

Tracks on the Playa



Glossary

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT



BLACK ROCK DESERT
HIGH ROCK CANYON
EMIGRANT TRAILS

NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA

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ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT	Adaptive management is a procedure in which decisions and changes in management are made as part of an ongoing process. It is a continuous process of planning, implementing, monitoring, evaluating, and incorporating new information into strategies to meet the goals and objectives of ecosystem management as described in the RMP. This process builds on current knowledge, observation, experimentation, and learning from experience. A continuous feedback loop allows for mid-course corrections in management to meet planned goals and objectives. It also provides a model for adjusting goals and objectives as new information develops and public desires change.
ALLOTMENT	An area allocated for livestock use by one or more qualified grazing permittees including prescribed numbers and kinds of livestock under one plan of management.
ALLOTMENT MANAGEMENT PLAN (AMP)	A plan for managing livestock grazing on specified public land. An AMP is designed to attain specific management goals in a grazing allotment and is prepared cooperatively with the permittee(s) or lessee(s).
ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE (ATV)	Small 3-wheel and 4-wheel recreational motor vehicles capable of operating in rugged terrain.
ANIMAL UNIT	One cow, one wild horse, two burros or five sheep.
ANIMAL UNIT MONTH (AUM)	The amount of forage required to sustain a specified animal unit for one month typically equating to approximately 800 pounds of useable air-dried forage.
APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT LEVEL (AML)	The optimum number of wild horses that provides a thriving natural ecological balance on the public range.
APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT RESPONSE (AMR)	Specific actions taken in response to a wildland fire to implement protection and fire use objectives. Category A - private lands, BLM facilities and other areas with values where fire would not be desired. Category B - areas where a variety of appropriate fire suppression techniques would be applied to meet the resource objectives specified in the RMP and other site specific activity plans.
AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC)	An area of public lands where special management 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 humans from natural hazards.
BENEFICIAL USE	A use of water, such as domestic, municipal, agricultural, mining, stock watering, recreation, wildlife, or power generation, that provides a benefit.

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BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMPS)	A dynamic and evolving set of practices based on current scientific information and technology which, when applied during implementation of management actions, ensures that adverse impacts are minimized. BMPs are applied based on site-specific evaluation and represent the most effective and practical means to achieve management goals for a given site.										
BIODIVERSITY	The variety of life and its processes, and the interrelationships within and among various levels of ecological organization. Conservation, protection, and restoration of biological species and genetic diversity are needed to sustain the health of existing biological systems. Federal resource management agencies must examine the implications of management actions and development decisions on regional and local biodiversity.										
BURNING MAN	A large special recreation event that BLM typically receives an application to hold the annual event on the playa. It is a week long combination art festival, social event, and experiment in community living.										
CLASS OF LIVESTOCK	The species of domestic livestock-cattle and sheep.										
CUMULATIVE IMPACTS	The impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time. Cumulative impacts can result from similar projects or actions, as well as from projects or actions that have similar impacts (40 CFR 1508.7).										
ECOLOGICAL STATUS	<p>The present state of vegetation of a range site in relation to the potential natural community for that site. Four classes are used to express the degree to which the production or composition of the present plant community reflects that of the potential natural community (climax):</p> <table><thead><tr><th>Ecological status (seral stage)</th><th>Percent of community in climax condition</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>Potential natural community</td><td>76–100</td></tr><tr><td>Late seral</td><td>51–75</td></tr><tr><td>Mid-seral</td><td>26–50</td></tr><tr><td>Early seral</td><td>0–25</td></tr></tbody></table>	Ecological status (seral stage)	Percent of community in climax condition	Potential natural community	76–100	Late seral	51–75	Mid-seral	26–50	Early seral	0–25
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EASEMENT	A right or privilege one may have on another's land.										
ECOSYSTEM	A system made up of a community of animals, plants, and bacteria and its interrelated physical and chemical environment.										
ELIGIBLE RIVER SEGMENT	A section of a river that qualifies for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic River System through determination that it is free-flowing and with its adjacent land area possessing at least one river-related value considered to be outstandingly remarkable.										

