-value basis.
- 723 Agency direction provides that stewardship contracts must include at least one of the new authorities  
724 granted by the legislation: where the value of timber and other forest products is applied as an offset against  
725 the cost of services received; or multi-year contract authority greater than 5 years but not to exceed 10  
726 years.
- 727 **Stipulation (oil and gas):** A provision that modifies standard oil and gas lease terms and conditions in  
728 order to protect other resource values or land uses and is attached to and made a part of the lease. Typical  
729 lease stipulations are no surface occupancy (NSO), timing limitations (TL), and controlled surface use (CSU).  
730 Lease stipulations are developed through the RMP process.
- 731 **Stratigraphy:** Branch of geology dealing with the formation, composition, sequence, and correlation of  
732 stratified rocks of the earth's crust.
- 733 **Sulfur dioxide:** A gas produced by burning coal, most notably in power plants. Some industrial processes,  
734 such as production of paper and smelting of metals, produce sulfur dioxide. Sulfur dioxide is closely related  
735 to sulfuric acid, a strong acid. Sulfur dioxide plays an important role in the production of acid rain.
- 736 **Sustained yield:** The concept of steady-state management of timber, wildlife, and many other natural  
737 resources, but most often applied to forest management. Consumption is matched by production.
- 738 **Syenite:** A plutonic igneous rock consisting principally of alkali feldspar with one or more mafics.
- 739 **Take:** To pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture or collect or attempt to pursue, hunt, wound, kill,  
740 trap, capture or collect (50 CFR 10.12). The Executive Order further defines take to include intentional  
741 take, meaning take that is the purpose of the activity in question, and unintentional take, meaning take that  
742 results from, but is not the purpose of, the activity in question. Both intentional and unintentional take  
743 constitute take as defined by the regulation.

- 744 **Temporary use permits (TUPs):** A right-of-way may be supplemented by such temporary permits for  
745 the use of federal lands in the vicinity of the pipeline if the Secretary of the Interior or agency head finds the  
746 permit necessary in connection with construction, operation, maintenance, or termination of the pipeline,  
747 or to protect the natural environment or public safety.
- 748 **Terrane:** A fault-bounded body of rock of regional extent characterized by a geologic history different than  
749 the surrounding rocks.
- 750 **Threatened species:** The classification provided to an animal or plant likely to become endangered within  
751 the foreseeable future throughout all of a significant portion of its range (USFWS).
- 752 **Timing limitation (TL):** Areas identified for timing limitations (TL), a moderate constraint, are closed to  
753 fluid mineral exploration and development, surface-disturbing activities, and intensive human activity during  
754 identified time frames. This stipulation does not apply to operation and basic maintenance activities, including  
755 associated vehicle travel, unless otherwise specified. Construction, drilling, completions, and other  
756 operations considered to be intensive in nature are not allowed. Intensive maintenance, such as workovers  
757 on wells, is not permitted. Administrative activities are allowed at the discretion of the BLM Authorized  
758 Officer.
- 759 **Total deposition:** The sum of airborne material transferred to the Earth's surface by both wet and dry  
760 deposition.
- 761 **Total dissolved solids (TDS):** The total quantity (reported in milligrams per liter) of dissolved materials  
762 in water.
- 763 **Toxicity:** A characteristic defining a hazardous waste. Toxicity refers to the ability of a material to produce  
764 injury or disease on exposure, ingestion, inhalation, assimilation by a living organism.
- 765 **Transgression:** Gradual expansion of a shallow sea resulting in the submergence of land.
- 766 **Transportation ROW:** Land associated with highways and railroads authorized to be used or occupied  
767 for the construction, operation, maintenance, and termination of a project, pursuant to a ROW  
768 authorization.
- 769 **Trends:** Are the degree and direction of change between the present and some point in the past.
- 770 **Tuff:** Rock formed of compacted volcanic fragments, generally smaller than four mm in diameter.
- 771 **Ultramafic:** Some igneous rocks containing less than 45 percent silica (ultrabasic).
- 772 **Uncharacteristic wildfire hazard:** Conditions with the potential to lead to an uncharacteristic wildfire.
- 773 **Unclassified area:** An area that cannot be classified on the basis of available information as meeting or not  
774 meeting the federal primary or secondary ambient air quality standard for the pollutant.
- 775 **Unconformity:** A surface of erosion that separates younger strata from older rocks.
- 776 **Underburn:** A prescribed fire ignited under the forest canopy that focuses on the consumption of surface  
777 fuels but not the overstory vegetation. Underburning is generally used following a pre-treatment such as  
778 thinning and /or pile burning to further reduce the surface fuels, help maintain the desired vegetation  
779 conditions and enhance the overall health and resiliency of the stand.
- 780 **Underground storage tanks:** A tank with at least 10 percent of its volume beneath the ground, including  
781 attached pipes, that is or has been used to contain hazardous substances or petroleum products.

782 **Unknown (pertaining to condition of riparian systems):** Riparian-wetland areas for which there is a  
783 lack of sufficient information to make any form of determination.

784 **Utility corridor:** A linear corridor usually designated for facilities such as power lines or pipeline.

785 **Variables:** Factors influencing visual perception including distance, angle of observation, time, size or scale,  
786 season of the year, light, and atmospheric conditions.

787 **Variety:** The state or quality of being varied and having the absence of monotony or sameness.

