

Chapter 7

Acronyms and Glossary



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Chapter 7. Acronyms and Glossary

7.1 Acronyms

<u>Acronym</u>	<u>Full Phrase</u>
ACEC	area of critical environmental concern
AML	appropriate management level
AMP	allotment management plan
APD	application for permit to drill
APHIS	Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
AQRV	air quality related values
ATV	all-terrain vehicle
AUM	animal unit-month
BAER	burn area emergency response
BDNF	Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest
BEA	Bureau of Economic Analysis
BER	baseline environmental report
BLM	United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management
BLS	Bureau of Labor Statistics
BMP	best management practices
CA	conservation area
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CHZ	core habitat zone
CO	carbon monoxide
CO ₂	carbon dioxide
COA	condition of approval
COT	Conservation Objectives Team
CSU	controlled surface use
DFO	Dillon Field Office
DOI	United States Department of the Interior
EIS	environmental impact statement
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	US Endangered Species Act of 1973
ESD	Ecological Side Description
ERMA	extensive recreation management area
ERS	USDA Economic Research Service
ESR	emergency stabilization and rehabilitation
°F	Fahrenheit degrees
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

<u>Acronym</u>	<u>Full Phrase</u>
FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976
Forest Service	United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
FR	<i>Federal Register</i>
FRCC	fire regime condition class
FSH	Forest Service Handbook
FSM	Forest Service Manual
FY	fiscal year
GHZ	general habitat zone
GIS	geographic information system
GOA	goals, objectives, allocations and management actions
GPS	global positioning system
GRSG	greater sage-grouse
HA	herd area
HAF	Habitat Assessment Framework
HFC	hydroflourocarbon
HFR	hazardous fuels reduction program
HMA	herd management area
HMP	habitat management plan
IB	BLM Information Bulletin
IDFG	Idaho Department of Fish and Game
IHZ	important habitat zone
IM	BLM Instruction Memorandum
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
KPLA	known phosphate leasing area
LRMP	land and resource management plan
LUP	land use plan
LUPA	land use plan amendment
LWG	local working group
MBF	thousand board feet
MFP	management framework plan
MFWP	Montana Fish, Wildlife, and Parks
MOU	memorandum of understanding
MZ	management zone
N ₂ O	nitrous oxide
N/A	not applicable
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards

<u>Acronym</u>	<u>Full Phrase</u>
NCA	National Conservation Area
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act of 1969
NF	not functioning
NFMA	National Forest Management Act of 1976
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NHT	National Historic Trail
NLCS	National Landscape Conservation System
NO ₂	nitrogen dioxide
NO _x	nitrogen oxides
NOI	notice of intent
NPS	National Park Service
NRCS	United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service
NREL	National Renewable Energy Laboratory
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NSO	no surface occupancy
NTT	Greater Sage-Grouse National Technical Team
OHV	off-highway vehicle
ONRR	Department of Interior, Office of Natural Resources Revenue
OSC	Idaho Office of Species Conservation
PAC	priority areas for conservation
PDF	preferred design feature
PECE	policy for evaluation of conservation efforts when making listing decisions
PFC	proper functioning condition
PGH	preliminary general habitat
PGMA	preliminary general management area
PILT	Payment in Lieu of Taxes
PM _{2.5}	particulate matter with a diameter less than or equal to 2.5 microns
PM ₁₀	particulate matter with a diameter less than or equal to 10 microns
PMMA	preliminary medial management area
PPH	preliminary primary habitat
PPMA	preliminary priority management area
PRMA	preliminary restoration management area
RDF	required design feature
RFDS	reasonable foreseeable development scenario
RFPA	Rangeland Fire Protection Association
RMP	resource management plan
ROD	record of decision
ROW	right-of-way
S&Gs	standards and guidelines

<u>Acronym</u>	<u>Full Phrase</u>
SDF	suggested design feature
SGMA	Sage-Grouse Management Area
SHPO	state historic preservation officer
SO ₂	sulfur dioxide
SRMA	special recreation management area
SRP	special recreation permit
SUA	special use authorization
TAT	technical assistance team
TCP	traditional cultural property
TL	timing limitation
TTM	travel and transportation management
UDWR	Utah Department of Wildlife Resources
US	United States
USC	United States Code
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geological Survey
VDDT	Vegetation Dynamics Development Tool
VOC	volatile organic compound
VRM	visual resource management
WAFWA	Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
WGFD	Wyoming Game and Fish Department
WSA	Wilderness Study Area
WUI	wildland-urban interface
ZA	zoological area

7.2 Glossary

2008 WAFWA Sage-Grouse MOU: A memorandum of understanding among Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, US Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, US Department of the Interior, Geological Survey, US Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and the US Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency. The purpose of the MOU is to provide for cooperation among the participating state and federal land, wildlife management and science agencies in the conservation and management of sage-grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*) sagebrush (*Artemisia* spp.) habitats and other sagebrush-dependent wildlife throughout the western United States and Canada and a commitment of all agencies to implement the 2006 WAFWA Conservation Strategy.

