LYON COUNTY

PUBLIC LANDS POLICY

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LYON COUNTY PUBLIC LANDS POLICY

INTRODUCTION AND PLAN PURPOSE

The initial Lyon County Public Lands Policy Plan (Plan) was developed and submitted in 1999 as part of a state-wide effort resulting from the passage of Senate Bill 40. Under SB40, the State Land Use Planning Agency section of the Nevada Division of State Lands was directed by the 1983 State Legislature to:

> **"Prepare, in cooperation with appropriate state agencies and local governments throughout the state, plans or policy statements concerning the use of lands in Nevada which are under federal management."**

The State Land Use Planning Advisory Commission, in concert with local governments, developed a public lands policy plan for each of Nevada's 17 counties as well as a statewide element in 1983 which was reviewed in 2008. This Policy represents a review of existing and emerging public lands issues that are of importance to Lyon County as it collaborates with federal and state agencies under the National Environmental Policy Act, the Federal Land Policy Management Act of 1976, and other public processes.

The purpose of this Policy is to:

- **Detail Lyon County's vision and strong policy voice concerning public lands.**
- **Define and identify Lyon County's public land-related issues and needs.**
- **Provide locally developed land management policies that enable the federal land management agencies to better understand and respond in a positive fashion to the concerns and needs of Lyon County in a collaborative process, by implementing and utilizing coordination between local, state and federal governmental agencies.**
- **Increase the role Lyon County has in determining the management of its public lands.**
- **Provide an opportunity to positively address public land use management issues directly and thereby offer a proactive alternative.**
- **Encourage public comment and involvement.**

Within this Policy/Plan, are descriptions of issues and opportunities relating to public lands and how best to work collaboratively with the federal planning partners, most notably Bureau of Land Management, United States Forest Service, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Like many Nevada and western counties, 75 percent of Lyon County is public land. Lyon County consists of almost 1.3 million acres or 2013 square miles. Almost 73 percent of the county is federal land, including 44 percent managed by the Bureau of Land Management, Carson City Ranger District, and 21 percent managed by the United States Forest Service, the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest. Tribal and Reservation land cover almost 4 percent of the county. The Lyon County Public Lands Policy will enable the public land management agencies to better understand and respond to the concerns and needs of Lyon County.

Planning, effective communication and coordination, in concert with the public, and by local, state and federal governments, can establish a set of policies for the proper use of these lands and to take advantage of the "consistency" language in Section 202(c)(9) of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act.

Lyon County believes that consideration of and consistency with county and local plans and policies is a primary necessity for all state and federal land management agencies. Federal Land Policy and Management Act Section 202(c)(9) governs Bureau of Land Management planning and directs the Bureau of Land Management to give consideration to appropriate state, local, and tribal lands in the development of land use plans for federal lands. The Bureau of Land Management is to provide for meaningful public involvement of state and local government officials in the development of land use plans, regulations and decisions for federal lands. Forest Service Regulations for Land Management Planning and for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act requires that the United States Forest Service determine the consistency of any project proposal with state and/or local laws and plans.

CHAPTER ONE - LYON COUNTY BACKGROUND AND OVERVIEW

The First Territorial Legislature created Lyon County on November 24, 1861. Lyon County was one of the nine original Nevada counties. The current population as of the 2010 census is 51,980. Major communities include Fernley, an incorporated city, Silver Springs, Stagecoach, Dayton, Mound House, Silver City, Smith, Wellington and Yerington, an incorporated city, which is also the county seat. Three rivers flow through Lyon County: the Carson River, the Truckee River and the Walker River. Adjacent counties include Washoe, Storey, Churchill, Mineral, Douglas, Carson City, and Mono County in California. Throughout most of the County's past, growth has been gradual and slow and the County has remained predominantly rural in character. In recent years development within Lyon County increased in response to the development and expansion of the Northern Nevada region with some areas of the County becoming suburbanized. The longest sustainable and historical industry in Lyon County has been Agriculture. Per the last United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Census of 2007, Lyon County ranks number one in the state in total revenues produced from sales of crops and livestock combined. In the past, the Anaconda Mine was a significant factor in contributing to the economic health of Lyon County. Currently, Lyon County has the highest unemployment rate in the State of Nevada and the County has endured significant and critical reductions in sustainable revenues which are needed to maintain services to our residents. Public Lands are of significant importance to the future of Lyon County's residents in regards to agriculture, recreation, mining, sustainable economic opportunities, as well as established historical uses.

POLICY:

1.1 The Lyon County Public Lands Policy developed by Lyon County Government, advisory boards and its citizens, shall guide the use and management of public lands within Lyon County as well as ensure that coordination with all local, state and federal agencies will be implemented in all decision making processes in regards to public lands and specific natural and cultural resources identified in this policy, as well as those identified in the Lyon County Comprehensive Master Plan. It is the policy of Lyon County that public agencies including state and federal agencies notify Lyon County of pending actions that may affect Lyon County and its citizens through proper notice, and coordinate and collaborate with Lyon County in the planning and implementation of any action that involves public lands, rights of way, natural and cultural resources or private property rights.

CHAPTER TWO - MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS & AGENCY COORDINATION

Lyon County supports the concept of Multiple Use Management as an overriding philosophy for management of the public lands based on multiple use and sustainable yield concepts, and in a way that will conserve natural and cultural resources. Whenever possible, protect and preserve the quality of the environment, and economic, cultural, ecological, scenic, historical and archeological values. Protect and preserve wildlife habitat values compatible with economic development needed to provide for long term benefits for the people of Lyon County and future generations.

AGENCY COORDINATION:

Federal agency coordination of planning with state and local governments is mandated by federal laws.

Federal Land Policy and Management Act, Section 102 (a) (2) declares the policy of the United States is that the national interest will be best realized if the public lands and their resources are periodically and systematically inventoried, and present and future use is projected through the land use planning process coordinated with other federal and state planning efforts.

POLICIES:

2.1 All proposed actions on public lands shall be brought to the attention of the Public Lands Management Advisory Board as time allows, or the Board of County Commissioners and or its agent or agents acting on and representing the Board of County Commissioners for purposes of review to determine if the federal program is in conformance with this Plan pursuant to National Environmental Protection Act requirements.

