

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

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| ABM | Alabama beach mouse |
| ACAMP | Alabama Coastal Area Management Program |
| ACEC | area of critical environmental concern |
| ACNPPC | Alabama Coastal Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program |
| ADEM | Alabama Department of Environmental Management |
| AFC | Alabama Forestry Commission |
| AHC | Alabama Historical Commission |
| AIRFA | American Indian Religious Freedom Act |
| ANHP | Alabama Natural Heritage Program |
| APD | application for permit to drill |
| APLIC | Avian Power Line Interaction Committee |
| ARPA | Archaeological Resources Protection Act |
| BA | biological assessment |
| BEA | Bureau of Economic Analysis |
| BLM | Bureau of Land Management |
| BLS | Bureau of Labor Statistics |
| BMP | best management practice |
| BO | biological opinion |
| B.P. | before present |
| CBM | coal bed methane |
| CCP | Comprehensive Conservation Plan |
| CEQ | Council on Environmental Quality |
| CERCLA | Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act |
| CFR | Code of Federal Regulations |
| cfs | cubic feet per second |
| CH ₄ | methane |
| CO | carbon monoxide |
| CO ₂ | carbon dioxide |
| COA | condition of approval |
| COD | chemical oxygen demand |
| CPI | consumer price index |
| CRMP | Comprehensive Resource Management Plan |
| CSU | controlled surface use |
| CWA | Clean Water Act |
| CWCS | Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy |
| CZM | coastal zone management |
| DM | departmental manual (Department of the Interior) |
| DMR | Department of Marine Resources |
| DoD | Department of Defense |
| DOI | Department of the Interior |
| EA | Environmental Assessment |
| EIS | Environmental Impact Statement |
| EJ | environmental justice |
| EPA | Environmental Protection Agency |
| ERMA | extensive recreation management area |
| ESA | Endangered Species Act |
| FEIS | Final Environmental Impact Statement |
| FERC | Federal Energy Regulatory Commission |

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|-------------------|--|
| FLPMA | Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 |
| FMO | federal mineral ownership |
| FPC | Federal Power Commission |
| FRL | Fractional |
| GAO | U.S. Government Accountability Office |
| GAP | Gap Analysis Program |
| GHG | greenhouse gas |
| GIS | geographic information systems |
| GISS | Goddard Institute for Space Studies |
| GSA | Geological Survey of Alabama |
| IB | information bulletins |
| IM | instruction memoranda |
| IPCC | Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change |
| JFO | Jackson Field Office (BLM) |
| LBA | lease by application |
| MAP | Mississippi alluvial plain |
| mcf | thousand cubic feet |
| MCPS | Mississippi Coastal Preserve System |
| MDEQ | Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality |
| MFC | Mississippi Forestry Commission |
| mg/L | milligrams per liter |
| MNHP | Mississippi Natural Heritage Program |
| MOU | Memorandum of Understanding |
| MSCZMP | Mississippi Coastal Zone Management Program |
| NAAQS | National Ambient Air Quality Standards |
| NAGPRA | Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act |
| NAS | National Academy of Sciences |
| NEPA | National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 |
| N.F. | National Forest |
| NHPA | National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended |
| NLCD | national land cover data |
| N ₂ O | nitrous oxide |
| NO ₂ | nitrogen dioxide |
| NO _x | nitrogen oxides |
| NOA | Notice of Availability |
| NOAA | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration |
| NOI | Notice of Intent |
| NPDES | National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System |
| NPS | National Park Service |
| NRCS | National Resources Conservation Service |
| NRHP | National Register of Historic Places |
| NRI | National Resources Inventory |
| NSO | no surface occupancy |
| NWI | national wetland inventory |
| NWR | National Wildlife Refuge |
| O ₃ | ozone |
| OHV | off-highway vehicle |
| PAH | polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons |
| PCB | polychlorinated biphenyl |
| PM _{2.5} | particulate matter (less than 2.5 microns in diameter) |
| PM ₁₀ | particulate matter (less than 10 microns in diameter) |