2011 Partnership MOU: An agreement among the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resource Conservation Service, Forest Service, United State Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, and Fish and Wildlife Service. This MOU is for range management, to implement NRCS practices on adjacent federal properties.

Acquired lands: Federal lands obtained by purchase, condemnation, exchange, or gift under laws other than public land laws. Legally defined as "... land obtained by the United States through purchase or transfer from a State or private individual and normally dedicated to a specific use." McKenna v. Wallis, 200 F. Supp. 468 (1961). See also Bobby Lee Moore, et al., 72 I.D. 505 (1965).

Actual use: The amount of animal unit months consumed by livestock based on the numbers of livestock and grazing dates submitted by the livestock operator and confirmed by periodic field checks by the BLM.

Administrative access: A term used to describe access for resource management and administration, such as fire suppression, cadastral surveys, permit compliance, law enforcement, and military in the performance of their official duty, or other access needed to administer BLM-managed lands or uses.

Allotment management plan: A concisely written program of livestock grazing management, including supportive measures if required, designed to attain specific, multiple-use management goals in a grazing allotment. An AMP is prepared in consultation with the permittees, lessees, and other affected interests. Livestock grazing is considered in relation to other uses of the range and to renewable resources, such as watershed, vegetation, and wildlife. An AMP establishes seasons of use, the number of livestock to be permitted, the range improvements needed, and the grazing system.

Allotment: An area of land in which one or more livestock operators graze their livestock. Allotments generally consist of BLM-administered lands but may include Forest Service-administered lands or other federally managed, state-owned, or private lands. An allotment may include or more separate pastures. Livestock numbers and periods of use are specified for each allotment.

Animal unit month: The amount of forage necessary for the sustenance of one cow or its equivalent for a period of one month (approximately 800 pounds of air-dried material per AUM).

Anthropogenic disturbances: Features include paved highways, graded gravel roads, transmission lines, substations, wind turbines, oil and gas wells, geothermal wells and associated facilities, pipelines, landfills, agricultural conversion, homes, and mines.

Area of critical environmental concern: Special area designation established through the BLM's land use planning process (43 CFR 1610.7-2), where special management attention is needed to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historical, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources, or other natural systems or processes or to protect life

and safety from natural hazards. The level of allowable use within an ACEC is established through the collaborative planning process. Designation of an ACEC allows for resource use limitations in order to protect identified resources or values.

Associated settings: The geographic extent of the resources, qualities, and values or landscape elements within the surrounding environment that influence the trail experience and contribute to resource protection. Settings associated with a National Scenic or Historic Trail include scenic, historic, cultural, recreation, natural (including biological, geological, and scientific), and other landscape elements (see resources, qualities, and values).

Authorized/authorized use: This is an activity (i.e., resource use) occurring on the public lands that is either explicitly or implicitly recognized and legalized by law or regulation. This term may refer to those activities occurring on the public lands for which the BLM, Forest Service, or other appropriate authority (e.g., Congress for RS 2477 rights-of-way, FERC for major interstate rights-of-way) has issued a formal authorization document (e.g., livestock grazing lease/permit, right-of-way grant, coal lease, or oil and gas permit to drill). Formally authorized uses typically involve some type of commercial activity, facility placement, or event. These formally authorized uses are often spatially or temporally limited. Unless constrained or bounded by statute, regulation, or an approved land use plan decision, legal activities involving public enjoyment and use of the public lands (e.g., hiking, camping, and hunting) require no formal BLM or Forest Service authorization.

Avoidance/avoidance area: These terms usually address mitigation of some activity (i.e., resource use). Paraphrasing the CEQ Regulations (40 CFR 1508.20), avoidance means to circumvent or bypass an impact altogether by not taking a certain action, or parts of an action. Therefore, the term avoidance does not necessarily prohibit a proposed activity, but it may require the relocation of an action or the total redesign of an action to eliminate any potential impacts resulting from it.

Best management practices: A suite of techniques that guide or may be applied to management actions to aid in achieving desired outcomes. BMPs are often developed in conjunction with land use plans, but they are not considered a planning decision unless the plans specify that they are mandatory.

Candidate species: Species for which the US Fish and Wildlife Service has sufficient information on their status and threats to support proposing them for listing as endangered or threatened under the Endangered Species Act but for which issuance of a proposed rule is currently precluded by higher priority listing actions. Separate lists for plants, vertebrate animals, and invertebrate animals are published periodically in the *Federal Register* (from M6840, Special Status Species Manual).