2.2 Lyon County will participate with public agencies on actions that affect public lands within the county. The Board of County Commissioners reserves the right to enter into coordinating agency memorandums of understanding and/or specific agreements addressing a particular item or issue of importance with any federal agency and/or its representatives thereof as related to public lands. The Public Lands Management Advisory Board will serve in an advisory capacity only and act as liaison to the Board of County Commissioners as needed. Studies concerning impacts of proposed actions affecting public lands should be conducted by professionals duly qualified in the respective area of concern (i.e. Range Specialists for Range Management) including professionals outside the federal agencies. The Public Lands Management Advisory Board and the Board of County Commissioners shall be notified by the public agencies before any studies sponsored by the federal land management agencies are initiated that impact Lyon County or its residents.

Lyon County supports the public participation of its citizens in any open meeting regarding Management of Public Lands. Lyon County also realizes and accepts that in certain instances there may be a necessity for closed meetings at the request of an affected party where public involvement or participation shall be restricted.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act, Section 3, Paragraph D, states: The term "public involvement" means the opportunity for participation by affected citizens in

rule making, decision making and planning with respect to the public lands, including public meetings or hearings held at locations near the affected lands, or advisory mechanisms, or such other procedures as may be necessary to provide public comment in a particular instance.

POLICY:

2.3. Copies of resource studies and or any proposal regarding public lands within Lyon County shall be provided to the Board of County Commissioners as soon as available and then distributed to the Public Lands Management Advisory Board. The Public Lands Management Advisory Board and the Board of County Commissioners will encourage consistency between this Plan and all public land use plans which apply to Lyon County.

CHAPTER THREE - PUBLIC SAFETY

Lyon County is concerned with the safe passage of its residents and visitors on public lands.

POLICIES:

3.1 Lyon County recognizes the presence of federal law enforcement officers on public lands but is opposed to any increase in federal law enforcement authority outside their current jurisdiction.

The County supports the existing protocol between federal law enforcement officers and the Lyon County Sheriff. The County recognizes the Lyon County Sheriff as the primary law enforcement agency within Lyon County.

3.2 Lyon County supports cooperative training in areas of public safety such as search and rescue and hazardous materials. The federal land management agencies shall work with the Lyon County Sheriff and related agencies to ensure that adequate personnel, training and equipment are available to meet the increased demand for searches and rescues. In the event of future nuclear shipments through Lyon County, cooperative training, funding and preparatory response resources should also be provided by the Department of Energy, or other federal agencies, to facilitate readiness and prompt response capabilities to Lyon County.

CHAPTER FOUR - PUBLIC ACCESS

Access to public lands is a critical component of the economic and recreational vitality of Lyon County and multiple use access is strongly encouraged.

According to NRS 405.191 and 403.410 a "public road" is defined as follows:

1. A United States highway, a State highway or a main, general or minor county road and any other way laid out or maintained by any governmental agency.
2. Any way which exists upon a right-of-way granted by Congress over public lands of the United States not reserved for public uses in chapter 262, section 8, 14 Statutes 253 (former 43 U.S.C. § 932, commonly referred to as R.S. 2477), and accepted by general public use and enjoyment before, on or after July 1, 1979. Each Board of County Commissioners may locate and determine the width of such rights-of-way and locate, open for public use and establish thereon, county roads or highways, but public use alone has been and is sufficient to evidence an acceptance of the grant of a public user's right-of-way pursuant to former 43 U.S.C. § 932.
3. Any way which is shown upon any plat, subdivision, addition, parcel map or record of survey of any county, city, town or portion thereof duly recorded or filed in the office of the County Recorder, and which is not specifically therein designated as a private road or a non-public road, and any way which is described in a duly recorded conveyance as a public road, or is reserved thereby for public road purposes or which is described by words of similar import.

Federal land management agencies shall recognize and honor the valid and important rights Congress gave local governments to own and manage public roads and related rights-of-way.

The State definition of a "public road" (NRS 405.191, 403.410 and 244.155) should be used consistently throughout Nevada by all federal, state and local agencies. Road mapping should be coordinated among the federal agencies and Lyon County.

Lyon County has an extensive network of roads and trails on public lands that provide for the needs of the public and other users. While not all roads are deemed necessary or vital to transportation needs in the County, the citizens of the County have an acute sense of the importance of the uses for the roads. Access to our public lands is of major importance. Ranchers require access to their allotments to check on livestock and to assure that water improvements are functioning and providing the necessary water for their needs. Mining interests also have claims that require access. Recreationists, including hunters, fishermen, hikers and others utilize many of the roads to reach desired destinations. Off-Highway Vehicle enthusiasts are well-organized and sensitive to further proposed road closures on the public lands in the County. Road closures can affect the economic vitality of rural counties such as Lyon County.

It is important that Lyon County has opportunities to outline the roads of importance to the county and its citizenry and to work with the United States Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management and other public lands management entities as well as local agencies to assure that these roads are recognized and remain open.

POLICIES:

4.1 Promote and protect public access to public lands. Preserve R.S. 2477 rights of way, where they exist, across private property.

4.2 Lyon County seeks to optimize accessibility within the County and reduce the cost of movement between all communities across public lands. Public access to public lands is vital to Lyon County's long-term economic vitality.

4.3 The County supports transportation of resources given appropriate road design, maintenance and safety precautions which provide for public safety.

4.4 The County is opposed to indiscriminate and uncontrolled Off-Highway Vehicle use and recognizes it is often destructive to natural resources. However, the County supports designation of some areas with low natural resource value where cross-country travel is allowed for recreational purposes.

4.5 Lyon County shall be given the opportunity to coordinate and/or collaborate on any travel management plan which implements any review, changes to existing maps and/or proposed revisions of existing maps

CHAPTER FIVE - FIRE MANAGEMENT

Lyon County has and will experience devastating wild land fires that have catastrophic economic and environmental impacts.

Maintain and improve local coordination and collaborative efforts between Bureau of Land Management, United States Forest Service, Nevada Division of Forestry and local fire agencies to improve fire suppression management and commit strongly to pre-emptive and pre-suppression efforts. The federal and state agencies should take advantage of the skills and local knowledge of local residents. This is particularly important when using out-of-state fire crews for fire fighting. Lyon County will aid in any way possible in suppression of wildfires that endanger the livelihoods and personal well-being of its citizens.

