



**ACCESS.** Access is the physical ability to reach a particular place or area. For the public to legally have access to BLM land, they must have both a physical way to get there (waterway, foot/horse trail, or road) and permission (easement, right-of-way, or management sanction) allowing that particular type of physical access.

**ACTIVITY PLAN.** A detailed and specific plan for a single resource program to implement the more general resource management plan (RMP) decisions.

**AIRSHED.**

**Class I Area.** Any area which is designated for the most stringent degree of protection from future degradation of air quality. The Clean Air Act designates as mandatory Class I areas each national park over 6,000 acres and each national wilderness area over 5,000 acres.

**Class II Area.** Any area cleaner than federal air quality standards which is designated for a moderate degree of protection from future air quality degradation. Moderate increases in new pollution may be permitted in a Class II area.

**Class III Area.** Any area cleaner than federal air quality standards which is designated for a lesser degree of protection from future air quality degradation. Significant increases in new pollution may be permitted in Class III area.

**ALLOTMENT.** An area of land where one or more livestock operators graze their livestock. Allotments generally consist of BLM lands but may also include state owned and private lands. An allotment may include one or more separate pastures. Livestock numbers and seasons of use are specified for each allotment.

**ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN (AMP).** A document prescribing the manner in and extent to which livestock grazing is conducted and managed in a geographic area to meet objectives as determined through the resource management plan (RMP).

**ANIMAL UNIT MONTH (AUM).** A standardized measurement of the amount of forage necessary for the complete sustenance of one animal for one month; also the measurement of the privilege of grazing one animal for one month.

**AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC).** An area where special attention is required to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values; fish and wildlife resources; or other natural systems or processes; or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.

**AVOIDANCE AREA.** Land areas that pose particular land use or environmental impacts which would be difficult or impossible to mitigate. The corresponding definition for the Montana Major Facility Siting Act is a geographic area or location specified in ARM 36.7.2504, ARM 36.7.2533, and ARM 36.7.2535 where construction or operation of a facility will likely damage the significant environmental values peculiar to the area or where environmental constraints may pose siting or construction problems and where these values or constraints have received formal public recognition or designation or are in the process of being designated at the time the application is filed.

**BROWSE.** To browse is to graze a plant; also, browse (noun) is the tender shoots, twigs and leaves of trees and shrubs often used as food by cattle, deer, elk and other animals.

**COMPACTION.** The process of packing firmly and closely together; the state of being so packed, e.g., mechanical compaction of soil by livestock or vehicular activity. Soil compaction results from particles being pressed together so that the volume of the soil is reduced. It is influenced by the physical properties of the soil, moisture content and the type and amount of compactive effort.

**CRITICAL HABITAT.** Any habitat, which if lost, would appreciably decrease the likelihood of the survival and recovery of a threatened or endangered species, or a distinct segment of its population. Critical habitat may represent any portion of the present habitat of a listed species and may include additional areas for reasonable population expansion. Critical habitat must be officially designated as such by the Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service.

**CRUCIAL WILDLIFE HABITAT.** Parts of the habitat necessary to sustain a wildlife population at critical periods of its life cycle. This is often a limiting factor on the population, such as breeding habitat, winter habitat, etc.

**CULTURAL PROPERTY.** A definite location of past human activity, occupation, or use identifiable through

field inventory, historical documentation, or oral evidence. The term includes archaeological, historic, or architectural sites, structures, or places with important public and scientific uses, and may include definite locations (sites or places) or traditional cultural or religious importance to specified social and/or cultural groups.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES.** A term that includes items of historical, archaeological or architectural significance which are fragile, limited and non-renewable portions of the human environment.

**CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (CRMP).** An activity plan in which the determinations made in a resource management plan (RMP) are developed into specific management decisions. CRMP development has two products: the allocation of all of the planning area's cultural resources to use categories and the establishment of related protection and information gathering priorities.

**DEVELOPED RECREATION SITE.** A site developed primarily to accommodate specific intensive use activities or grouping of activities such as camping, picnicking, boating, swimming, winter sports, etc. These sites include permanent facilities such as roads, trails, toilets, and other facilities needed to accommodate recreation use over the long term.

**ECOLOGICAL SITE.** An area of land with a specific potential plant community and specific physical site characteristics, differing from other areas of land in its ability to produce vegetation and to respond to management. Ecological site is synonymous with range site.

**ECOLOGICAL STATUS.** The present state of vegetation and soil protection of an ecological site in relation to the potential plant community for the site. Vegetation status is the expression of the relative degree to which the kinds, proportions, and amounts of plants in a community resemble that of the potential plant community. The four ecological status classes correspond to 0-25, 26-50, 51-75, or 76-100 percent similarity to the potential plant community and are generally called early seral, mid-seral, late seral, and potential plant community, respectively.