Casual use: Activities ordinarily resulting in no or negligible disturbance of the public lands, resources, or improvements. For examples of rights-of-way, see 43 CFR 2801.5; for examples of locatable minerals, see 43 CFR 3809.5.

Condition of approval: Requirement under which an application for a permit to drill or sundry notice is approved.

Checkerboard: This term refers to a landownership pattern of alternating sections of federal owned lands with private or state-owned lands for 20 miles on either side of a land grant railroad (e.g., Union Pacific and Northern Pacific). On land status maps this alternating ownership is either delineated by color coding or alphabetic code resulting in a checkerboard pattern.

Cherry-stemmed/cherry-stemming: This term refers to a narrow, linear, intrusion, or extrusion of a delineated block of federal lands resulting in what appears on a map as a boundary inlet or peninsula. Although this term may be used in any resource program, the most common use is in relation to dead-end road intrusions along WSA boundaries.

Condition of approval: A site-specific and enforceable requirement included in an approved application for permit to drill or sundry notice that may limit or amend the specific actions proposed by the operator. Conditions of approval minimize, mitigate, or prevent impacts on resource values or other uses of public lands.

Conservation Plan: The recorded decisions of a landowner or operator, cooperating with a conservation district, on how the landowner or operator plans, within practical limits, to use his or her land according to its capability and to treat it according to its needs for maintenance or improvement of the soil, water, animal, plant, and air resources.

Conservation measures: Undertakings to conserve, enhance, or restore Greater Sage-Grouse habitat by reducing, eliminating, or minimizing threats to that habitat.

Controlled surface use: CSU is a category of moderate constraint stipulations that allows some use and occupancy of public land, while protecting identified resources or values. A CSU stipulation allows the BLM or Forest Service to require special operational constraints, or the surface-disturbing activity can be shifted to protect the specified resource or value.

Cooperating agency: Assists the lead federal agency in developing an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement. This can be any agency with jurisdiction by law or special expertise for proposals covered by NEPA (40 CFR 1501.6). Any tribe or federal, state, or local government jurisdiction with such qualifications may become a cooperating agency by agreement with the lead agency.

Core Sage-Grouse habitat: Strongholds for Sage-Grouse populations in Idaho. Highest priority for conservation efforts and policies to address primary threats. Includes approximately 65 percent of known active leks and occupied by approximately 73 percent of male Sage-Grouse counted a leks throughout the Idaho Sage-Grouse management area.

Council on Environmental Quality: An advisory council to the President of the United States established by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. It reviews federal programs to analyze and interpret environmental trends and information.

Cultural resources: Locations of human activity, occupation, or use. Cultural resources include archaeological, historic, or architectural sites, structures, or places with important public and scientific uses and locations of traditional cultural or religious importance to specified social or cultural groups.

Cumulative effects: The direct and indirect effects of a proposed project alternative's incremental impacts when they are added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions, regardless of who carries out the action.

Decision area: Lands and federal mineral estate within the planning area that are administered by the BLM and Forest Service.

Deferred/deferred use: To set-aside, or postpone, a particular resource use or activity on the public lands to a later time. Generally when this term is used, the period of the deferral is specified. Deferments sometimes follow the sequence timeframe of associated serial actions (e.g., action B will be deferred until action A is completed).

Designated roads and trails: Specific roads and trails identified by the BLM (or other agencies) where some type of motorized vehicle use is appropriate and allowed, either seasonally or year-long (H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook).

Disruptive activities: Those public land resource uses and activities that are likely to alter the behavior of, displace, or cause excessive stress to existing animal or human populations at a specific location or time. In this context, disruptive activity refers to those actions that alter behavior or cause the displacement of individuals such that reproductive success is negatively affected, or an individual's physiological ability to cope with environmental stress is compromised. This term does not apply to the physical disturbance of the land surface, vegetation, or features. When administered as a land use restriction (e.g., No Disruptive Activities), this term may prohibit or limit the physical presence of sound above ambient levels, light beyond background levels, or the nearness of people and their activities. The term is commonly used in conjunction with protecting wildlife during crucial life stages (e.g., breeding, nesting, and birthing), although it could apply to any resource value on the public lands. The use of this land use restriction is not intended to prohibit all activity or authorized uses.

Ecological site: A distinctive kind of land with specific physical characteristics that differs from other kinds of land in its ability to produce a distinctive kind and amount of vegetation.