POLICIES:

5.1 Encourage the federal agencies to continue and/or develop the policy of contracting with Lyon County residents for privately owned equipment suitable for fire fighting. Encourage the practice of early season inspections and sign-ups well before the fire season.

5.2 Encourage the federal agencies to utilize prescribed grazing to reduce the fire hazard. Managed grazing can be effective in reducing the fine fuels that carry wildfire while also reducing fire danger, and will not result in environmental damage. This is particularly true in the wildland urban interface areas.

5.3 Fire equipment brought in from out-of-state and surrounding counties that have issues with invasive species, should be cleaned to assure it is "weed-free" before being dispatched to a wildfire.

5.4 Implement the recommendations of Lyon County Fire Districts Wildfire Protection Plans as outlined in local fire emergency plans. The County should make every effort to work with the local fire agencies, Nevada Division of Forestry, the federal land management agencies and other organized groups to encourage communities to take preventative actions to prevent, combat, and reduce the risk and impact of wild fires.

CHAPTER SIX - PUBLIC LAND TRANSACTIONS

In the future Lyon County may identify public lands that are suitable for public purposes, community expansion and economic development. Future lists and maps provide a general description of the lands identified for acquisition and are intended to be used as a guide for more detailed studies. Each parcel will need to be further reviewed at the time a specific realty action is proposed. Lyon County recognizes that many of the policies described below are currently part of the Bureau of Land Management procedures for land transactions. However, the County believes the basic policies on land tenure need to be clearly expressed in this Plan to communicate County policies not only to the federal agencies, but to the citizens of Lyon County as well.

Specially designated lands (e.g., National Recreation Areas, National Conservation Areas, Wildlife Refuges, study areas, wilderness designations, State parks, etc.) can be assets to the State and its residents.

POLICIES:

6.1 Within Lyon County, any new special designation areas should be reviewed carefully in a public forum to determine if they qualify and are beneficial to our residents.

Government agencies shall not acquire additional private lands without first ensuring that:

(a) No additional private land is acquired unless it clearly benefits the citizens of Lyon County;

(b) Environmental and cultural values are protected;

(c) Private property interests are protected or enhanced;

(d) Socio-economic impacts are duly considered;

(e) Takings are fully compensated and substantiated to meet the highest public need;

(f) The local tax base is not negatively impacted;

(g) Due process is guaranteed to all private parties involved in land use controversies, by means that do not demand or create a financial hardship; and

(h) State and local governments within those jurisdictions where that land is located, be consulted in regard to the acquisition.

6.2 Isolated tracts of public lands, checkerboard areas and public lands in rural areas where the majority of land is private should be identified for disposal. All public land easements and/or access should be retained for continued public use. The use of alternative access through private property, to accommodate land management, may be employed if feasible and appropriate, in accordance with the Nevada Revised Statutes.

6.3 Increase opportunities for local economic development by selectively increasing the amount of privately owned land within the county. Lyon County's goal for federal land exchanges if they do occur is to maintain a "no net loss" in private, county and/or state acreage. Although the County supports exchanges that will increase economic development, the County is also concerned about any proposal that will reduce private, county or state ownership unless it is a clear benefit to the County.

6.4 Public lands within the municipal service areas of Lyon County may be made available for urban expansion through the Recreation and Public Purposes process. Sale and exchange provisions of the Federal Land Policy Management Act and the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (Baca Bill) should also be used to transfer lands in an expedited manner. These lands should be transferred only when local governments agree that the transfer is opportune and would not be a burden on local governments.

6.5 Public lands should be made available as needed for state and local government purposes. Lands identified for public purposes should receive preference to disposal for private purposes.

6.6 Before disposing of public lands, any potential adverse impacts on existing or surrounding uses should be considered. Adverse impacts could include important wildlife habitat, key seasonal grazing rights, municipal watersheds, flood prone areas, access, mineral potential, oil/natural gas potential, alternative energy potential, cultural resources, view sheds, drainage and watershed, and recreational use of the lands.

(a) Land exchanges and lands sales that consolidate high value public purpose lands and/or make private lands more manageable should be given high priority in federal land transaction processes after coordination with local governments and only if it is of a benefit to the County and its residents.

(b) Lyon County encourages the federal agencies to review the agency's land sales/exchange procedures to determine ways, including changes in policy and regulations when appropriate, to expedite the sales and exchange process. The existing process can be cost prohibitive and time consuming when applied to small isolated land exchanges and sales. All appropriate authorities for land disposal under the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act (Baca Bill) should be used for maximum flexibility and for the payment of fees associated with appraisals and other administrative costs to expedite the process.

(c) Public access to and through disposed lands should be retained through the recordation of an easement and deed restriction. Whenever public lands are disposed of, existing public access to adjoining or nearby public lands should be retained for recreational and other multiple-use needs. The development of alternative routes of access may be necessary, but should be acquired and guaranteed prior to the disposal and loss of any existing access and should be of equal value and public benefit, in accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes.

CHAPTER SEVEN – AGRICULTURE AND GRAZING

Agricultural production is vital to help maintain the historical, cultural and economic viability of Lyon County. Lyon County encourages the reference and supports the federal agency's use of the 2006 Elko County Grazing Economic Impact study, or updated studies, in all environmental analysis on livestock grazing related decisions within or affecting Lyon County.

Preserve agricultural land and agricultural uses on public land, and promote the continuation of agricultural pursuits, both traditional and non traditional. Opportunities for agricultural development on public lands should continue at levels that are consistent with historical customs, environmental sustainability, culture and compatibility with other multiple uses.

Lyon County supports reasonable approaches to livestock grazing that include flexibility and adaptive management. Lyon County also supports and encourages public land agencies use of the Nevada Rangeland Monitoring Handbook and its periodic updating as deemed necessary by the Nevada Rangeland Science community.

