Extraordinary circumstances that may warrant further analysis of a facility, and documentation in an Environmental Analysis (EA) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) are described below. The mere presence of one or more of these resource conditions does not preclude use of a categorical exclusion. It is the degree of the potential effect of a proposed action on these resource conditions that determines whether extraordinary circumstances exist.

- Federally listed threatened or endangered species or designated critical habitat, species proposed for Federal listing or proposed critical habitat, or Forest Service sensitive species.
- Flood plains, wetlands, or municipal watersheds.
- Congressionally designated areas, such as wilderness, wilderness study areas, or national recreation areas.
- Inventoried roadless areas.
- Research natural areas.
- American Indians and Alaska Native religious or cultural sites.
- Archaeological sites, or historic properties or areas.