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|------------------------|---|
| ppm | parts per million |
| PSD | prevention of significant deterioration |
| R&PP | Recreation and Public Purposes Act |
| RCRA | Resource Conservation and Recovery Act |
| RFDS | reasonably foreseeable development scenario |
| RMP | Resource Management Plan |
| ROD | Record of Decision |
| ROW | right-of-way |
| S-1 | BLM Eastern States sensitive species designated as “critically imperiled” |
| S-2 | BLM Eastern States sensitive species designated as “imperiled” |
| SARA | Superfund Amendment Reauthorization Act |
| SHPO | State Historic Preservation Officer |
| SIP | State Implementation Plan (Air Quality) |
| SO ₂ | sulfur dioxide |
| SRMA | special recreation management area |
| T&E | threatened and endangered |
| TDS | total dissolved solids |
| Tg CO ₂ Eq. | teragrams of CO ₂ equivalent |
| TSCA | toxic Substances Control Act |
| TSS | total suspended solids |
| TVA | Tennessee Valley Authority |
| μS/cm | microsiemens per centimeter |
| USC | United States Code |
| USDA | U.S. Department of Agriculture |
| USFS | U.S. Forest Service |
| USFWS | U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service |
| USGS | U.S. Geological Survey |
| VOC | volatile organic compound |
| VRI | visual resource inventory |
| VRM | visual resource management |
| WQA | Water Quality Act |
| WUI | wildland-urban interface |

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GLOSSARY

Activity Plan. A site-specific plan for the management of one or more resources (e.g., allotment management plan, habitat management plan). Activity plans provide the additional detail necessary to implement decisions made in the Resource Management Plan (RMP).

Administrative Use. Official use related to management and resources of the public lands by Federal, State, or local governments or non-official use sanctioned by an appropriate authorization instrument, such as right-of-way, permit, lease, or maintenance agreement.

Aquifer. A geologic formation, group of formations, or part of a formation that contains sufficient saturated, permeable material to be able to yield significant quantities of water to wells and springs.

Archaeological Site. Geographic locale containing structures, artifacts, material remains, and/or other evidence(s) of past human activity.

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC). An area within the 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 life and safety from natural hazards.

Attainment Area. Any area not meeting Ambient Air Quality Standards and designated as such by 17-275.410 F.A.C.

Candidate Species. Candidate species are any species not yet officially listed, but which are undergoing a status review or are proposed for listing according to *Federal Register* notices published by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Commerce.

Closed. Designated areas, routes, roads, and trails where off-highway vehicle (OHV) use is permanently or temporarily prohibited. Use by emergency vehicles is allowed.

Collocate. To set side by side.

Controlled Surface Use (CSU). A fluid minerals leasing constraint under which use and occupancy are allowed (unless restricted by another stipulation), but identified resource values require special operational limitations that may modify lease rights.

Critical Habitat. Any habitat that, if lost, would appreciably decrease the likelihood of the survival and recovery of a threatened or endangered species or of a distinct segment of its population. Critical habitat may represent any portion of the present habitat of a listed species and may include additional areas for reasonable population expansion. Critical habitat must be officially designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or the National Marine Fisheries Services.

Cultural Resource. The fragile and nonrenewable remains of human activity, occupation, or endeavor reflected in districts, sites, structures, buildings, objects, artifacts, ruins, works of art, architecture, and natural features that were of importance in human events. These resources consist of (1) physical remains, (2) areas where significant human events occurred even though evidence of the event no longer remains, and (3) the environment immediately surrounding the resource.

Cumulative Impact. The impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to past, present, and reasonable foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

Disposal. Transfer of ownership of a tract of public land from the United States to another party.

Dune Walkover. A raised walkway constructed for the purpose of protecting the beach and dune system between mean high tide and the construction control line from damage that may result from anticipated pedestrian traffic to the beach and which is no more than 6 feet in width, constructed without roof or walls, elevated at least 1 foot above the dune, and extends seaward of the seaward vegetation line.

Endangered Species. Any species formally recognized by the USFWS as in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA). A public lands unit identified in land use plans containing all acreage not identified as a Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). Recreation Management Actions within an ERMA are limited to only those of a custodial nature.

Fault traps. An oil or gas trap in which the closure results from the presence of one or more faults.

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 the management, protection, development, and enhancement of public land.

Federal Mineral Ownership (FMO). Lands on which either the entire mineral estate or certain mineral rights are owned by the Federal Government.

Flooding. The temporary covering of the soil surface by water from any source. Shallow water standing during or shortly following rain is excluded from the definition of flooding. Marshes and swamps are excluded from the definition of flooding because water is more than a temporary covering.