POLICIES:

7.1 The pursuit and production of renewable agricultural resources is consistent with the long term heritage of Lyon County. This private industry benefits the County economically and culturally. The custom and culture associated with agricultural production in Lyon County is important and necessary to the livelihood and well-being of its citizens. Therefore, it is the policy of Lyon County to protect agricultural land and agricultural uses on public lands at its most productive and sustainable capacity, promote the continuation of agricultural pursuits by protecting private property rights, relying on self-determination and ensuring open market conditions.

7.2 Land management agencies should, as a priority, assist permittees to develop Allotment Management Plans for their respective allotments. The Allotment Management Plans should be developed cooperatively by managing agencies working in close coordination with permittees, allowing for early, on the ground tours and input from the permittees. The Allotment Management Plans should provide incentives to optimize range conservation and stewardship by the permittee. Flexibility should be afforded the permittee to work toward achieving reasonable condition standards for the range. Monitoring should occur annually and incorporate the use of long term trend studies as outlined in the Nevada Rangeland Monitoring Handbook.

7.3 Range water rights and improvements such as those associated with seeps, springs, streams, lakes and wells used by livestock shall be protected in the long term for that use. Encourage coordination and cooperation between land management agencies and the grazing operator in planning, developing, protecting the water source and managing the riparian values associated with these sites.

7.4 The Congressional Delegation should be encouraged to support the grazing fee and the formula it is derived from.

7.5 Lyon County strongly supports retention of all suspended Animal Unit Months within the permit, thus allowing the permit holder the opportunity to improve rangeland conditions to a standard that allows for reinstatement of the suspended Animal Unit Months. If monitoring of federal grazing permits demonstrates that excess forage Animal Unit Months exist as a result of good range management, the excess Animal Unit Months should be allocated to the permit holder.

7.6 Lyon County requests federal agency notification of all actions regarding permit applications and renewals for potential request by Lyon County for status as a consulting party in such actions.

7.7 Opportunities for agriculture on public lands shall be continued at levels consistent with historical custom and culture and the protection of equitable property rights, and sound management practices.

7.8 Public agencies should not obstruct agricultural opportunities on their respective lands.

7.9 Lyon County supports incentives for improving grazing lands and promoting good land stewardship to be developed between grazing permittees and managing agencies. Lyon County advocates market and incentive systems to reduce administrative and grazing costs on public lands.

7.10 There shall be no curtailments of grazing in wilderness areas simply because an area is, or has been designated as wilderness, nor should wilderness designations be used as an excuse by administrators to slowly "phase out" grazing. Any adjustments in the numbers of livestock permitted to graze in wilderness areas should be made as a result of revisions in the normal grazing and land management planning and policy setting process giving consideration to legal mandates, range condition and the protection of the range resource from deterioration.

It is anticipated that the number of livestock permitted to graze in wilderness would remain at the approximate levels at the time an area enters the wilderness system. If land management plans reveal conclusively that increased livestock numbers or animal unit months could be made available with no adverse impact on wilderness values such as plant communities, primitive recreation, and wildlife populations or habitat, some increases in animal unit months may be permissible. This is not to imply, however, that wilderness lends itself to animal unit month or livestock increases and construction of substantial new facilities that might be appropriate for intensive grazing management in non-wilderness areas.

7.11 The maintenance of supporting facilities existing in an area prior to its classification as wilderness (including fences, line cabins, water wells and lines, stock tanks, etc.), is permissible in wilderness.

Where practical alternatives do not exist, maintenance or other activities may be accomplished through the occasional use of motorized equipment. This may include, for example, the use of backhoes to maintain stock ponds, pick up trucks

for major fence repairs, or specialized equipment to repair stock watering facilities. Such occasional use of motorized equipment should be expressly authorized in the grazing permits for the area involved. The use of motorized equipment should be based on a rule of practical necessity and reasonableness. For example; motorized equipment need not be allowed for the placement of small quantities of salt or other activities where such activities can reasonably and practically be accomplished on horseback or on foot. On the other hand, it may be appropriate to permit the occasional use of motorized equipment to haul large quantities of salt to distribution points. Moreover, under the rule of reasonableness, occasional use of motorized equipment should be permitted where practical alternatives are not available and such use would not have a significant adverse impact on the natural environment. Such motorized equipment uses will normally only be permitted in those portions of a wilderness area where they had occurred prior to the area's designation as wilderness, or were established by prior agreement.

7.12 The replacement or reconstruction of deteriorated facilities or improvements should not be required to be accomplished using "natural materials", unless the material and labor costs of using natural materials are such that their use would not impose unreasonable additional costs

7.13 The construction or new improvements or replacement of deteriorated facilities in wilderness is permissible if in accordance with these guidelines and management plans governing the area involved. However, the construction of new improvements should be primarily for the purpose of resource protection and the more effective management of these resources, rather than to accommodate increased numbers of livestock.

7.14 The use of motorized equipment for emergency purposes such as rescuing sick animals or the placement of feed in emergency situations is also permissible. This privilege is to be exercised only in true emergencies and should not be abused by permittees.

CHAPTER EIGHT – MINING

Lyon County has a long and rich history of mining activity that has contributed to the economic well being of its citizenry. The recent discovery of new mineral reserves has opened a new renaissance of mining activity in the County at a time of national economic strife and low employment. Recent discovery of large supplies of copper and the presence of a major mining company anxious to expand their existing operation to access and extract this resource has renewed the hope for enhanced economic activity in the County.

Effective planning and successful permitting of this mining operation is tied to a 2012/2013 land transfer legislation recently introduced and sponsored by the Nevada congressional delegation. This legislation is strongly supported by the City of Yerington and Lyon County.

The County encourages Bureau of Land Management and United States Forest Service to prepare to respond expeditiously to applications that promote economic growth in the mining industry for Lyon County. Other exploration and development activities associated with high value minerals also exist in the County on or adjacent to Bureau of Land Management and/or United States Forest Service administered lands that presently demand or will eventually require their involvement regarding permitting actions. The County is committed to working closely with Bureau of Land Management and the United States Forest Service, and other pertinent agencies, to assure that mining proposals are given full attention and priority to assure expeditious permitting in a safe and responsible manner.

POLICIES:

8.1 Lyon County supports retaining the existing mining areas and the expansion of mining operations and areas not specifically withdrawn from mineral entry due to special circumstances and or federal intervention.