**ENDANGERED OR THREATENED SPECIES.** Determined for plants and animals by one or a combination of the following factors:

1. The present or threatened destruction, modification or curtailment of a species habitat or range.
2. Over-utilization of a species for commercial, sporting, scientific or educational purposes.
3. Disease or predation of the species.
4. The inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms.
5. Other natural or human caused factors affecting a species' continued existence.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT.** A concise public document for which a Federal agency is responsible that serves to:

1. Briefly provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or a finding of no significant impact.
2. Aid an agency's compliance with the Act when no environmental impact statement is necessary.
3. Facilitate preparation of a statement when one is necessary. Shall include brief discussions of the need for the proposal, of alternatives as required by Sec. 102(2) (e), of the environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives, and a listing of agencies and persons consulted.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS).** A detailed written statement as required by Sec. 102(2) (C) of the National Environmental Protection Act.

**EPHEMERAL STREAM.** A stream or stretch of a stream that flows only in direct response to precipitation. It receives no water from springs and no long-continued supply from melting snow or other surface source. Its stream channel is at all times above the water table. These streams do not flow continuously during periods of as much as one month.

**EROSION SUSCEPTIBILITY.** The susceptibility of a soil to erosion when no cover is present. The rate of soil displacement depends on the physical properties of the soil, rainfall intensity and slope gradient.

**EXCHANGE.** A conveyance of lands and interests therein from the United States to a person at the same time there is a conveyance of lands and interests therein from the person to the United States.

**EXCLUSION AREAS.** Land areas determined to be unavailable for corridor allocation or facility siting. Only those areas with a legal Congressional mandate that excludes linear facilities should be included. The corresponding definition for the Montana Major Facility Siting Act is a geographic area specified in ARM 36.7.2503 and ARM 36.7.2532 legally designated for its environmental values and having legally defined boundaries wherein facility construction or operation is prohibited, excepting those portions of the area where permission to site a facility has been obtained from the legislative or administrative unit of government with direct authority over the area.

**EXTENSIVE RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA.** BLM administrative units where recreation management is only one of several management objectives and where limited commitment of resources is required to provide extensive and unstructured type of recreation activities. They may contain recreation sites.

FEDERAL LAND POLICY AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976 (FLPMA). Public Law 94-579, October 21, 1976, often referred to as the BLM's "Organic Act," which provides the majority of the BLM's legislated authority, direction, policy and basic management guidance.

FISCAL CONDITIONS. Fiscal conditions includes payments-in-lieu of taxes and property taxes.

GROUNDWATER. Water contained in pore spaces of consolidated and unconsolidated subsurface material.

HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN (HMP). A written and approved activity plan for a geographical area that identifies wildlife habitat management actions to be implemented to achieving specific objectives identified in the RMP.

INTERIM MANAGEMENT POLICY AND GUIDELINES FOR LANDS UNDER WILDERNESS REVIEW (IMP). A BLM Handbook H-8550-1 dated November 10, 1987, which defines the policy for management of Wilderness Study Areas until a final determination on wilderness designation is made by Congress.

INTERMITTENT STREAM. A stream or stretch of stream which flows only at certain times of the year when it receives water from springs or from some surface source such as melting snow in mountainous or other cold tributary areas. They are usually divided with respect to the source of their water into spring-fed or surface-fed intermittent streams. These streams generally flow continuously during periods of at least one month or more during the year.

ISOLATED TRACT. A tract of one or more contiguous legal subdivisions completely surrounded by lands held in non-Federal ownership or so effectively separated from other federally-owned lands by some permanent withdrawal or reservation as to make its use with such lands impracticable. A tract is considered isolated if the contiguous lands are all patented, even though there are other public lands cornering upon the tract. The term "cornering" refers to lands having a common survey corner but not a common boundary.

LEASABLE MINERALS. Those minerals or materials that can be leased from the federal government. Includes oil and gas, coal, phosphate, sodium, potash, and oil shale.

LINEAL RIGHTS-OF-WAY. Lineal rights-of-way are described in terms of length and width. The length will generally be a fixed statistic. Width, however, is more judgmental. Width multiplied by length equates to the right-of-way "area of use."

LOCATABLE MINERALS. Minerals or materials subject to disposal and development through the Mining Law of

1872 (as amended). Generally includes metallic minerals such as gold and silver and other materials not subject to lease or sale (some bentonites, limestone, talc, some zeolites, etc.).