Ground Water. Water within the earth that supplies wells and springs.

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.

Herbaceous. A plant with little or no woody tissue that dies back at the end of the growing season.

Historic. Refers to period wherein non-native cultural activities, based primarily upon European roots, take place and have no origin in traditional Native American culture(s).

Hydrocarbons. Organic chemical compounds of hydrogen and carbon atoms that form the basis of all petroleum products, including oil and gas.

Interdisciplinary. Characterized by interactive participation or cooperation of two or more disciplines or fields of study.

Intermittent Stream. A stream that does not flow year-round but has some association with ground water for surface or subsurface flows.

Leasable Minerals. Those minerals or materials that can be leased.

Lease (Mineral). A contract between an owner of mineral rights and another, granting the latter the right to search for and produce gas, hydrocarbons, or other mineral substances upon payment of an agreed-upon rental and royalties based on production.

Lease Notice. Provides more detailed information concerning limitations that already exist in law, lease terms, regulations, or operational orders. A lease notice also addresses special items the lessee would consider when planning operations but does not impose new or additional restrictions.

Lease Stipulation. A modification of the terms and conditions on a standard lease form at the time of the lease sale. (See also No Surface Occupancy, Controlled Surface Use, and Seasonal Limitation.)

Limited OHV area. An area restricted at certain times, in certain areas, and/or to certain vehicular use. These restrictions may be of any type, but can generally be accommodated within the following type of categories: numbers of vehicles, types of vehicles, time or season of vehicle use, permitted use only, use on existing roads and trails, use on designated roads and trails, and other restrictions (from the BLM National Management Strategy for OHV Use on Public Lands).

Locatable Minerals. Minerals or materials subject to disposal and development through the Mining Law of 1872, (as amended). Generally includes metallic minerals such as gold and silver and other materials not subject to lease or sale (such as some bentonites, limestone, talc, and some zeolites).

Mesic. Related to conditions of moderate moisture or water supply. Used to describe organisms occupying moist habitats.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. Public Law 91–190, which established national environmental policy. Among other items, NEPA requires Federal agencies to consider environmental values in decisionmaking processes.

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). A register of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects, significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture, established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and maintained by the Secretary of the Interior.

No Surface Occupancy (NSO). A fluid minerals leasing constraint that prohibits occupancy or disturbance on all or part of the lease surface to protect special values or uses. Lessees may exploit the fluid mineral resources under the leases restricted by this constraint through use of directional drilling from sites outside the NSO area.

Non-attainment Area. Any area not meeting Ambient Air Quality Standards and designated as such by 17-275.410 F.A.C.

Occurrence. A specific record of a single or group of plant or animal species.

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV). This term replaces “off-road vehicle (ORV),” and means any motorized vehicle capable of or designed for travel on or immediately over land, water, or other natural terrain.

Open. Designated areas, routes, roads, and trails where unrestricted OHV use may occur (subject to operating regulations and vehicle standards set forth in BLM Manuals 8341 and 8343 and 161.053 and 161.58 F.A.C.).

Prehistoric. Refers to period wherein Native American cultural activities took place which were not yet influenced by contact with historic non-native cultures.

Prime Farmland. Prime farmland is land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops and is available for these uses (the land could be cropland, pastureland, rangeland, forest land, or other land, but not urban builtup land or water).

Public Domain. Public lands that were originally (that is upon the admittance of a State to the United States) owned the Federal Government and have since that time remained in continuous Federal ownership.

Public Domain Leases. Federal mineral leases of mineral interests that were originally (that is upon the admittance of a State to the United States) owned the Federal Government and have since that time remained in continuous Federal ownership.

Public Lands. Any land and interest in land owned by the United States that are administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Bureau of Land Management, without regard to how the United States acquired ownership, except for (1) lands located on the Outer Continental Shelf, and (2) lands held for the benefit of Indians, Aleuts, and Eskimos. Includes public domain and acquired lands.

Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenario (RFDS). A description of anticipated future development of minerals or other resources, used as a basis for assessing the environmental impacts of RMP decisions.

Reserved Lands. Federal lands that are dedicated or set aside for a specific public purpose or program and that are, therefore, generally not subject to disposition under the operation of all of the public land laws. (See also Withdrawal.)