8.2 Lyon County supports large and small scale mining, the 1872 Mining Law, exploration, and development consistent with sound economic and environmental practices. Lyon County requests federal agency notification of all actions regarding mining related environmental analysis for potential request by Lyon County for status as a cooperating agency in such action.

8.3 Federal and state agencies shall evaluate, with local participation, the mineral resources on lands before they are sold, exchanged, designated wilderness or any other special use. The agencies shall carefully evaluate all lands proposed for withdrawal and/or land disposal and minimize the separation of surface and mineral estates in all realty actions.

8.4 Federal and state agencies' policies on existing split mineral estates shall be developed and coordinated with state and local participation and in consideration of local zoning ordinances.

8.5 The process for withdrawing lands from mineral entry may be an acceptable means of protecting fragile or "special" lands, but it should be used sparingly after careful evaluation and determination of benefit.

8.6 Federal and state land management agencies should continue to enforce existing reclamation standards to ensure there is no undue degradation of the public lands. In addition, federal agencies should cooperate with and utilize the recommendations resulting from Nevada based agencies including but not limited to: United States Department of Agriculture – Agricultural Research Service, University of Nevada Reno - College of Agriculture Biotechnology and Natural Resources, United States Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service, and other tested and proven indigenous science. Reclamation should not adversely impact historically used roads, ways or trails.

8.7 To improve the economic well-being of the County, federal land management agencies should allow the use of buildings and infrastructure on reclaimed sites for other uses. Buildings should be retained for other economic development including industry as well as uses pursuant to the Recreation and Public Purposes Act. Use of such facilities shall not require any obligation to the upkeep or maintenance of the remainder of the reclaimed sites.

8.8 Mine site and exploration reclamation standards should be consistent with the best possible post mine use for each specific area. Site-specific reclamation standards, applying science indigenous to Nevada and the Great Basin, should be developed for each property rather than using broad based universal standards. Private properties (i.e., patented claims) should be reclaimed to the standard and degree desired by their respective owners, following state laws and regulations.

8.9 An annual assessment requirement for holding mining claims has led to unjustified land disturbances which did not necessarily aid in the furtherance of the property's resource development. These requirements have since been revised and provide for the claim holder to pay a $100 fee annually to the Bureau of Land Management, in lieu of doing work on the ground. There is an exemption for a small miner who holds ten claims or less. If the small miner chooses the exemption, $100 of assessment work must be expended annually to hold the claim. Lyon County supports the policy of the small miner exemption if the miner is offered the opportunity to develop the property and encourages the federal agencies to use the mining claim maintenance fees collected within the state or county that they were generated, especially in the use of reclamation of abandoned mine sites and for the protection of the public from hazards present at abandoned mines.

8.10 The Secretary of the Interior's prohibition on issuing patents should be withdrawn. The Secretary should use all means to encourage the exploration and development of the mineral resource, including the issuance of patents, as appropriate.

8.11 All mining companies shall work closely, coordinate and cooperate with Lyon County and others to facilitate a smooth transition either in a mine closure, or dramatic reduction in productivity.

8.12 Lyon County in cooperation and coordination with local, state and federal agencies shall make every effort to ensure that water resources shall be protected and maintained for the benefit of present users and future generations. Lyon County recognizes that pit lakes can be created by open pit mining operations. Pit Lakes are composed of Waters of the State of Nevada. Mine reclamation and closure plans that include the creation of a pit lake must ensure that the Waters of the State are not degraded, that public health and safety are protected and that a beneficial public use is established.

CHAPTER NINE – RECREATION

Lyon County offers a wide variety of recreational opportunities for its residents as well as out of county visitors. Lyon County enjoys its status as a "best kept secret" for locals within the county, adjacent counties as well as visitors from neighboring states. Notable recreational opportunities in Lyon County include the following:

Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) activities, organized and non-organized

Hunting, Fishing and Trapping

Camping

Hiking

Bird Watching and Wildlife viewing

Photography

Geo-caching

Pine nut harvesting

Rock collecting

Bike riding

Horseback Riding

As funding permits in the mid and long term, Lyon County should explore marketing efforts to describe recreational opportunities available.

POLICIES:

9.1 Lyon County in cooperation and coordination with local, state and federal agencies shall make reasonable effort in ensuring that natural and cultural resources for the benefit of present users and future generations shall be protected and maintained.

9.2 Promote and encourage responsible Off-Highway Vehicle operations. Lyon County will also address and promote such programs as "Leave No Trace" and "Tread Lightly" and "Trail Stewards".

9.3 Ensure that all government agencies work in a cooperative manner to protect natural, recreational and historical cultural resources from damage and that all commercial operators obtain proper permits required for activities on public lands from the appropriate federal, state or local government agency.

CHAPTER TEN – CONSERVATION

Lyon County is committed to supporting, maintaining and sustaining local conservation efforts. Currently there are three conservation districts in Lyon County. Three county commissioners participate in the management of those districts. A county commissioner is a member of the board of directors of each conservation district.

The three districts are:

Mason Valley Conservation District

Smith Valley Conservation District

Dayton Valley Conservation District

Lyon County is also a participating county in the bi-state, multi-county Carson Water Subconservancy District. The District is dedicated to establishing a balance between the needs of the communities within the Carson River Watershed and the function of the river system. The Carson Water Subconservancy District works within existing governmental frameworks to promote cooperative action for the watershed that crosses both agency and political boundaries in the effort to preserve the rich history and unique resources of the Carson Water Watershed. A Lyon County Commissioner is a member of that District's Board of Directors.

POLICIES:

10.1 Lyon County supports conservation programs that include assistance to agriculture and private landowners to control and remove noxious weeds and other detrimental vegetation, and that reduce hazardous vegetative fuels to minimize the threat of wildfires.

10.2 Lyon County supports revegetation projects that are coordinated with local stakeholders and public agencies for critical areas such as burned over woodlands and rangelands, mine disturbances, roadside disturbances and other areas exposed to erosion and invasive species establishment. Revegetation projects should not have negative impact on adjacent properties or hinder and invade private property rights.