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ENDANGERED SPECIES	Any animal or plant species in danger of extinction throughout all of a significant portion of its range. These species are listed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA)	A concise public document that a Federal agency prepares under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) to provide sufficient evidence and analysis to determine whether a proposed agency action would require preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) or a finding of no significant impact. A Federal agency may also prepare an EA to aid its compliance with NEPA when no EIS is necessary or to facilitate preparation of an EIS when one is necessary.
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS)	A detailed written statement that is required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for a proposed major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. The findings from the document are published in a Record of Decision (ROD).
ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE	<p>The fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Fair treatment means that no group of people, including racial, ethnic, or socioeconomic groups, should bear a disproportionate share of the negative environmental consequences resulting from operations or the execution of Federal programs and policies.</p> <p>Executive Order 12898 directs federal agencies to make achieving environmental justice part of their missions by identifying and addressing disproportionately high and adverse effects of agency programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations.</p>
EROSION	The wearing away of land surface either by natural weathering processes, (including water, wind, or ice) or human or animal activities.
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT (FONSI)	A public document issued by a Federal agency briefly presenting the reasons why an action for which the agency has prepared an Environmental Assessment does not have potential for a significant effect on the human environment and, thus, will not require preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement.
FIRE SUPPRESSION	All the work activities connected with fire-extinguishing operations, beginning with the discovery and continuing until the fire is completely extinguished.
FOUR-WHEEL-DRIVE (4WD)	Trucks, cars, or sport utility vehicles with high clearance and the ability to operate off-pavement, on rugged terrain, as well as on highways.
FUNCTIONING-AT-RISK	Riparian-wetland areas that are in functional condition but an existing soil, water, or vegetation attribute makes them susceptible to degradation.

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HERD	One or more wild horse bands using the same general area.
HERD AREA (HA)	A geographic area identified as having provided habitat for a wild horse herd.
HERD MANAGEMENT AREA (HMA)	A geographic area identified in a Management Framework Plan or Resource Management Plan for the long-term management of a wild horse herd.
HERD MANAGEMENT AREA PLAN	A plan that prescribes measures for the protection, management, and control of wild horses and their habitat on one or more HMAs, in conformance with decisions made in approved Management Framework or Resource Management Plans.
KNOWN GEOTHERMAL RESOURCE AREA (KGRA)	An area in which the geology, nearby discoveries, competitive interest, or other indicia would, in the opinion of the Secretary, engender the belief in men who are experienced in the subject matter that the prospect for extraction of geothermal steam or associated geothermal resources are good enough to warrant expenditures or money for that purpose (43 CFR 3200.0-5(k)).
IMPACT	<p>The resulting effect of an action whether direct, indirect, or cumulative on a specific resource that may be beneficial or detrimental (adverse).</p> <p>Direct: Impacts caused by an action occurring at the same time and place.</p> <p>Indirect: Impacts caused by an action and occurring later in time or farther removed in distance, but still reasonably foreseeable.</p> <p>Cumulative: Impacts that result from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions.</p>
INSTANT STUDY AREA (ISA)	A designation of all primitive or natural areas formally identified prior to November 1, 1975, that were to be studied for wilderness suitability and recommended to the President by July 1, 1980 as mandated under Section 603 of FLPMA.
INTERIM MANAGEMENT POLICY	The policy under which the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages lands under wilderness review until congress either designates these lands as Wilderness or releases them for other purposes. The purpose of the policy is to guide BLM staff in day-to-day management decisions for lands under wilderness review.