MANAGEMENT ACTIONS. Any actions proposed to preserve a resource, increase or decrease production and/or use, regulate or minimize depletion of resources, or improve the conditions of a resource through application of professionally recognized methods, techniques, or treatments.

MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN (MFP). A planning decision document prepared before the effective date of the regulations implementing the land use planning provisions of the FLPMA, which establishes, for a given area of land, land-use allocations, coordination guidelines for multiple-use, and objectives to be achieved for each class of land-use or protection. Until replaced by RMP's, MFP's, including those completed in the transition period, are used as a basis for management action as provided for in 43 CFR 1610.8.

MANAGEMENT SITUATION ANALYSIS (MSA). An unpublished companion document to this RMP that provides the background documentation for the development of alternatives. The MSA consists of the Resource Area Profile, Existing Management Situation, Existing Resource Situation, and Opportunity Analysis.

MECHANICAL TREATMENTS. Treatment by mechanical means of an area of range including contour furrowing, pitting, plowing and seeding, chiseling, scalping, water spreaders, etc. to accomplish desired objectives.

MINERAL MATERIALS. Includes common varieties of mineral resources which are not locatable under the mining law nor leasable under the leasing laws. Examples include: sand and gravel, rip rap, building stone, decorative stone, and construction material.

MITIGATION MEASURES. Methods or procedures committed to by BLM for the purpose of reducing or lessening the impacts of an action.

MONITOR. To watch or check. Rangeland resources are monitored for changes that occur as a result of management actions or practices.

MULTIPLE USE. Balanced management of the various surface and subsurface resources, without permanent impairment of the productivity of the land, that will best meet present and future needs.

NET WILLINGNESS TO PAY. An economic term that represents the value derived from the purchase of a good or service that is over and above the actual expenditure for that good or service. Also termed net economic value.

**NONDISCRETIONARY NO MINERAL ENTRY AREA.** Those lands closed to mineral entry by formal regulation, legislation or withdrawal. Within these areas the BLM's legal authority to allow mineral entry is suspended.

**OFFSITE WATER FACILITIES.** The transport of water away from the source (well, spring, reservoir, etc.) via a pipeline to a stock water tank. The source would be exclosed to prevent damage and contamination by livestock and wildlife.

**OFF-ROAD VEHICLE (ORV).** Any motorized track or wheeled vehicle designed for cross-country travel over any type of natural terrain.

**OFF-ROAD VEHICLE DESIGNATIONS.**

**Open:** Designated areas and trails where off-road vehicles may be operated, subject to operating regulations and vehicle standards set forth in BLM Manuals 8341 and 8343; or an area where all types of vehicle use is permitted at all times, subject to the standards in BLM Manuals 8341 and 8343.

**Limited:** Designated areas and trails where the use of off-road vehicles is subject to restrictions such as limiting the number or types of vehicles allowed, dates and times of use (seasonal restrictions), limiting use to existing roads and trails, or limiting use to designated roads and trails. Under the designated roads and trails designation, use would be allowed only on roads and trails that are signed for use.

Combinations of restrictions are possible such as limiting use to certain types of vehicles during certain times of the year.

**Closed:** Designated areas and trails where the use of off-road vehicles is permanently or temporarily prohibited. The use of off-road vehicles in closed areas may be allowed for certain reasons; however, such use shall be made only with the approval of the authorized officer.

**ONE-TIME EXPENDITURE.** An expenditure that is incurred once only, such as a capital expenditure for a piece of equipment or construction of a reservoir. These types of costs would be in contrast to ongoing costs such as annual budget expenditures for labor, rent, building maintenance, etc.

**PERENNIAL STREAM.** A stream or stretch of a stream that flows continuously. They are generally fed in part by springs, and their upper surface generally stand lower than the water table in localities through which they flow.

**PERMIT (GRAZING).** An authorization that permits the grazing of a specified number and kind of livestock on a designated area of BLM lands for a period of time, usually not more than one year.

**PLANNING CRITERIA.** The factors used to guide development of the resource management plan, or revision, to ensure that it is tailored to the issue previously identified and to ensure that unnecessary data collection and analysis are avoided. Planning criteria are developed to guide the collection and use of inventory data and information, the analysis of the management situation, the design and formulation of alternatives, the estimation of the effects of alternatives, the evaluation of alternatives, and the selection of the preferred alternative.

**POTENTIAL NATURAL COMMUNITY (PNC).** The plant community that would be established if all successional sequences were completed without interference by man under the present environment conditions. PNC is generally synonymous with the climax community.