Recreation and Public Purposes (R&PP). Refers to both the Recreation and Public Purposes Act (43 U.S.C. 869(a)) and the uses to be made of public land transferred under the Act. The objective of the R&PP Act is to meet the needs of State and local government agencies and nonprofit organizations by leasing or conveying public land required for recreation and public purposes uses. Examples of uses made of R&PP lands are parks, schools, religious facilities, and camps for youth groups. Transfer of land ownership under the provisions of R&PP Act is referred to as R&PP conveyance.

Right-of-Way. The public or Federal land authorized to be used or occupied pursuant to a right-of-way grant.

Right-of-Way Grant. A document authorizing the use of public or Federal lands for the construction, operation, maintenance, and termination of a project (e.g., utility line, road).

Riparian. Situated on or pertaining to the bank of a river, stream, or other body of water. Normally used to refer to the plants of all types that grow rooted in the water table of streams, ponds, and springs.

Riparian Area. Riparian areas are a form of wetland transition between permanently saturated wetlands and upland areas. These areas exhibit vegetation or physical characteristics reflective of permanent surface or subsurface water influence. Excluded are such sites as ephemeral streams or washes that do not exhibit the presence of vegetation dependent upon free water in the soil.

Salable 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.

Scoping Process. An early and public process for determining the nature, significance, and range of issues to be addressed related to a proposed action.

Seasonal Limitation. A fluid minerals leasing constraint that prohibits surface use during specified time periods to protect identified resource values. The constraint does not apply to the operation and maintenance of production facilities unless analysis demonstrates that such constraints are needed and that less stringent, project-specific constraints would be insufficient.

Sensitive Species. See Special Status Species.

Significance. A high degree of importance as indicated by either quantitative measurements or qualitative judgments. Significance may be determined by evaluating characteristics pertaining to location extent, consequences, and duration.

Soil Association. A mapping unit used on general soil maps in which two or more defined taxonomic units occurring together in a characteristic pattern are combined because the scale of the map or the purpose for which it is being made does not require delineation of the individual soils.

Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA). An area where special management or intensive recreation management is needed. Recreation activity plans are required, and greater managerial investment in facilities or supervision can be anticipated.

Special Status Species. All Federal and state-listed species, proposed or candidates for Federal or State listing, and those species identified by the BLM as sensitive species. The BLM Eastern States policy designates as “BLM sensitive” those additional species that are considered to be critically imperiled (S-1) or imperiled (S-2) by the State Natural Heritage programs, as well as potentially affected bird species included on the USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern and Game Birds Below Desired Condition lists.

Species of Concern. Species that are not yet listed as endangered or threatened, but that are undergoing a status review. This may include species whose populations are consistently and widely dispersed or whose ranges are restricted to a few localities, so that any major habitat change could lead to extinction. A species that is particularly sensitive to some external disturbance factors.

Split-Estate Lands. A given land area where the surface and mineral estates are in different ownerships. Most often split-estate areas occur where the surface is owned by private individuals, corporations, or groups or by State or local government, and the minerals are Federally owned.

Surface Managing Agency. An agency of the Federal Government that has the primary responsibility for management of a particular area of land, such as the Forest Service, National Park Service, the Navy, Air Force, or the BLM.

Surface Tract. An area of land where the BLM has the primary responsibility for the management of its resources that lie on the surface.

Surficial. Pertaining to or lying in or on a surface; the surface of the earth; e.g. “surficial weathering” of a rock, or a “surficial structure” formed by creep.

Surficial Aquifer. These aquifers consist of sand and shell deposits with uppermost layers contiguous with the land surface.

Threatened Species. Any species formally recognized by the USFWS as likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Unique Farmland. Unique farmland is land other than prime farmland that is used for the production of specific high-value food and other fiber crops. It has the special combination of soil quality, location, growing season, and moisture supply needed to economically produce sustained high-quality and/or high yields of a specific crop when treated and managed according to acceptable farming methods. Examples of such crops are citrus, tree nuts, olives, cranberries, fruit, and vegetables.

Valid Existing Rights. Legal “rights” or interest that are associated to a land or mineral estate and that cannot be divested from the estate until that interest expires or is relinquished. Lands within the decision area are subject to various authorizations, some giving “rights” to the holders and some of which could be construed as providing valid, but lesser, interests. Valid existing rights are established by various laws, leases, and filings under Federal law.