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LAND USE PLAN	A plan that reflects an analysis of activity systems and a carefully studied estimate of future land requirements for expansion, growth control, and revitalization or renewal. The plan shows how development in the area should proceed in the future to insure the best possible physical environment for living, the most economic and environmentally sensitive use of land, and the proper balance in use from a cost revenue point of view. The land use plan embodies a proposal as to how land should be used in the future, recognizing local objectives and generally accepted principals of health, safety, convenience, economy, and general living amenities.
LEASE	An authorization or contract by which one party (lessor) conveys the use of property, such as real estate, to another (lessee) in return for rental payments. In addition to rental payments, lessees also pay royalties (a percentage of value) to the lessor from resource production.
LEASABLE MINERAL	A mineral such as oil shale, oil and gas, phosphate, potash, sodium, geothermal resources, and all other minerals that may be developed under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended.
LEAVE-NO-TRACE	Promotes skills and ethics to support the sustainable use of wildlands and natural areas.” The Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service use this concept as a way to help recreationists minimize their impacts while enjoying the outdoors. Seven principles outline the strategy for reducing damage caused by outdoor activities, particularly non-motorized uses.
LOW-INCOME	Defined in terms of Bureau of the Census annual statistical poverty levels (Current Population Reports, Series P-60 on Income and Poverty).
MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK PLAN (MFP)	BLM land use plan, predecessor to the RMP.
MECHANICAL TREATMENT	Use of mechanical equipment for seeding, brush management, and other management practices.
MINERAL ENTRY	The location of mining claims by an individual to protect his/her right to a valuable mineral.
MINERAL WITHDRAWAL	A withdrawal for public lands which are potentially valuable for leasable minerals. This precludes the disposal of the lands except with a mineral reservation, or unless the lands are found to not be valuable for minerals.
MINORITY	Defined by the U.S. Census as individuals who are members of the following population groups: American Indian or Alaskan Native; Asian or Pacific Islander; Black, not of Hispanic origin; or Hispanic.
MITIGATION MEASURES	Constraints, requirements, or conditions imposed to reduce or eliminate an anticipated impact to environmental, socioeconomic, or other resource value from a proposed action.

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MONITORING	The periodic and systematic collection of resource data to measure progress toward achieving objectives.
MULTIPLE-USE MANAGEMENT	Management of public land and resource values to best meet various present and future needs of the American people. This means coordinated management of resources and uses to assure the long-term health of the ecosystem.
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT OF 1969 (NEPA)	NEPA is the basic national charter for protection of the environment. It establishes policy, sets goals, and provides means for carrying out the policy. It also contains action-forcing provisions to ensure that Federal agencies follow the letter and spirit of the Act.
NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SYSTEM	<p>Established by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1958 to protect rivers and their immediate environments that have outstanding scenic, recreation, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, and other similar values and are preserved in free-flowing conditions. The system provides for the designation of three types of rivers:</p> <p>Recreation: Rivers or sections of rivers readily accessible by road or railroad that may have some development along their shorelines and may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.</p> <p>Scenic: Rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by road.</p> <p>Wild: Rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trails, with essentially primitive watersheds or shorelines and unpolluted waters.</p>
NATURAL EMPASIS (NE) WILDERNESS AREA	<p>Focuses on restoring natural conditions in areas that have been impacted by human use. Management in such a zone would focus on maintaining and enhancing the natural, pristine aspects of wilderness.</p> <p>NE Wilderness proposed under Alternative C include: the High Rock Lake, Calico Mountains, Black Rock Desert, High Rock Canyon, East Fork High Rock Canyon, and Little High Rock Canyon Wilderness Areas and the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout Wilderness Study Area.</p>
NATURALNESS	An area that generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of people's work substantially unnoticeable.
NON-FUNCTIONING	Riparian-wetland areas that clearly are not providing adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris to dissipate stream energy associated with high flows.
NONVASCULAR PLANT	Plants that do not have specialized tissues for conducting water and synthesizing foods, as any moss or liverwort.
OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE (OHV)	Any motorized vehicle designed for or capable of cross-country travel over lands, water, sand, snow, ice, marsh, swamp-land, or other terrain.