**PROPER FUNCTIONING CONDITION.** Riparian-wetland areas are functioning properly when they dissipate stream energy associated with high water flows, thereby reducing erosion and improving water quality; filter sediment and aid floodplain development; improve floodwater retention and ground water recharge; develop root masses that stabilize streambanks against cutting action; develop diverse ponding and channel characteristics to provide the habitat and the water depth, duration, and temperature necessary for fish production, waterfowl, breeding, and other uses; and support greater biodiversity.

**PUBLIC LANDS.** Any land and interest in land (outside of Alaska) owned by the United States and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Bureau of Land Management.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.** Part of BLM's planning system that provides the opportunity for citizens as individuals or groups to express local, regional, and national perspectives and concerns in the rule making, decision making, inventory and planning, processes for public lands. This includes public meetings, hearings, or advisory boards or panels that may review resource management proposals and offer suggestions or criticisms for the various alternatives considered.

**RANGE CONDITION.** The present state of vegetation of a range site in relation to the climax plant community of that site. It is an expression of the relative degree to which the kinds, proportions and amounts of plants in a plant community resemble that of the climax plant community for that site. Range condition is basically an ecological rating of the plant community. Air-dry weight is the unit of measure used in comparing the composition and production of the present plant community with that of the climax community.

**RANGE DEVELOPMENT.** A structure, excavation, treatment or development to rehabilitate, protect or improve public lands to advance range betterment. "Range Development" is synonymous with "Range Improvement."

**RANGE FACILITIES.** Any structure or excavation such as water sources, shade sources, oilers, etc. designed to facilitate range management.

**RANGE SITE.** A distinctive kind of rangeland that differs from other kinds of rangeland in its ability to produce a characteristic natural plant community. A range site is the product of all the environmental factors responsible for its development. It is capable of supporting a native plant community typified by an association of species that differs from that of other range sites in the kind or proportion of species or in total production.

**RANGETREND.** The direction of change in range condition and soil.

**RECREATION AND PUBLIC PURPOSES ACT (R&PP ACT).** This act authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to lease or convey public lands for recreational and public purposes under specified conditions of states or their political subdivisions, and to nonprofit corporations and associations.

**RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN.** The system that provides a step-by-step process for considering multiple resource values, resolving conflicts, and making resource management decisions.

**RESOURCE OBJECTIVES.** The desired state or condition that a resource management policy or program is designed to achieve. A goal is usually not quantifiable and may not have a specific date by which it is to be completed. Goals are the basis from which objectives are developed.

**RETENTION AREA.** An area where public land will generally remain in public ownership and be managed by the BLM. Transfers to other public agencies will be considered where improved management efficiency would result. Minor adjustments involving sales or exchanges or both may be permitted based on site-specific application of the land ownership adjustment criteria.

**RIPARIAN AREA.** An area of land directly influenced by permanent water. It has visible vegetation or physical characteristics reflective of permanent water influence. Lakeshores and streambanks are typical riparian areas. Excluded are such sites as ephemeral streams or washes that do not exhibit the presence or vegetation dependent upon free water in the soil.

**ROAD.** A two-track route established from use of four-wheeled vehicles over a period of time; or a route constructed for access by four-wheeled motorized vehicles larger than 50" in width but not maintained annually; or a route maintained periodically for access by four-wheeled vehicles larger than 50" in width.

**RUNOFF.** The water that flows on the land surface from an area in response to rainfall or snowmelt. As used in this EIS, runoff from an area becomes streamflow when it reaches a channel.

**SALEABLE MINERALS.** High volume, low value mineral resources including common varieties of rock, clay, decorative stone, sand and gravel.

**SEASON OF USE.** The time of livestock grazing on a range area based on type of vegetation or stage of vegetative growth.

**SEASONAL (SEASON LONG) GRAZING.** Grazing use throughout a specific season.

**SEDIMENT.** Soil, rock particles and organic or other debris carried from one place to another by wind, water or gravity.

**SEDIMENTATION.** The action or process of deposition of material borne by water, wind or glacier.

**SEGREGATION.** The removal for a limited period, subject to valid existing rights, of a specified area of the public lands from the operation of the public land laws, including the mining laws, pursuant to the exercise by the Secretary of the Interior of regulatory authority as conferred by law to allow for the orderly administration of the public lands.

**SEMI-DEVELOPED CAMPSITES.** Areas with some capital improvements and camping use is fairly frequent.

**SENSITIVE SPECIES.** Animals/plants not yet listed as endangered or threatened, but that are undergoing a status review. This may include animals/plants whose populations are consistently and widely dispersed or whose ranges are restricted to a few localities, so that any major habitat change could lead to extinction. A species that is particularly sensitive to some external disturbance factors.