Mineral: Authorizations for activities on existing mineral leases and mining claims are governed by valid existing rights. Valid existing rights vary from case to case with respect to oil and gas leases, mineral leases, and mining claims, but generally involve rights to explore, develop, and produce within the constraints of laws, regulations, and policies at the time the lease/claim was established or authorized.

Non-Mineral: There are other situations, unrelated to minerals, in which the BLM has authorized some use of public land or has conveyed some limited interest in public land. The authorization may be valid and existing and may convey some “right” or interest. Many rights-of-way, easements, and leases granted on public land are this type of valid existing right. These types vary from case to case, but the details of each one are specified in the authorizing document. Valid and existing authorizations of this type would continue to be allowed subject to the terms and conditions of the authorizing document.

Access: The presence of non-Federal land within the decision area has implications for valid existing rights because owners of non-Federal land surrounded by public land are entitled to reasonable access to their land. Reasonable access is defined as access that the Secretary of the Interior deems adequate to secure the owner reasonable use and enjoyment of the non-Federal land. Such access is subject to rules and regulations governing the administration of public land. In determining reasonable access, the BLM has discretion to evaluate and would consider such things as proposed construction methods and location, reasonable alternatives, and reasonable terms and conditions as are necessary to protect the public interest and resources of the decision area.

Other: There are a variety of other land use authorizations that do not involve the granting of legal “rights” or interests. Outfitter and guide permits are an example. These permits authorize certain uses of public land for a specified time, under certain conditions, without conveying a right, title, or interest in the land or resources used. If at any time it is determined that an outfitter and guide permit, other such permit, or any activities under those permits, are not consistent with the approved Resource Management Plan, then the authorization would be adjusted, mitigated, or revoked where legally possible. Grazing permits are also in this category. Grazing permits or leases convey no right, title, or interest in the land or resources used. Other applicable laws and regulations govern changes to existing grazing permits and levels of livestock grazing.

Visual Resource Management (VRM). The planning, designing, and implementation of management objectives for maintaining scenic value and visual quality on public lands.

Visual Resource Management (VRM) Classes. Visual resource management classes define the degree of acceptable visual change within a characteristic landscape. A class is based on the physical and sociological characteristics of any given homogeneous area and serves as a management objective. There are four classes. Each class has an objective which prescribes the amount of change allowed in the characteristic landscape, as described below:

Class I: The objective for VRM Class I is to preserve the existing character of the landscape. This class provides for natural ecological changes; it does not preclude very limited management activity. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be very low and must not attract attention.

Class II: The objective for VRM Class II is to retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be low. Management activities may be seen but should not attract the attention of the casual observer. Any changes must repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.

Class III: The objective for VRM Class III is to partially retain the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape should be moderate. Management activities may attract attention but should not dominate the view of the casual observer. Any changes should repeat the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.

Class IV: The objective for VRM Class IV is to provide for management activities which require major modification of the existing character of the landscape. The level of change to the characteristic landscape can be high. These management activities may dominate the view and be the major focus of viewer attention. However, every attempt should be made to minimize the impact of these activities through careful location, minimal disturbance, and repeating the basic elements of form, line, color, and texture found in the predominant natural features of the characteristic landscape.

Warrior Basin. A geologic province comprising parts of the states of Alabama, Mississippi, and Tennessee, including areas of potential coal and coalbed methane production.

Black Warrior Basin. The drainage area of the Black Warrior River.

Wetlands. Areas that are inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.

Withdrawal. Removal or withholding an area of Federal land from settlement, sale, location, or entry, under some or all of the general land laws, for the purpose of limiting activities under those laws in order to maintain other public values in the area or reserving the area for a particular public purpose or program; or transferring jurisdiction over an area of Federal land, other than “property” governed by the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act, as amended (40 U.S.C. 472) from one department,

bureau, or agency to another department, bureau, or agency (from FLPMA, Title 43 Chapter 35 Subchapter I 1702[j]).

Woodland. Forest land on which trees are present but form only an open canopy, the intervening areas being occupied by lower vegetation. Forest lands which produce or are capable of producing no more than 20 cubic feet per acre per year of commercially important tree species.

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