

APPENDIX O

BLM ROAD AND TRAIL MAINTENANCE LEVELS

INTRODUCTION

Transportation system roads and trails are classified by maintenance levels specified in BLM Manual Handbook H-9113-2. Any changes or updates to maintenance levels will be incorporated into this planning guidance.

Road Maintenance Levels

<i>Maintenance Level</i>	<i>Assignment Criteria</i>	<i>Minimum Maintenance Standard</i>
Level 1	This level is assigned to roads where minimum maintenance is required to protect adjacent lands and resource values. These roads are no longer needed and are closed to traffic. The objective is to remove these roads from the transportation system.	Emphasis is given to maintaining drainage and runoff patterns as needed to protect adjacent lands. Grading, brushing, or slide removal is not performed unless roadbed drainage is being adversely affected, causing erosion. Closure and traffic restrictive devices are maintained.
Level 2	This level is assigned to roads where the management objectives require the road to be opened for limited administrative traffic. Typically, these roads are passable by high clearance vehicles.	Drainage structures are to be inspected within a 3-year period and maintained as needed. Grading is conducted as necessary to correct drainage problems. Brushing is conducted as needed to allow administrative access. Slides may be left in place provided they do not adversely affect drainage.
Level 3	This level is assigned to roads where management objectives require the road to be open seasonally or year-round for commercial, recreation, or high volume administrative access. Typically, these roads are natural or aggregate surfaced, but may include low use bituminous surfaced roads. These roads have defined cross section with drainage structures (e.g., rolling dips, culverts, or ditches). These roads may be negotiated by passenger cars traveling at prudent speeds. User comfort and convenience are not considered a high priority.	Drainage structures are to be inspected at least annually and maintained as needed. Grading is conducted to provide a reasonable level of riding comfort at prudent speeds for the road conditions. Brushing is conducted as needed to improve sight distance. Slides adversely affecting drainage would receive high priority for removal, otherwise they will be removed on a scheduled basis.
Level 4	This level is assigned to roads where management objectives require the road to be open all year (except may be closed or have limited access due to snow conditions) and to connect major administrative features (recreation sites, local road systems, administrative sites, etc.) to County, State, or Federal roads. Typically, these roads are single or double lane, aggregate, or bituminous surface, with a higher volume of commercial and recreational traffic than administrative traffic.	The entire roadway is maintained at least annually, although a preventative maintenance program may be established. Problems are repaired as discovered.
Level 5	This level is assigned to roads where management objectives require the road to be open all year and are the highest traffic volume roads of the transportation system.	The entire roadway is maintained at least annually and a preventative maintenance program is established. Problems are repaired as discovered. These roads may be closed or have limited access due to snow conditions.

BLM Trail Maintenance Levels

<i>Maintenance Level</i>	<i>Assignment Criteria</i>	<i>Minimum Maintenance Standard</i>
Level 1	These trails are closed to motorized and non-motorized use. This level is the minimum maintenance required to protect adjacent lands and resource values. The objectives may be to remove these trails from the trail system.	Emphasis is given to maintaining drainage and runoff patterns as needed to protect adjacent lands. Brushing and removal of hazards is not performed unless trail drainage is being adversely affected, causing erosion. Closure devices are maintained.
Level 2	Low use trail with little or no contact between parties. Little or no visitor use management. Visitors may encounter obstructions like brush and deadfall.	Trail would require condition surveys once every year. Repairs will be done at the beginning of the season to prevent environmental damage and maintain access. Emphasis is given to maintaining drainage and mitigating hazards. The trail may be signed "Not Regularly Maintained". Major repair may not be done for several seasons.
Level 3	Moderate use trail with visitor use on a seasonal/and or peak use period with frequent contact between parties. Trail management is conducted with occasional visitor use patrols. Visitors are not likely to encounter obstructions.	The trail shall require a minimum of one condition survey 1 to 2 times per season. Major repairs shall be completed annually. Maintenance shall be scheduled two to three times per season, if required, to repair the trail for environmental damage and to maintain access. Trail is kept in good condition.
Level 4	High use trail used during specific times of the year with high frequencies of contact between parties. Regularly scheduled visitor use patrol and management.	Scheduled maintenance shall occur frequently during the use season (three or four times per season). Trail condition and accessibility for persons with disabilities is a major concern. Significant repairs shall be completed as within 10 workdays.
Level 5	A special high use trail with routine visitor use patrols and management.	Has a scheduled maintenance program. Trail condition and accessibility for persons with disabilities is a major concern. Significant repairs shall be completed within 2-3 workdays.