Emergency Use: These are activities occurring on the public lands outside the scope of normal resource use and operations and that require immediate attention. Emergency use activities are typically driven by imminent concerns for human health and safety or protection of property (e.g., wildfire suppression, HAZMAT response, and disease outbreaks). Emergency use is typically exempted from other land use restrictions, with the exercise of reasonable and prudent care.

Endangered species: Any species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range and is so designated by the Secretary of Interior, in accordance with the 1973 Endangered Species Act.

Environmental impact statement: A detailed written statement required by the National Environmental Policy Act when an agency proposes a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.

Exclusion area: An area on the public lands where a certain activity is prohibited to ensure protection of other resources on the site. The term is frequently used in reference to lands and realty actions and proposals (e.g., rights-of-way), but it is not unique to lands and realty activities. This restriction is functionally analogous to the phrase “no surface occupancy” used by the oil and gas program and is applied as an absolute condition to those affected activities. The less restrictive analogous term is avoidance area.

Exploration: Active drilling and geophysical operations to determine the presence of the mineral resource or to determine the extent of the reservoir or mineral deposit.

Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA): Public Law 94-579, which gives the BLM legal authority to establish public land policy, to establish guidelines for administering such policy, and to provide for management, protection, development, and enhancement of the public land.

Federal mineral estate: Subsurface mineral estate owned by the United States and administered by the BLM. Federal mineral estate under BLM jurisdiction is composed of mineral estate underlying BLM-administered lands, privately owned lands, and state-owned lands

Fire suppression: All activities connected with fire extinguishing operations, beginning with discovery of a fire and continuing until the fire is completely out.

Fluid minerals: Oil, gas, coal bed natural gas, and geothermal resources.

Forage: All browse and herbaceous foods that are available to grazing animals.

Free flowing: Existing or flowing in natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, riprapping, or other modification of the waterway (Section 16[b] of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act). Designation of a wild and scenic river does not depend on the river being “naturally flowing,” (i.e., flowing without any man-made upstream or downstream manipulation). The presence of impoundments above or below the segment (including those that may regulate flow regimes within the segment) and existing minor dams or diversion structures within the study area do not necessarily render a river segment noneligible. There are segments in the national system that are downstream from major dams or located between dams.

Enhance: The improvement of habitat by increasing missing or modifying unsatisfactory components or attributes of the plant community to meet Sage-Grouse objectives.

General Sage-Grouse habitat: Occupied (seasonal or year-round) habitat outside of priority habitat. It includes a few active leks and fragmented or marginal habitat, such as two isolated populations of Sage-Grouse in the East Idaho Uplands and West Central Idaho. These areas have been identified by the BLM in coordination with respective state wildlife agencies.

Grazing system: Scheduled grazing use and nonuse of an allotment to reach identified goals or objectives by improving the quality and quantity of vegetation. This includes developing pastures, utilization levels, grazing rotations, timing and duration of use periods, and necessary range improvements.

Habitat: An environment that meets a specific set of physical, biological, temporal, or spatial characteristics that satisfy the requirements of a plant or animal species or group of species for part or all of their life cycle.

Important Sage-Grouse habitat: Defined as the 75 percent breeding bird density areas. Includes areas of value for migration corridors, connectivity among breeding areas, and long term persistence of each of the two key metapopulations of Sage-Grouse in Idaho. Includes approximately 25 percent of the known active leks and occupied by an estimated 22 percent of Sage-Grouse males. Captures high quality habitat and populations necessary for providing a management buffer for the core habitat.

Incompatible use: An activity that affects (hinders or obstructs) the nature and purposes of a designated National Trail (see substantial interference).

Integrated ranch planning: A method for ranch planning that takes a holistic look at all elements of the ranching operations, including strategic and tactical planning, rather than approaching planning as several separate enterprises.

Land-locked: This term refers to the situation when any parcel of private, state, or federal land has no legal access without crossing another ownership due to the existing land ownership pattern.

Land tenure adjustment: This term refers to a change in landownership patterns, or legal status, to improve their administrative manageability and their usefulness to the public.

Late brood rearing area: Habitat includes mesic sagebrush and mixed shrub communities, wet meadows, and riparian habitats, as well as some agricultural lands (e.g., alfalfa fields).

Lek: A traditional courtship display area attended by male Sage-Grouse in or next to sagebrush-dominated habitat. A lek is designated based on observations of two or more male Sage-Grouse engaged in courtship displays. Subdominant males may display on itinerant strutting areas during population peaks. Such areas usually fail to become established leks. Therefore, a site where less than five males are observed strutting should be confirmed active for two years before meeting the definition of a lek (Connelly et al. 2000; Connelly et al. 2003, 2004). Each state may have a slightly different definition of lek, active



lek, inactive lek, occupied lek, and unoccupied leks. Regional planning will use the appropriate definition provided by the state of interest.