10.3 Lyon County is actively involved with noxious weed control efforts and works cooperatively with all agencies to assure that an ongoing and active program continues to help control and/or eradicate the noxious weeds as they are identified. It is important that federal land management agencies continue to cooperate with the County and the Weed District to fund and treat identified noxious weeds at a level to maintain weed control. Utilizing indigenous science appropriate to the region for invasive species treatments will help to keep this problem in check.

Cheatgrass, an annual invasive grass, is attributed with increased wildfire risks throughout the County. This plant is highly flammable and threatens much of the critical habitat areas in the County due to its ability to carry wildfire. Every effort should be made to control the spread of and reduce the biomass of this species through every practical means available. Livestock grazing is a recognized means of effectively reducing the annual production of cheatgrass through well-

planned applications. In addition, several herbicides have shown promise for control measures.

Lyon County is committed to cooperating and coordinating with federal land management agencies in utilizing both native and desirable non-native vegetation in wildfire rehabilitation and noxious weed control projects. The use of such non-native species should be emphasized for those species that successfully compete with cheatgrass and other noxious species, that maintain ecosystem integrity, extend wildfire return intervals, and thereby allow for plant succession and re-establishment of native vegetation over time.

Lyon County will coordinate and cooperate with county extension agents and conservation districts in the control of pests and predators that are harmful to the economic wellbeing of the agricultural industry and residents of its communities. Active pest and predator control may be used if it is clearly demonstrated that there are only minimal, undesirable side effects on wildlife and wildlife habitats.

10.4 Lyon County supports water conservation techniques that result in measurable water savings without impacting agricultural productions in the County or retiring productive, agricultural lands.

CHAPTER ELEVEN – WILDERNESS

Lyon County respects and embraces the concept of multiple use of our public land, including historical usage such as recreation, agriculture, mining, and other uses which directly have a positive impact to our citizens and visitors. Wilderness and wilderness study areas designations, where appropriate and supported by the citizens of the County and stakeholders directly impacted, must demonstrate the criteria as outlined in the wilderness act legislation before the County will take under consideration any proposed wilderness. Neither wilderness, existing wilderness study areas, nor any other land use should be imposed on the people residing in an area under consideration. Careful evaluation of the land area resources, apparent resource risks and hazards, and limitations to the existing uses, enjoyment, commerce and economic well being of the county shall be a priority and not limited to existing county boundaries or state boundaries. The County shall be involved early in the process when federal land management agencies are considering a specific area(s) for proposed wilderness. Early involvement can help to avoid conflict and assure that evaluation is thorough and properly vetted with the County and other interested parties.

POLICIES:

11.1 Lyon County is opposed to the designation and creation of any public lands within Lyon County as Wilderness Study Areas and/or Wilderness areas that do not adhere and follow the standards and criteria as set forth by the Wilderness Act of 1964.

11.2 Lyon County is concerned with any existing Wilderness Study Area within Lyon County being considered for future designation as Wilderness. Additionally, Lyon County is opposed to the existence of any Wilderness Study Area or Wilderness areas that border and/or share existing recognized county or state boundary lines within Lyon County. The county encourages action to effectively deal with the Wilderness Study Areas so as to release unsuitable lands from defacto wilderness status, to multiple uses.

11.3 Public Lands considered for Wilderness within Lyon County shall not result in negative economic impacts. Stakeholders shall be afforded opportunity to assess and evaluate the stated values and or potential impacts through public hearings. Stakeholders include and shall not be limited to grazing permittees, mining interests, recreational groups, the general public, private property owners, special interest groups and local government.

11.4 Lyon County supports a stakeholder driven, "bottom up" process in considering Wilderness proposals.

11.5 Lyon County will oppose any wilderness proposal that does not sustain, maintain and secure grazing rights for the long term. Additionally, livestock permittees must have written assurances that any and all livestock watering provisions, fences and historical roads, trails, and rights of ways used to access their operations will not be restricted or eliminated.

11.6 Lyon County will oppose any wilderness proposal that implements restrictions or new and burdensome regulations to existing mine claimants that jeopardize future operations.

11.7 Lyon County is opposed to any portion or part of any existing river that flows within Lyon County as being included in a wilderness, or wild and scenic river designation area.

11.8 Lyon County supports maintaining proper access to, and within, any wilderness area for the purpose of land management, recreation and other uses, by maintaining existing roads and trails where appropriate.

11.9 Supporters and proponents of wilderness study areas and/or designation proposals within Lyon County shall and must justify to the stakeholders, local government agencies and federal agencies, their case and point as to why an area qualifies by the criteria listed in the Wilderness Act of 1964 and why it should be considered for designation.

11.10 Lyon County supports proactive ecological restoration within wilderness areas in order to protect and/or enhance the unique values that warrant wilderness protection.

CHAPTER TWELVE - WATER RESOURCES

Lyon County includes portions of three major watersheds and recognizes the importance of watershed multiple use values. Inventory and assessment of watersheds are important to ascertain both resource problems and opportunities. Private property holdings within these watersheds contribute to the variety of both fauna and flora, and much of the water generated in these watersheds is recognized as private water rights that have been perfected for beneficial use, especially agriculture. It is critical to Lyon County that federal land management agencies and the state recognize and respect these private water rights and make every effort to work cooperatively with the land and water rights holders to maximize the benefits derived from the watershed areas. Coordination and cooperation with the land and water rights holders is especially important during our now seemingly frequent droughts to assure long term watershed productivity and viability. With winter precipitation predicted to shift from winter snow to warmer high intensity rain events, stored water for agricultural irrigation and municipal needs will potentially be in short supply unless areas are identified to store the water as the runoff occurs.

POLICIES:

12.1 The protection of existing water rights and water uses within Lyon County is of primary importance to the County's economic and cultural well-being. Therefore, any transfers in water use shall be carefully considered in relationship to the history, traditions, and culture of Lyon County. Any proposed designation of Wild and Scenic Rivers and all policies regarding riparian management in Lyon County shall be coordinated with the Lyon County Board of Commissioners. In addition, Lyon County shall review and comment on any preliminary draft plans prepared for the protection of Aquatic Threatened and Endangered species within its boundaries. Public agencies managing waterways and wetlands containing such species shall coordinate their management activities and plans with the Lyon County Board of Commissioners. Access to and use of navigable waters shall not be restricted.