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OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE DESIGNATIONS

Open: Designated areas and trails where OHVs may be operated.

Limited: Designated areas and trails where the use of an OHV is subject to restrictions, such as limiting the dates and times of use (seasonal restrictions); limiting use to designated roads and trails; limiting use to existing roads and trails. Combinations of restrictions are possible.

Closed: Designated areas, roads, and trails where the use of an OHV is permanently or temporarily prohibited. Emergency use of vehicles is allowed.

PARTICULATE MATTER

Very fine sized solid matter or droplets, typically averaging one micron or smaller in diameter.

PERMIT

A short-term, revocable authorization to use public lands for specific purposes.

PERMITTEE

A person or organization legally permitted to graze a specific number and class of livestock on designated areas of public land during specified seasons each year.

POINT-TO-POINT ORIENTEERING TRAILS

Non-constructed trails without clearly defined paths. They are corridors without specific borders, in which the hiker or horseman may choose their own route. The purpose is to avoid leaving a beaten path, thereby minimizing the impact to fragile desert soils and vegetation.

PRESCRIBED BURNING

Controlled application of fire to wildland fuels in either their natural or modified state, under specified environmental conditions which allow the fire to be confined to a predetermined area and at the same time to produce the fire line intensity and rate of spread required to attain planned resource management objectives.

PRESCRIBED FIRE

Controlled application of fire to natural fuels under conditions of weather, fuel moisture, and soil moisture that would allow confinement of the fire to a predetermined area and, at the same time, would produce the intensity of heat and rate of spread required to accomplish certain planned benefits to one or more objectives to wildlife, livestock, and watershed values. The overall objectives are to employ fire scientifically to realize maximum net benefits at minimum environmental damage and acceptable cost.

PRESCRIPTION

Written statement defining objectives to be attained, as well measurable criteria, which guide the selection of appropriate management actions. Prescription criteria may include safety, economic, public health, environmental, geographic, administrative, social or legal considerations under which the fire would be allowed to burn.

PROJECT ARCHEOLOGY

An educational program designed by the Bureau of Land Management to: teach young Americans to value and protect our rich cultural heritage; strengthen children's sense of personal responsibility for the stewardship of American's cultural heritage; and to use the vast historic and archaeological resources under the custody of the Bureau of land management to support the education of America's children.

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PROPERLY FUNCTIONING CONDITION (PFC)	Riparian-wetland areas are functioning properly when adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris is present to dissipate stream energy associated with high water flows, thereby reducing erosion and improving water quality; filter sediment; capture bedload, and aid floodplain development; improve flood-water 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 LAND	Any land or interest in land owned by the United States and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Bureau of Land Management.
RANGELAND	Land on which the potential natural vegetation is predominantly grasses, grasslike plants, forbs, or shrubs suitable for grazing or browsing. It includes natural grasslands, savannas, many wetlands, some deserts, tundras, and areas that support certain forb and shrub communities.
RANGELAND IMPROVEMENTS	Any activity or program on or relating to rangelands that is designed to improve forage production, change vegetation composition, control patterns of use, provide water, stabilize soil and water conditions, and enhance habitat for livestock, wildlife, and wild horses and burros. Rangeland improvements include land treatments (e.g., chaining, seeding, burning, etc.), water developments, fences, and trails.
RAPTORS	Birds of prey, such as the eagle, falcon, hawk, owl, or vulture.
RECREATION AND PUBLIC PURPOSES ACT (R&PP)	Allows the disposal of public lands to any state, local, federal, or political instrumentality or nonprofit organization for any recreational or public purpose, at the discretion of the authorized officer.
REHABILITATION	The activities necessary to repair damage or disturbance caused by wildfire or the fire suppression activity.
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (RMP)	A land use plan as described by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act to guide resource management and use allocation on public lands and resources administered by the BLM.
RIGHT-OF-WAY	A permit or an easement that authorizes the use of public land for certain specified purposes, commonly for pipelines, roads, telephone lines, electric lines, and reservoirs. It is also the reference to the land covered by such an easement or permit.
RIGHT RIDER	Right Rider etiquette promotes trail ethics for motorized users in an effort to protect OHV opportunities. The Forest Service and BLM use this approach to influence OHV users to, "Respect the land, the wildlife, and the rights of others. Ride Responsibly."

