Document:	BLM Socio-economic lead:	Date:

BLM Social Science Guideline 1
Checklist for Socio-Economic Analysis in Resource Management Plans
Version 1.1 Revised 11-8-04

I. General notes and comments.

1. All socio-economic studies prepared as part of BLM's land use process should be consistent with the requirements of the BLM Land Use Planning Handbook (BLM Handbook H-1601-1, revised October 2004), particularly Appendix D: Social Science Considerations in Land Use Planning Decisions. This checklist supplements the information presented there.

2. There is no standard scope of work for socio-economic analysis, for the key topics and methods are shaped by the social context and potential resource allocation decisions of a given resource management plan. The social and economic assessment (affected environment) and impact analysis (environmental consequences) should assist the reader to understand the human context of the planning effort, and to identify the potential effects, constraints, and opportunities associated with planning alternatives.

3. Field office staff responsible for directing the socio-economic aspect of a plan can use this checklist to define the appropriate scope of work. The checklist uses three codes to prioritize 27 topics of socio-economic information:

> **1 - basic**: topic should be addressed (example: population trends)
>
> **2 - optional**: address if warranted by context and issues
>
> **3 – not currently indicated**: address if indicated by new information

Identify recommended and optional topics to be included in the analysis by indicating the *priority* of each (1, 2, or 3) in the appropriate row. Some basic topics have already been coded with a '**1**.' Blank rows are provided to allow inclusion of other topics. Use the *specific guidance* field to suggest groups, issues, and activities to receive particular attention on a given topic.

4. Field office staff should use Section III to provide suggested data sources, contacts, and other plan-specific guidance

5. Note that the required <u>economic strategies workshop</u> provides an excellent opportunity to discuss with interested government leaders and the public what topics should be emphasized in the socio-economic analysis.

6. This checklist is advisory only. For questions or comments, please contact Rob Winthrop, Senior Social Scientist, Planning, Assessment, and Community Support Group, BLM Washington Office (202-785-6597; robert_winthrop@blm.gov).

Document:			BLM Socio-economic lead:		Date:

II. Topics for analysis. [Field office staff should identify the *priority* (1, 2, or 3) of each topic: see note I-3, above. Add suggestions regarding which groups, issues, and activities should receive particular attention under *specific guidance.*]

	topic	planning relevance	examples	priority	specific guidance
DEMOGRAPHY AND SOCIAL INDICATORS	*population*	potential demand on BLM lands and resources	population trends; migration, distribution by age and gender	**1**	
	inequality	differences in visibility and influence; identify vulnerable populations (environmental justice)	income distribution; percent of households in poverty;	**1**	
	social difference	barriers to public involvement; different user needs and values; identify distinctive populations (environmental justice)	ethnicity; languages spoken in household; tribal affiliation		
	social indicators	can indicate community strengths and weaknesses that may have implications for planning issues	crime rates, divorce rates, unemployment, education, length of residence		
SOCIAL ORGANIZATION AND INSTITUTIONS	*government*	potential cooperating agencies; contacts for plan coordination (identified in Preparation Plan)	municipal and county governments in/near planning area; special districts; tribal governments	**1**	
	non-governmental institutions	potential partners for plan implementation; sources of economic and social resilience	Chamber of Commerce; church groups; ethnic advocacy organizations		
	communities of place	local and regional population centers relative to planning area; effects may differ by community	gateway communities; natural resource-dependent communities	**1**	

Document:			BLM Socio-economic lead:	Date:

	topic	planning relevance	examples	priority	specific guidance
	social groups and networks	opportunities for informal contacts in seeking public comment and communicating plans and proposals	networks linking ranchers or retirees		
	occupational and interest groups	provide range of perspectives on potential land use decisions; effects may differ by group	wilderness advocates; oil & gas producers, Cattlemen's Association	**1**	
ATTITUDES AND MEANINGS	*attitudes and beliefs regarding local environment and its use*	local understandings may shape acceptability of proposed land use decisions **[use formal techniques: surveys, interviews, focus groups][1]**	survey to clarify local understanding of effects of coal bed methane technology on ground-water conditions		
	significance of proposed land management actions for various publics	while public attitudes are elicited in scoping, formal data collection can identify important differences between groups, providing further information to help identify impacts and mitigation strategies **[use formal techniques: surveys, interviews, focus groups][1]**	interviews to assess social impacts of prescribed burning		
	quality of life	can indicate community perceptions that may have implications for planning issues	perceived access to community resources; satisfaction with community conditions, such as employment opportunity		

---

[1] Primary (new) data collection methods may be subject to requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act. See Planning Handbook, Appendix D., Sec. V. C. Secondary data may also be available.