Lek complex: A lek or group of leks within 2.5 kilometers (1.5 miles) of each other between which male Sage-Grouse may interchange from one day to the next. Fidelity to leks has been well documented. Visits to multiple leks are most common among yearlings and less frequent for adult males, suggesting an age-related period of establishment (Connelly et al. 2004).

Lek, active: Any lek that has been attended by male Sage-Grouse during the strutting season.

Lek, inactive: Any lek where sufficient data suggests that there was no strutting activity throughout a strutting season. Absence of strutting grouse during a single visit is insufficient documentation to establish that a lek is inactive. This designation requires documentation of one of the following scenarios:

- An absence of Sage-Grouse on the lek during at least two ground surveys separated by at least seven days. These surveys must be conducted under ideal conditions (April 1-May 7 or other appropriate date based on local conditions), no precipitation, light or no wind, half-hour before sunrise to one hour after sunrise).
- A ground check of the exact known lek site late in the strutting season (after April 15) that fails to find any sign (tracks, droppings, feathers) of strutting activity. Data collected by aerial surveys should not be used to designate inactive status as the aerial survey may actually disrupt activities.

Lek, occupied: A lek that has been active during at least one strutting season within the prior 10 years.

Lek, unoccupied: A lek that has either been destroyed or abandoned.

Lek, destroyed: A formerly active lek site and surrounding sagebrush habitat that has been destroyed and is no longer suitable for Sage-Grouse breeding.

Lek, abandoned: A lek in otherwise suitable habitat that has not been active for 10 consecutive years. To be designated abandoned, a lek must be inactive (see above criteria) in at least four nonconsecutive strutting seasons spanning the 10 years. The site of an abandoned lek should be surveyed at least once every 10 years to determine whether it has been reoccupied by Sage-Grouse.

Locatable minerals: Minerals subject to exploration, development, and disposal by staking mining claims, as authorized by the Mining Law of 1872, as amended. This includes deposits of gold, silver, and other uncommon minerals not subject to lease or sale.

Master development plans: A set of information common to multiple planned wells, including drilling plans, surface use plans of operations, and plans for future production.

Mineral: Any naturally formed inorganic material, solid or fluid inorganic substance that can be extracted from the earth, any of various naturally occurring homogeneous substances (as stone, coal, salt, sulfur, sand, petroleum, water, or natural gas) obtained for human use, usually from the ground. Under federal laws, considered as locatable (subject to the general mining laws), leasable (subject to the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920), and salable (subject to the Materials Act of 1947).

Mineral materials (salable minerals): Common varieties of sand, stone, pumice, gravel, and clay that are not obtainable under the mining or leasing laws but that can be acquired under the Materials Act of 1947, as amended. In accordance with regulations in 43 CFR Part 3600, the BLM sells mineral materials to the public at fair market value but gives them free to states, counties, or other government entities for public projects. Disposal of mineral materials is subject to conformance with all applicable laws and BLM policy in BLM Handbook H-3600-1.

Mining claim: A parcel of land that a miner takes and holds for mining purposes, having acquired the right of possession by complying with the Mining Law and local laws and rules. A mining claim may contain as many adjoining locations as the locator may make or buy. There are four categories of mining claims: lode, placer, mill site, and tunnel site.

Mitigation: Includes specific means, measures, or practices that could reduce, avoid, or eliminate adverse impacts. Mitigation can include avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action, minimizing the impact by limiting the degree of magnitude of the action and its implementation, rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment, reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action, and compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

Monitoring (plan monitoring): The process of tracking the implementation of land use plan decisions and collecting and assessing data necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of land use planning decisions.

National Conservation Area: Area designated by Congress, generally to conserve, protect, enhance, and properly manage the resources and values for which it was designated for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

National Historic Trail: A congressionally designated trail that is an extended, long-distance trail, not necessarily managed as continuous, that follows as closely as possible and practicable the original trails or routes of travel of national historic significance. The purpose of a National Historic Trail is the identification and protection of the historic route and the historic remnants and artifacts for public use and enjoyment. A National Historic Trail is managed in a manner to protect the nationally significant resources, qualities, values, and



associated settings of the areas through which such trails may pass, including the primary use or uses of the trail (BLM Manual 6250, NHT Administration).

National Monument: Area designated by the president of the United States by proclamation, in accordance with the Antiquities Act of 1906, for the protection of objects of historical or scientific interest, or by Congress for the conservation, protection, restoration, or enhancement of the resources, objects, and values for which it was designated.