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RIGHT-OF-WAY CORRIDOR	A parcel of land that has been identified by law, Secretarial Order, through a land use plan or by other management decision as being the preferred location for existing and future right-of-way grants and suitable to accommodate one type of right-of-way or one or more rights-of-way which are similar, identical or compatible.
RIPARIAN HABITAT	Riparian habitat is defined as an area of land directly influenced by permanent (surface of subsurface) water and has visible vegetation or physical characteristics reflective of permanent water influence.
RIPARIAN VEGETATION	Plants adapted to moist growing conditions along streams, waterways, ponds, or other permanent water body.
ROAD	A transportation facility used primarily by vehicles having four or more wheels, documented as such by the owner and maintained for regular and continuous use.
ROUTE	A roadlike feature used by vehicles having two, three, four or more wheels, but not declared a road by the owner and which receives no maintenance to guarantee regular and continuous use.
RUNOFF	Water that is not absorbed by the soil and flows to lower ground, eventually draining into a stream, river, or other body of water.
SALEABLE MINERALS	Minerals that may be sold under the Material Sale Act of 1947, as amended. Included are common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, and clay.
SCENIC RIVER	A river or section of a river that is free of impoundments and whose shorelines are largely undeveloped but accessible in places by roads.
SEDIMENT	Soil, rock particles and organic or other debris carried from one place to another by wind, water or gravity.
SENSITIVE SPECIES	Species not yet officially listed but that are undergoing status review for listing on the Fish and Wildlife Service official threatened and endangered list; species whose populations are small and widely dispersed or restricted to a few localities; and species whose numbers are declining so rapidly that official listing may be necessary.
SERIAL STAGE	The ecological status of several successional stages of plant community development resulting in the formation of a stable community. Seral stages begin with an early seral stage and end with a late-seral stage near or at the climax stage.
SOIL	A natural, three-dimensional body at the earth's surface capable of supporting plants. It has properties resulting from the integrated effect of climate and living matter acting on earthy parent material, as conditioned by relief over periods of time.
SOLITUDE	The state of being alone or remote from habitations of people in a lonely, unfrequented, or secluded place.

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SPECIAL RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA (SRMA)	Special Recreation Management Area - A BLM administrative term used to define an area where there are significant recreation issues requiring further planning and intensive management. Generally intensive recreation use is occurring in these areas with related impacts or conflicts. Recreation related investments are required and focused in these areas.
SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES	Plant or animal species known or suspected to be limited in distribution, rare or uncommon within a specific area, and/or vulnerable to activities which may affect their survival. Wildlife and plant species can either be Federally listed or proposed for listing as endangered or threatened, state-listed, or BLM determined priority species.
TRAIL (NON-EMIGRANT TRAILS)	A land facility used primarily for foot traffic, beasts of burden and various special equipment or machinery generally used for individual travel. Facilities used by jeep or four-wheel drive are typically classified as "roads or ways"
TREAD LIGHTLY	"Through education, restoration and research, Tread Lightly! empowers generations to enjoy the outdoors responsibly." Tread Lightly! is another educational program focused on minimizing impacts caused through recreational uses, both motorized and non-motorized.
TREND	The direction of change in ecological status observed over time. Trend is described as toward or away from the potential natural community, or as not apparent.
TWO-WHEEL-DRIVE (2WD)	Vehicle clearance generally lower than with a 4WD and not designed to travel off-pavement.
UTILITY	A service provided by a public utility, such as electricity, telephone, or water.
VEGETATION TREATMENT	Changing the characteristics of an established vegetation type for the purpose of improving rangeland forage or wildlife habitat resources. Treatments are designed for specific areas and differ according to the area's suitability and potential. The most common land treatment methods alter the vegetation by chaining, spraying with pesticides, burning, and plowing, followed by seeding with well adapted desirable plant species.
VEHICLE CAMPING	Overnight use of an area where the majority of travel and transport of equipment required the use of a motorized vehicle.
VISITOR DAY	Twelve visitor hours which may be aggregated by one or more persons in single or multiple visits.
VISITOR USE	Passive or active recreational activity on public land, which may involve either consumptive or non-consumptive use of the resources.