12.2 Lyon County should consider the impact of water for existing, as well as future, water rights for agricultural, municipal, industrial, and domestic purposes. In addition, Lyon County should consider alternative uses of water, including but not limited to geothermal uses and hydroelectric power.

12.3 Any regional water plan(s) shall be assessed and may be considered as part of any applicable Lyon County water plans.

12.4 Lyon County should promote and should be actively engaged in providing opportunity for development of water-based agriculture within the County.

12.5 Lyon County shall review current water polices periodically to determine if appropriate and adequate.

12.6 The Lyon County government shall be notified of all state, interstate, and other actions that may impact the water resources in Lyon County. In addition, such proposed actions, shall be coordinated with the Lyon County Board of

Commissioners and shall conform to the Lyon County water and land use plans prior to adoption and implementation.

12.7 Lyon County supports developing riparian management plans in concert and coordination with landowners, ranchers, and the appropriate public agencies.

12.8 Lyon County recognizes that Pit Lakes can be created by open pit mining operations. Water is a vitally important resource to the sustainability of agriculture, business and commerce, as well as the general well being of Lyon County residents. Lyon County supports the protection and preservation of the quality and quantity of the water resources within the County. Pit Lakes are composed of Waters of the State of Nevada. Mine closure plans that include the creation of a pit lake must ensure that the Waters of the State are not degraded, that public health and safety are protected and that a productive public use is established.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN - ENERGY DEVELOPMENT

The carefully planned development of energy resources within Lyon County is desirable for the state and County economy. The expansion of technological advances with all forms of energy cannot be overlooked in regards to public lands within Lyon County.

POLICIES:

13.1 Renewable and alternative energy should be a priority and utilized in a manner that compliments other resources and does not present negative impacts on agriculture, grazing, wildlife, property owner rights and the best interests of Lyon County's citizens.

13.2 Energy projects shall be developed in such a manner as to ensure balance and protection of other resources and historical uses of public lands.

13.3 Energy projects shall consider the potential for wildfires, impacts to county maintained roadways, public safety, emergency management and other services.

13.4 Lyon County intends to appropriately direct, adequately review and sufficiently mitigate energy development projects. To accomplish this task, special use permit applications for energy development projects require the submission of impact analyses information for review by Lyon County. The impact analyses information must include fire safety plans, public facility needs assessments, fiscal impact analysis, visual impact studies, transportation and drainage studies, impacts to cultural resources, and impacts to grazing, wildlife remediation and restoration plans. Other plans and studies may be required to provide sufficient information in order to mitigate impacts to the County or its communities. For major projects, a development agreement may be required.

13.5 Reclamation, Performance, and Decommissioning Bonding will be required for approval of all energy projects to assure adherence to applicable resource protection and mitigation and ensure structure removal after the useful life of the project has ceased.

13.6 Energy project development shall avoid or mitigate potential detrimental impacts to the County, identified as natural, visual, cultural, heritage, historic or recreational resources.

13.7 Public access to lands within and/or in the proximity of energy development projects shall be given a high priority when evaluating proposed energy projects. Traditional recreational, cultural, and other multiple use areas and their access shall not be unduly restricted.

13.8 Construction for projects shall adhere to adopted Lyon County codes, as well as design and development standards, including but not limited to noise.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN – WILDLIFE

Lyon County residents support and encourage sound conservation practices in regards to valuable wildlife resources. Lyon County supports a proactive approach in coordinating with State and federal management agencies that focus on long term sustainability and management of wildlife resources and habitat.

POLICIES:

14.1 Wildlife in Lyon County should be managed and maintained for the long-term benefits of the wildlife resource itself, recreational opportunity, cultural diversity, and local economics. A balanced and scientific approach to wildlife resource management is encouraged on the local, State, and federal levels. Conservation of wildlife habitat is supported, as is proactive restoration and measures to minimize risks such as wildfires.

14.2 The Nevada Department of Wildlife, the Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners, and related government agencies shall consider and give priority to recommendations put forth by the Lyon County Advisory Board to Manage Wildlife through proper channels.

14.3 A yearly update by federal and State agencies should be provided to Lyon County and related advisory boards to maintain an active and constructive dialogue concerning all wildlife management projects in Lyon County including but not limited to special status species and potential listings of same.

14.4 Land disposal areas and federal land permitted for development and/or rights of way, both residential and commercial in nature, which encroach upon habitat of any special status species, should meet Lyon County approval.

14.5 Areas in Lyon County identified by federal, state and other managing agencies, as prime or critical habitat, should be maintained, preserved and improved for long term sustainability. Lyon County supports cooperation with such agencies to determine plans and scopes of action.

14.6 Lyon County supports and encourages hunting, trapping and fishing as proven recreational activities which support and enhance Lyon County's wildlife resources, improve wildlife habitat, and benefits the local economy and cultural diversity.

CHAPTER FIFTEEN – CULTURAL RESOUCRES

Lyon County is committed to protecting and preserving the cultural resources located in the county. Lyon County also supports efforts to identify additional cultural resources eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

POLICIES:

15.1 Lyon County seeks notification, coordination and collaboration regarding any State or federal actions which may potentially affect cultural resources within the County.

15.2 Lyon County supports the effective management of the Comstock Historic District and the Virginia City National Landmark Historic District. The protection, preservation and rehabilitation of historic resources are a primary concern for Lyon County. All development proposals within the district or which may affect the resources of the district, are to be carefully reviewed to mitigate any potential adverse impacts.

15.3 Lyon County seeks to promote and support the protection, preservation and rehabilitation of historic buildings.

15.4 Lyon County recognizes that cultural resources play an important role in the long term economic vitality of the county.

15.5 Lyon County supports the Virginia and Truckee Railroad reconstruction project.

15.6 Lyon County supports the National Historic Preservation Act (as amended) and considers the protection and preservation of cultural resources to be a vital component contributing to the quality of life enjoyed by its citizens.

15.7 The custom and culture associated with Native American activities in Lyon County is necessary to the livelihood and well-being of Native Americans. Therefore it is the policy of Lyon County to support and protect these inherent aboriginal rights.