Nature and purposes: The term used to describe the character, characteristics, and congressional intent for a designated National Trail, including the resources, qualities, values, and associated settings of the areas through which such trails may pass; the primary use or uses of a National Trail; and activities promoting the preservation of, public access to, travel within, and enjoyment and appreciation of National Trails.

No surface occupancy: A major constraint where use or occupancy of the land surface for fluid mineral exploration or development and surface-disturbing activities is prohibited to protect identified resource values. Areas identified as NSO are open to fluid mineral leasing, but surface-disturbing activities cannot be conducted on the surface of the land. Access to fluid mineral deposits would require directional drilling from outside the boundaries of the NSO. NSO areas are treated as avoidance areas for rights-of-way; no rights-of-way would be granted in NSO areas unless there were no feasible alternatives.

Notice-level mining activities: To qualify for a notice the mining activity must 1) constitute exploration, 2) not involve bulk sampling of more than 1,000 tons of presumed ore, 3) must not exceed five acres of surface disturbance, and 4) must not occur in one of the special category lands listed in 43 CFR 3809.11(c). The notice is to be filed in the BLM field office with jurisdiction over the land involved. The notice does not need to be on a particular form but must contain the information required by 43 CFR 3809.301(b).

Off-highway vehicle: Any motorized vehicle capable of, or designed for, travel on or immediately over land, water, or other natural terrain, excluding (1) any nonamphibious registered motorboat, (2) any military, fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle while being used for emergency purposes, (3) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by the authorized officer or otherwise officially approved, (4) vehicles in official use, and (5) any combat or combat support vehicle when used for national defense (H-1601-1, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook).

Off-site mitigation: Compensating for resource impacts by replacing or providing substitute resources or habitat at a different location than the project area.

Outstandingly remarkable values: Values among those listed in Section 1(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act: “scenic, recreational, geological, fish and wildlife, historical, cultural, or other similar values.” Other values that may be considered include ecological, biological or botanical, paleontological, hydrological, traditional cultural uses, water quality, and scientific values. The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act does not further define outstandingly

remarkable values. Agency resource professionals develop and interpret criteria in evaluating river values (unique, rare, or exemplary) based on professional judgment on a regional, physiographic, or geographic comparative basis.

Patent: A grant made to an individual or group conveying fee simple title to selected public lands.

Permittee: A person or company permitted to graze livestock on public land.

Plan of operations: A document required for all mining activity exploration greater than five acres or surface disturbance greater than casual use on certain special category lands. Special category lands are described under 43 CFR 3809.11(c) and include such lands as designated areas of critical environmental concern, lands within the National Wilderness Preservation System, and areas closed to off-road vehicles, among others. In addition, a plan of operations is required for activity greater than casual use on lands patented under the Stock Raising Homestead Act with federal minerals where the operator does not have the written consent of the surface owner (43 CFR 3814). The plan of operations needs to be filed in the BLM field office with jurisdiction over the land involved. The plan does not need to be on a particular form but must address the information required by 43 CFR 3809.401(b).

Policy: This is a statement of guiding principles, or procedures, designed and intended to influence planning decisions, operating actions, or other affairs of the BLM or Forest Service. Policies are established interpretations of legislation, executive orders, regulations, or other presidential, secretarial, or management directives.

Primary use or uses: Authorized mode or modes of travel, or activities identified in the National Trails System Act, enabling legislation, or legislative history, through the trailwide comprehensive plan or approved resource management plan.

Priority Sage-Grouse habitat: Areas that have been identified as having the highest conservation value to maintaining sustainable Sage-Grouse populations. These areas would include breeding, late brood-rearing, and winter concentration areas. The BLM has identified these areas in coordination with respective state wildlife agencies.

Public domain: The term applied to any or all of those areas of land ceded to the federal government by the original states and to such other lands as were later acquired by treaty, purchase, or cession and are disposed of only under the authority of Congress.

Range improvement: Any activity, structure, or program on or relating to rangelands that is designed to improve production of forage, change vegetative composition, control patterns of use, provide water, stabilize soil and water conditions, and provide habitat for livestock and wildlife. The term includes structures, treatment projects, and use of mechanical means to accomplish the desired results.



Reclamation: The suite of actions taken within an area affected by human disturbance, the outcome of which is intended to change the condition of the disturbed area to meet predetermined objectives or make it acceptable for certain defined resources (e.g., wildlife habitat, grazing, and ecosystem function).

Reference state: The state where the functional capacities represented by soil/site stability, hydrologic function, and biotic integrity are performing at an optimum level under the natural disturbance regime. This state usually includes what is often referred to as the potential natural plant community.

