

## ***GLOSSARY***

**Abandonment:** Termination of operations for production from a well. Permanent abandonment involves plugging the well and removal of installations.

**Alternative:** An oil and gas leasing scenario being considered.

**Alternative, No Action:** An alternative that maintains current established trends or management direction.

**Application for Permit to Drill (APD):** An application to drill a well submitted by a lessee or operator to the BLM. The APD consists of a Drilling Plan that discusses downhole specifications and procedures (reviewed by the BLM) and a Surface Use Plan of Operations (SUPO) that examines surface uses, including access roads, well site layout, cut and fill diagrams, reclamation procedures, production facility locations, etc. (reviewed by the Forest Service). The approved APD is a contract between the operator and the Federal government and cannot be changed or modified unless authorized by the BLM and the Forest Service.

**Authorized Officer:** The Forest Service employee delegated Officer given the authority to perform a duty described in these rules. A Regional Forester, Forest Supervisor, District Ranger, or Minerals Staff Officer, depending on the scope and level of the duty to be performed.

**Best Management Practices (BMPs):** The set of management practices that, when applied during implementation of a project, ensures that water-related beneficial uses are protected and that State water quality standards are met.

**Biological Evaluation:** A documented Forest Service review of Forest Service activities in sufficient detail to determine how an action or proposed action may affect any threatened, endangered, proposed, or sensitive species.

**BLM lease form 3100-11:** The standard form used by BLM for oil and gas leases.

**Direct Effects:** Caused by the action and occur at the same time and place.

**Effects (also see Impacts):** Effects are impacts upon the environment and can be direct, indirect, or cumulative.

**Forest Plan:** The Land and Resource Management Plan prepared pursuant to the National Forest Management Act covering standards, guidelines and management direction for one or more national forests and national grasslands.

**Habitat:** A specific set of physical conditions that surround a single species, a group of species, or a large community. In wildlife management, the major components of habitat are considered to be food, water, cover, and living space.

**Heritage Resources:** Prehistoric, historic and Native American cultural resources.

**Indirect Effects:** Caused by the action later in time or farther removed in distance, but still reasonably foreseeable. Indirect effects may include growth inducing effects and other effects related to induced changes in the pattern of land use, population density or growth-rate, and related effects on air and water and other natural systems, including ecosystems.

**Issue:** Potentially significant impact areas or areas of controversy.

**Leasable Minerals:** Minerals acquired only by lease and include oil, gas, oil shale, sodium, potassium, phosphate, native asphalt, solid and semi-solid bitumin, and deposits of sulfur.

**Lease:** 1. A legal document that conveys to a lessee the right to drill for oil and gas.  
2. The tract of land on which a lease has been obtained, where producing wells and production equipment are located.

**Lease Stipulations:** Additional specific conditions that change the manner in which the operation may be conducted on a lease, or modify the lease rights granted.

**Management Area:** An area with similar management objectives and a common management prescription.

**Mitigation:** Includes:

- (a) Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action.
- (b) Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree of magnitude of the action and its implementation.
- (c) Rectifying the impact of repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment.
- (d) Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action.
- (e) Compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

**No Surface Occupancy (NSO):** Use or occupancy of the land surface by the lessee for fluid mineral exploration or development is prohibited to protect identified resource values. In the past, stipulations may have been worded as "No Surface Occupancy," or other wording. This stipulation prohibits the location of well sites, evaporation ponds, pits, tank batteries, and other oil and gas production facilities on the lease. Access roads and gas transmission pipelines may be located on a "No Surface Occupancy" area if other

resource management activities would not be prohibited from similar types of development and the impacts can be mitigated. An example case is where private mineral rights adjoin Federal mineral rights. The private rights are developed, and the only reasonable access to the private rights is over the Federal parcel with the No Surface Occupancy area. Roads or pipelines would be allowed on the Federal parcel in this case. NSO does not address reserved rights, outstanding rights or private rights under Federal surface. The Federal Government can not deny access to private rights (1992 Wayne National Forest Plan Amendment #8-ROD, Page 3).

**Reasonable Foreseeable Development Scenario (RFDS):** The hypothetical projected oil and gas activity that is expected to be generated if each alternative were implemented. These are the activities that would generate physical / biological and social / economic effects on the human environment.

**Riparian:** Riparian areas consist of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, those lands in a position to directly influence water quality and water resources, whether or not free water is available. This would include all lands in the active flood channel and lands immediately upslope of stream banks. These areas may be associated with lakes, reservoirs, marshes, streams, bogs, wet meadows, and intermittent or permanent streams where free and unbound water is available.

**Scoping :** An early and open public participation process for determining particular issues to be addressed in an environmental analysis and for identifying the significant issues related to a proposed action.

**Significant Impact/Effect:** An impact or effect is significant when it is projected to meet or exceed threshold standards, while considering how substantial the impact or effect is, considering its context and intensity.

**Slope :** The amount or degree of deviation from the horizontal or vertical. Concerning visual or scenic resources, as slope increases, views into a site and the size of the disturbance increase. Generally, the steeper slopes are more visible due to their location in the landscape.

**Staged Decision Process:** Oil and gas leasing on federal lands is a staged decision process. The stages are:

- Lands Availability Decision
- Specific Lands Leasing Decision
- Approval of the Application for Permit to Drill
- Field Development Plan

**Timing Limitation** Prohibits surface use during specified time periods (Seasonal Restriction) to protect identified resource values. The stipulation does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities unless the findings of analysis

demonstrate the continued need for such mitigation and that less stringent, project-specific mitigation measures would be insufficient.