Document:	BLM Socio-economic lead:	Date:

		topic	planning relevance	examples	priority	specific guidance
HUMAN GEOGRAPHY		*distribution of communities, roads, and resources*	clarify geo-spatial context; can predict potential conflicts and impacts over proposed land use allocations	wildland-urban interface, recreational demand from nearby cities	**1**	[data usually collected by Lands & Realty / GIS]
		land ownership and access	predict potential conflicts and impacts over proposed land use allocations	split estate ownership of sub-surface minerals		[data usually collected by Lands & Realty / GIS staff]
		culturally and socially significant places and areas	identify constraints on site-specific activities, mitigation strategies **[use formal techniques: surveys, interviews, focus groups][1]**	locally valued buildings, sites, and landscapes; sense of place; traditional religious/cultural use areas		[data usually collected by Cultural Resources staff]
ECONOMIC VALUE		*interrelationships among producing sectors*	regional economic sectors and their interrelation as a context for BLM management decisions	annual purchase and sales by economic sector (transaction matrix)	**1**	
		non-market values of resources and activities	consider the significance of the non-market values associated with resources managed or impacts by BLM when formulating the management alternatives	estimate the value of open space, improved riparian areas, improved wildlife habitat		
		dependence on BLM lands and resources	understand and quantify the potential local and regional impacts of land use decisions	value of BLM timber sales, visitor-day expenditures, grazing and mining to the local economy		

---

[1] Primary (new) data collection methods may be subject to requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act. See Planning Handbook, Appendix D., Sec. V. C. Secondary data may also be available.

Document:				BLM Socio-economic lead:	Date:

	topic	planning relevance	examples	**priority**	**specific guidance**
EMPLOYMENT, INCOME, AND SUBSISTENCE	*employment*	quantify the anticipated employment impacts by sector to determine the population changes and the associated demand on the infrastructure in the study area	temporary jobs from oil & gas development versus service jobs created by increased recreational opportunities	**1**	
	personal income	forecast anticipated change in income resulting from BLM's allocation decisions	wages and salaries; non-labor income (dividends, transfer payments)	**1**	
	economic diversity and resilience	ability of stakeholder communities to respond to external change	level of dependence on single economic sector		
	regional economic organization	identify amount and geographic distribution of new indirect and induced employment resulting from additional local investment	new local jobs resulting from proposed increase in oil and gas production on public lands		
	subsistence activities	non-market production from BLM lands for local use	amount and value of subsistence hunting by local residents		
PUBLIC FINANCE AND GOVERNMENT SERVICES	*government revenues and expenditures*	fiscal capacity and resilience under change	change in tax revenues and county PILT receipts		
	public infrastructure and services	community services may be impacted by resource or recreational development of public lands	expenditures on schools, roads, social services		

Document:			BLM Socio-economic lead:	Date:

	topic	planning relevance	examples	**priority**	**specific guidance**
ENVIRON-MENTAL JUSTICE (EJ)	*characterize Environmental Justice populations in planning area*	see **Demography and Social Indicators**: inequality, social difference	ethnic networks organize much of the commercial harvesting of mushrooms and other non-timber forest products in the Pacific Northwest	**1**	
	assess potential for disproportionate impacts to EJ populations	identify whether EJ issues require further modification of alternatives, or further mitigation of impacts	oil and gas development can affect areas where American Indian populations collect medicinal plants	**1**	
[FOR ADDITIONAL TOPICS]					
[FOR ADDITIONAL TOPICS]					

Document:	BLM Socio-economic lead:	Date:

III. Recommended data sources, contacts, and other plan-specific guidance.

[to be completed by issuing field office]

[s-e contracts\checklist\s-e checklist ver 1.1 11-8-04.doc]