Required design features: Means, measures, or practices intended to reduce or avoid adverse environmental impacts. A suite of features that would establish the minimum specifications for certain activities (i.e., water developments, mineral development, and fire and fuels management) and mitigate adverse impacts. These design features would be required to provide a greater level of regulatory certainty than through implementation of best management practices. In general, the design features are accepted practices that are known to be effective when implemented properly at the project level. However, their applicability and overall effectiveness cannot be fully assessed except at the project-specific level when the project location and design are known. Because of site-specific circumstances, some features may not apply to some projects (e.g., a resource is not present on a given site) or may require slight variations from what is described in the EIS/LUPA (e.g., a larger or smaller protective area). All variations in design features would require appropriate analysis and disclosure as part of future project authorizations. Additional mitigation measures may be identified and required during individual project development and environmental review.

Resource management plan: A land use plan as prescribed by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act that establishes, for a given area of land, land-use allocations, coordination guidelines for multiple-use, objectives, and actions to be achieved.

Resources, qualities, and values: The significant scenic, historic, cultural, recreation, natural (including biological, geological, and scientific), and other landscape areas through which trails may pass, as identified in the National Trails System Act (see associated settings).

Restoration: Implementation of a set of actions that promotes plant community diversity and structure that allows plant communities to be more resilient to disturbance and invasive species over the long term. The long-term goal is to create functional high quality habitat that is occupied by Sage-Grouse. The short-term goals may be to restore the landform, soils, and hydrology and to increase the percentage of preferred vegetation, seeding of desired species, or treatment of undesired species.

Restriction/restricted use: A limitation or constraint on public land uses and operations. Restrictions can be of any kind, but most commonly apply to certain types of vehicle use, temporal or spatial constraints, or certain authorizations.

Right-of-way: An easement or permit that authorizes public land to be used for a specified purpose that is in the public interest and that require rights-of-way over, upon, under, or through such lands. Examples are roads, power lines, and pipelines.

Roadless area: Designated Forest Service-administered lands with wilderness attributes. The Forest Service restricts activities, such as road construction and reconstruction, timber cutting, and mineral activities to various degrees in order to protect roadless areas.

Season of use: The time during which livestock grazing is permitted on a given range area, as specified in the grazing lease.

Special recreation management area: Administrative units where the existing or proposed recreation opportunities and recreation setting characteristics are recognized for their unique value, importance, or distinctiveness, especially compared to other areas used for recreation.

Special recreation permits: Authorizations that allow for recreation on public lands and related waters. Issued as a means to control visitor use, protect recreational and natural resources, and provide for the health and safety of visitors. Commercial special recreation permits also are issued as a mechanism to provide a fair return for the commercial use of public lands.

Special status species: Includes proposed species, listed species, and candidate species under the ESA; also, state-listed species and BLM State Director-designated sensitive species (BLM Manual 6840, Special Status Species Management).

Split estate: Circumstance where the surface of a particular parcel of land is owned by a different party than the minerals underlying the surface. Split estates may have any combination of surface/subsurface owners: federal/state, federal/private, state/private, or percentage ownerships. When referring to the split estate ownership on a particular parcel of land, it is generally necessary to describe the surface/subsurface ownership pattern of the parcel.

State: A state is composed of an integrated soil and vegetation unit having one or more biological communities that occur on a particular ecological site and that are functionally similar with respect to the three attributes (soil/site stability, hydrologic function, and biotic integrity) under natural disturbance regimes.

Stipulation: A condition of lease issuance that provides a level of protection for other resource values or land uses by restricting lease operations during certain times or locations or to avoid unacceptable impacts, to an extent greater than standard lease terms or regulations. A stipulation is an enforceable term of the lease contract, supersedes any inconsistent provisions of the standard lease form, and is attached to and made a part of the lease. Lease stipulations further implement the BLM's regulatory authority to protect resources or resource values. Lease stipulations are developed through the land use planning process.



Stochastic: Randomly determined event, chance event, a condition determined by predictable processes and a random element.

Substantial interference: Determination that an activity or use hinders or obstructs the nature and purposes of a designated National Trail (see nature and purposes).

Surface disturbance: Suitable habitat is considered disturbed when it is removed and unavailable for immediate Sage-Grouse use.

- Long-term removal occurs when habitat is physically removed through activities that replace suitable habitat with long-term occupancy of unsuitable habitat, such as a road, power line, well pad, or active mine. Long-term removal may also result from any activities that cause soil mixing, soil removal, and exposure of the soil to erosive processes
- Short-term removal occurs when vegetation is removed in small areas but restored to suitable habitat within less than five years of disturbance, such as a successfully reclaimed pipeline or successfully reclaimed drill hole or pit
- Suitable habitat rendered unusable due to numerous anthropogenic disturbances
- Anthropogenic surface disturbance are surface disturbances meeting the above definitions and that result from human activities

Surface-disturbing activities: An action that alters the vegetation, surface/near surface soil resources, or surface geologic features, beyond natural site conditions and on a scale that affects other public land values. Examples of surface-disturbing activities are operation of heavy equipment to construct well pads, roads, pits and reservoirs; installation of pipelines and power lines; and the conduct of several types of vegetation treatments (e.g., prescribed fire). Surface-disturbing activities may be either authorized or prohibited.