**SERIAL COMMUNITY.** A seral community is any community that is not at potential.

<i>Degree of Similarity to PNC</i>	<i>Ecological Status</i>	<i>Range Condition Class</i>
76% - 100%	PNC	Excellent
51% - 75%	Late Seral	Good
26% - 50%	Mid Seral	Fair
0% - 25%	Early Seral	Poor

**SOIL.** The unconsolidated mineral material on the immediate surface of the earth that serves as a natural medium for the growth of land plants.

**SOIL MOISTURE.** Water held in the root zone by capillary action. Part of the soil moisture is available to plants, part is held too tightly by capillary or molecular forces to be removed by plants.

**STIPULATIONS.** These are conditions or requirements attached to a lease or contract that apply in addition to standard stipulations (see below). They frequently provide

additional protection of the environment from resource developments, e.g., coal mining, oil and gas development. Special stipulations become effective by their specification on a RMP.

**SPECIAL RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA (SRMA).** BLM administrative units established to direct recreation program priorities, including the allocation of funding and personnel, to those BLM lands where a commitment has been made to provide specific recreation activity and experience opportunities on a sustained yield basis. This includes a long-term commitment to manage they physical, social, and managerial settings to sustain these activity and experience opportunities.

**SPECIES OF SPECIAL INTEREST OR CONCERN.** Species not yet listed as "endangered or threatened" but whose status is being reviewed because of their widely dispersed populations or their restricted ranges. A species whose population is particularly sensitive to external disturbance.

**STABILIZED.** To reduce accelerated erosion rates to natural geologic erosion rates.

**STANDARD STIPULATIONS.** These are conditions or requirements attached to a lease or contract that detail specific actions to be taken or avoided during resource development, e.g., coal mining, oil and gas development. They usually provide basic protection of the environment.

**STREAMBANK (and CHANNEL) EROSION.** This is the removal and transport of material by concentrated flows.

**THREATENED SPECIES.** A species that the Secretary of Interior has determined to be likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or most of its range. See also "Endangered or Threatened Species."

**TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS.** The dry weight of dissolved material, organic and inorganic, contained in water.

**TOTAL ECONOMIC ACTIVITY.** This includes direct expenditures for the purchase of goods and services plus secondary spending activity that results from the initial expenditures.

**TOTAL ECONOMIC BENEFIT.** Total economic benefit includes total economic activity plus the net willingness to pay for recreation opportunities.

**TRAIL.** A single track route that accommodates non-motorized use, or motorized equipment that is less than 50" wide.

**TRANSPORTATION PLAN.** A plan showing all existing and planned access routes needed to use, protect and administer the public lands.

**UNDEVELOPED RECREATION SITE.** A site which is used for intensive activities such as camping or picnicking but was not specifically developed for that purpose. The facilities are usually temporary in nature, designed to minimize resource damage and provide for short-term use.

**UNNECESSARY OR UNDUE DEGRADATION.** Surface disturbance greater than what would normally result when an activity is being accomplished by a prudent operator in usual, customary, and proficient operations of similar character and taking into consideration the effects of operations on other resources and land uses, including those resources and uses outside the area of operations.

**VALID EXISTING RIGHTS.** Legal interests that attach to a land or mineral estate that cannot be divested from the estate until that interest expires or is relinquished.

**VEGETATION (GROUND) COVER.** The percent of land surface covered by all living vegetation (and remnant vegetation yet to decompose) within 20 feet of the ground.

**VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CLASSES.** The degree of acceptable visual changes within a characteristic landscape. A class is based upon the physical and sociological characteristics of any given homogeneous area and serves as a management objective.

**WATER QUALITY.** The chemical, physical and biological characteristics of water with respect to its suitability for a particular use.

**WATERSHED.** All lands which are enclosed by a continuous hydrologic drainage divide and lie upslope from a specified point on a stream.

**WETLANDS.** Those areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support and which, under normal circumstances, does support a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands include shallows, swamps, lakeshores, bogs, muskegs, wet meadows, estuaries, and riparian areas.

**WILDERNESS STUDY AREA (WSA).** An area determined to have wilderness characteristics. Study areas will be subject to interdisciplinary analysis and public comment to determine wilderness suitability. Suitable areas will be recommended to the President and Congress for wilderness designation.

**WINDOWS.** Usually short narrow passageways through constrained areas which are the most feasible potential locations for linear facilities, considering engineering and/or environmental factors.