788 **Viable:** A [wildlife] population that has the estimated numbers and distribution of reproductive individuals  
789 to insure its continued existence.

790 **Viewshed:** the landscape that can be directly seen under favorable atmospheric conditions, from a viewpoint  
791 or along a transportation corridor.

792 **Viga:** large (6- to 12-plus inches in diameter) round logs that once peeled are used as ceiling beams in  
793 traditional Southwestern architecture

794 **Visibility:** The ability to see color, texture and contrast at a distance and can be reported as visual range,  
795 in units of distance such as miles.

796 **Visual resources:** The visible physical features of a landscape (topography, water, vegetation, animals,  
797 structures, and other features) that constitute the scenery of an area.

798 **Visual Resource Management (VRM):** The inventory and planning actions taken to identify visual  
799 resource values and to establish objectives for managing those values.

800 **Visual Resource Management Classes:** VRM classes identify the visual quality objectives as the degree  
801 of acceptable visual change within a particular landscape. A classification is assigned to public lands based on  
802 guidelines established for scenic quality, visual sensitivity, and visibility.

- 803 • **VRM Class I** – This classification preserves the existing characteristic landscape and allows for  
804 natural ecological changes only. Includes congressionally authorized areas (Wilderness) and areas  
805 approved through an RMP where landscape modification activities should be restricted.
- 806 • **VRM Class II** – This classification retains the existing characteristic landscape. The level of change  
807 in any of the basic landscape elements (form, line, color, texture) due to management activities  
808 should be low and not evident.
- 809 • **VRM Class III** – This classification partially retains the existing characteristic landscape. The level  
810 of change in any of the basic landscape elements due to management activities may be moderate and  
811 evident.
- 812 • **VRM Class IV** – This classification applies to areas where the characteristic landscape has been so  
813 disturbed that rehabilitation is needed. Generally considered an interim short-term classification  
814 until rehabilitation or enhancement is completed.

815 **Volatile organic compounds (VOCs):** Organic chemicals all contain the element carbon. Organic  
816 chemicals are the basic chemicals found in living things and in products derived from living things, such as  
817 coal, petroleum, and refined petroleum products. Volatile chemicals produce vapors readily; at room  
818 temperature and normal atmospheric pressure, vapors escape easily from volatile liquid chemicals. Volatile  
819 organic chemicals include gasoline, industrial chemicals such as benzene, solvents such as toluene and xylene,  
820 and tetrachloroethylene (perchloroethylene, the principal dry cleaning solvent). Many volatile organic  
821 chemicals are also hazardous air pollutants.

- 822 **Volcanic plug:** The fossilized innards of a volcano. Plugs are commonly funnel shaped and taper downward  
823 into bodies increasingly elliptical or elongated in shape.
- 824 **Water rights adjudications:** A legal process conducted through a superior court to determine the extent  
825 and validity of existing water rights. An adjudication can determine rights to surface water, groundwater, or  
826 both. An adjudication does not create new water rights, it only confirms existing rights.
- 827 **Water table:** The surface in a groundwater body where the water pressure is atmospheric. It is the level  
828 at which water stands in a well that penetrates the water body just far enough to hold standing water.
- 829 **Watershed:** The land area that drains water to a particular stream, river, or lake. It is a land feature that  
830 can be identified by tracing a line along the highest elevations between two areas on a map, often a ridge.
- 831 **Weed:** An undesirable plant that disrupts or has the potential to disrupt or alter the natural ecosystem  
832 function, composition, and diversity of the site it occupies. Its presence deteriorates the health of the site, it  
833 makes efficient use of natural resources difficult, and it may interfere with management objectives for that  
834 site.
- 835 **Wet deposition:** Air pollutants deposited by precipitation, such as rain and snow.
- 836 **Wetlands:** Lands including swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas, such as wet meadows, river overflows,  
837 mud flats, and natural ponds.
- 838 **Wilderness Area (WA):** An area officially designated as Wilderness by Congress. Wilderness areas will  
839 be managed to preserve wilderness characteristics and shall be devoted to the public purposes of recreation,  
840 scenic, scientific, educational, conservation, and historical use.
- 841 **Wilderness characteristics:** sufficient size, naturalness, and either outstanding opportunities for solitude  
842 or primitive and unconfined recreation.
- 843 **Wilderness Study Area (WSA):** Areas under study for possible inclusion as a Wilderness Area in the  
844 National Wilderness Preservation System.
- 845 **Wildfire:** unplanned ignition of a wildland fire (such as a fire caused by lightning, volcanoes, unauthorized  
846 and accidental human-caused fires) and escaped prescribed fires.
- 847 **Wildfire risk:** Wildfire risk comprises the probability of an undesired wildfire event and the outcome of it.  
848 The undesired event realizes a hazard.
- 849 **Wildland fire:** a general term describing any non-structure fire that occurs in the wildland.
- 850 **Wildland-urban interface (WUI):** The line, area, or zone where structures and other human  
851 developments meet or intermingle with wildland or vegetative fuel. Interface is further delineated into the  
852 following types:
- 853 • Developed areas with residential structures where many structures border wildland on a broad  
854 front.
  - 855 • Developed areas with private residential structures where developments are few in number  
856 scattered over a large area surrounded by wildland.
- 857 **Zeolite:** A group of hydrous aluminosilicate minerals containing sodium, calcium, barium, strontium, and  
858 potassium.