Surface uses: These are all the various activities that may be present on the surface or near-surface (e.g., pipelines), of the public lands. It does not refer to those subterranean activities (e.g., underground mining) occurring on the public lands or federal mineral estate. When administered as a use restriction (e.g., no surface use), this phrase prohibits all but specified resource uses and activities in a certain area to protect particular sensitive resource values and property. This designation typically applies to small acreage sensitive resource sites (e.g., plant community study enclosure), or administrative sites (e.g., government ware-yard) where only authorized agency personnel are admitted.

Temporary/temporary use: The opposite of the term permanent/permanent use. It is a relative term and has to be considered in the context of the resource values affected and the nature of the resource use or activity taking place. Generally, a temporary activity is considered to be one that is not fixed in place and is of short duration.

Timing limitation: Areas identified for timing limitations, a moderate constraint, are closed to fluid mineral exploration and development, surface-disturbing activities, and intensive

human activity during identified time frames. This stipulation does not apply to operation and basic maintenance activities, including associated vehicle travel, unless otherwise specified. Construction, drilling, completions, and other operations considered to be intensive are not allowed. Intensive maintenance, such as workovers on wells, is not permitted. Administrative activities are allowed at the discretion of the authorized officer.

Transition: A shift between two states. Transitions are not reversible by simply altering the intensity or direction of factors that produced the change. Instead, they require new inputs, such as revegetation or shrub removal. Practices such as these that accelerate succession are often expensive to apply.

Travel management areas: Polygons or delineated areas where a rational approach has been taken to classify areas as open, closed, or limited and have identified or designated a network of roads, trails, ways, and other routes that provide for public access and travel across the planning area. All designated travel routes within travel management areas should have a clearly identified need and purpose, as well as clearly defined activity types, modes of travel, and seasons or timeframes for allowable access or other limitations (BLM Manual H1601-1 Land Use Planning Handbook).

Unitization: The process by which lessees may unite with each other in collectively adopting and operating under a unit plan for the development of any oil, gas, or geothermal field.

Wild and scenic study river: Rivers identified for study by Congress under Section 5(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act or identified for study by the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of the Interior under Section 5(d)(1) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. These rivers will be studied under the provisions of Section 4 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Wildcat well: An exploratory oil well drilled in land not known to be an oil field.

Wilderness characteristics: These attributes include the area's size, its apparent naturalness, and outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. They may also include supplemental values. Lands with wilderness characteristics are those that have been inventoried and determined by the BLM to contain wilderness characteristics, as defined in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act.

Wilderness Study Area: Areas with wilderness characteristics identified and designated through the inventory and study processes authorized by Section 603 of FLPMA and, prior to 2003, through the planning process authorized by Section 202 of FLPMA.

Wilderness: A congressionally designated area of undeveloped federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, that is protected and managed to preserve its natural conditions and that (1) generally appears to have been affected mainly by the forces of nature, with human imprints substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least 5,000 acres or is large enough to make practical



its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historic value. The definition is contained in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 891, from H-6310-1, Wilderness Inventory and Study Procedures).

Wildland Fire: Any nonstructure fire that occurs in the vegetation or natural fuels. Includes both prescribed fire and wildfire (NWCG Memo #024-2010 April 30, 2010. www.nwcg.gov).

Wildland-urban interface: The line, area or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels.

Winter concentration areas: Sage-Grouse winter habitats that are occupied annually by Sage-Grouse and provide sufficient sagebrush cover and food to support birds throughout the entire winter (especially periods with above average snow cover). Many of these areas support several different breeding populations of Sage-Grouse. Sage-Grouse typically show high fidelity for these areas, and loss or fragmentation can result in significant population impacts.

Withdrawal: A withholding of an area of federal land from settlement, sale, location, or entry under some or all of the general land laws to achieve the following:

- Limit activity under those laws in order to maintain other public values in the area
- Reserve the area for a particular public purpose or program
- Transfer jurisdiction of the area from one federal agency to another

Zoological area: Roughly analogous to BLM area of critical environmental concern, this area preserves GRSG habitat next to potential ACECs found to have relevance and importance. This area would be managed to ensure consistent GRSG management and conservation across the landscape.