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VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (VRM) CLASSES

Management classes are determined on the basis of overall scenic quality, distance from travel routes, and sensitivity to change.

Class I: Provides primarily for natural ecological changes only. It is applied to wilderness areas, some natural areas, and similar situations where management activities are to be restricted.

Class II: Changes in the basic elements caused by a management activity may be evident in the characteristic landscape, but the changes should remain subordinate to the visual strength of the existing character.

Class III: Changes in the basic elements caused by a management activity may be evident in the characteristic landscape, but the changes should remain subordinate to the visual strength of the existing character.

Class IV: Changes may subordinate the original composition and character but must reflect what could be a natural occurrence within the characteristic landscape.

WATERSHED

All land and water within the confines of a drainage divide.

WAY

A roadlike feature used by vehicles having four or more wheels, but not declared a road by the owner and which receives no maintenance to guarantee regular and continuous use.

WETLANDS

Lands including swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas, such as wet meadows, river overflows, mud flats, and natural ponds.

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS

A river or river section designated by Congress or the Secretary of the Interior, under the authority of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, to protect outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values and to preserve the river or river section in its free-flowing condition. The law recognizes three classes of rivers - wild, scenic, and recreational.

WILD HORSES AND BURROS

Unbranded and unclaimed horses and burros that use public land as all or part of their habitat, and are protected under the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act.

WILD RIVER

A river or section of a river that is free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds and shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted.

WILD EMPHASIS (WE) WILDERNESS AREA

Focuses on the wild, untrammeled, unmanipulated aspects of wilderness. WE wilderness proposed under Alternative C include: the North Jackson Mountains, South Jackson Mountains, North Black Rock Range, and Pahute Peak Wilderness Areas.

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WILDERNESS AREA	An area designated by Congress and defined by the Wilderness Act of 1964 as a place “where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain.” Designation is aimed at ensuring that these lands are preserved and protected in their natural condition. Wilderness areas, which are generally at least 5,000 acres or more in size, offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; such areas may also contain ecological, geological, or other features that have scientific, scenic, or historical value. <i>Also see Natural Emphasis and Wild Emphasis Wilderness Areas.</i>
WILDERNESS INVENTORY	A written description of resource information and accompanying map of those public lands that meet the wilderness criteria as established under Section 603 (a) of FLPMA and Section 2 (c) of the Wilderness Act.
WILDERNESS STUDY AREA (WSA)	An area designated by a Federal agency as having wilderness characteristics, thus making it worthy of consideration by Congress for wilderness designation. While Congress considers whether to designate a WSA as permanent wilderness, the Federal agency managing the WSA does so in a manner as to prevent impairment of the area's suitability for wilderness designation.
WILDFIRE	An unwanted wildland fire, regardless of ignition source, which is unplanned, has escaped control, or does not meet management objectives and therefore requires a suppression response.
WILDLAND FIRE	Any nonstructure fire, other than prescribed fire, that occurs in the wildland.
WITHDRAWAL	Removal or "withholding" of public lands from operation of some or all of the public land laws (settlement, sale, mining, and/or mineral leasing). An action which restricts the use or disposal of public lands, segregating the land from the operation of some or all of the public land and/or mineral laws and holding it for a specific public purpose. Withdrawals may also be used to transfer jurisdiction of management to other Federal agencies.