CHAPTER SIXTEEN – FORESTRY AND FOREST PRODUCTS

The custom and culture associated with forest and forestry products production in Lyon County is beneficial to the livelihood and well-being of its citizens. Therefore, it is the policy of Lyon County to protect forest resources and promote the continuation of a sustainable forestry products industry.

POLICIES

16.1 Lyon County promotes multiple-use of public forest resources to realize sustainable and continuous provision of timber, forage, firewood, wildlife, fisheries, recreation, and water.

16.2 Lyon County supports the harvesting of a wide range of non-wilderness timber classes to promote more productive forests. Lyon County advocates the prompt replanting of harvested areas.

16.3 Lyon County supports a broad range of reforestation tools and timber stand improvement tools and timber harvesting practices in line with prudent resource protection practices.

16.4 Lyon County supports the prompt salvage of forest losses due to fire, insect infestation or other events.

16.5 Lyon County supports the education of both residents and visitors to wise and productive forest uses.

16.6 Lyon County supports the detection and control of wildfires, and insect outbreaks.

16.7 Lyon County supports the program of timber production and promotes the understanding by forest residents, of the compatibility of timber harvesting on adjacent lands.

CHAPTER SEVENTEEN – ADMINISTRATION

The Lyon County Public Lands Policy is dynamic in nature and should be expanded as necessary to best serve the citizens of Lyon County. Lyon County will rely on public participation, Lyon County Planning Staff, and the Public Lands Management Advisory Board to share and distribute information from other counties as well as from the Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) Public Lands and Natural Resources Committee and the Nevada Association of Counties Public Lands, Board of Directors, to evaluate, assess and develop new policies for inclusion into the policy.

POLICIES:

17.1 The Public Lands Management Advisory Board shall review the Lyon County Public Lands Policy in January of each year and forward comments and recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners.

17.2 The Board of County Commissioners may take action on the Public Lands Management Advisory Board's comments and recommendations to the Lyon County Public Lands Policy before April 1st of each year.

17.3 At times, due to scheduling conflicts, the Public Lands Management Advisory Board or the Board of County Commissioners may not be able to provide requested comments to local or outside government agencies in a timely manner. At such times the Lyon County Manager may provide and submit comments as set forth in the Lyon County Public Lands Policy. The matter will then be agendized at the earliest meeting of the Board of County Commissioners and Public Lands Management Advisory Board for informational purposes and future action if necessary.

Glossary

-A-

Activity Plan: A site-specific plan written to implement decisions made in a land use plan. An activity plan usually selects and applies best management practices to meet land use plan objectives. Activity plans are synonymous with "implementation" plans. Examples of implementation plans include interdisciplinary management plans, habitat management plans, allotment management plans and ACEC management plans.

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

Alluvial: Pertaining to material or processes associated with transportation and deposition by concentrated running water.

Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR): Any process used to prevent, manage, or resolve conflicts using procedures other than traditional courtroom litigation or formal agency adjudication.

Amendment: The process for considering or making changes in the terms, conditions, and decisions of approved RMPs or MFPs appropriate to a proposed action or changed circumstances not addressed in the existing plan. Usually only one or two issues or a portion of the planning area is involved. Otherwise, a revision to the plan is required.

Analysis of the Management Situation (AMS): The process where the District or Area Manager analyzes the inventory data and other information available to determine if there is adequate basis to respond to the identified issues and opportunities. The analysis of the management situation provides the basis for formulating reasonable alternatives, consistent with multiple use principles, including the types of resources for development or protection. The factors to be considered are given in 43 CFR 1610.4-4.

Animal Unit Month (AUM): The amount of forage necessary by an Animal unit grazing for one month (AUM). The animal unit in turn is defined as one mature, 1,000-pound cow and her suckling calf.

Application for Permit to Drill (APD): Application filed by the holder of an oil or gas lease to drill a well. The APD must be approved before drilling can occur. BLM or other State or local agencies may impose additional conditions of approval that do not significantly change the terms of the lease.

Aquifer: A body of rock that is saturated with water or transmits water. When people drill wells, they tap water contained within an aquifer.

Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC): Special Area designation established through the Bureau's land use planning process (43 CFR 1610.72) 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 (BLM Manual 1613, Areas of Critical Environmental Concern). The level of allowable use within an ACEC is established through a planning process. Designation of an ACEC allows for resource use limitations in order to protect identified resources or values.

Assessment: The act of evaluating and interpreting data and information for a defined purpose.

-B-

Best Management Practice (BMP): A suite of techniques that guide, or may be applied to, management actions to aid in achieving desired outcomes. Best management practices are often developed in conjunction with land use plans, but they are not considered a land use plan decision unless the land use plan specifies that they are mandatory. They may be updated or modified without a plan amendment if they are not mandatory.

Biodiversity (biological diversity): 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.

Biological Assessment (BA): Information prepared by, or under the direction of, a federal agency to determine whether a proposed action is likely to: (1) adversely affect listed species or designated critical habitat; (2) jeopardize the continued existence of species that are proposed for listing; or (3) adversely modify proposed critical habitat.

Biological Diversity: The variety of life in an area, including the variety of genes, species, plant and animal communities and ecosystems, and the interaction of these elements. See habitat diversity. The term is often abbreviated to biodiversity.

Buffer: An area of land between two separate and distinct land use regimes, which can serve to modify the effects of one land use on the other.

Bureau of Land Management (BLM): The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, is responsible for the health, diversity, and productivity of the 258 million surface acres of public lands. BLM manages its public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

-C-

Categorical Exclusion (CX): A category of actions (identified in agency guidance) that do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and for which neither an environmental assessment or an EIS is required (40 CFR 1508.4).

Collaboration: A cooperative process in which interested parties, often with widely varied interest, work together to see solutions with broad support for managing public and other lands. This may or may not involve an agency as a cooperating agency.

Collaborative Partnerships and Collaborative Stewardship: Refers to people working together, sharing knowledge and resources, to achieve desired outcomes for public lands and communities within statutory and regulatory frameworks, but outside the traditional planning process.

Conditions of Approval: Conditions that may be imposed by a federal, State or local agency as a requirement for approval of an application for a permit.

Conformance: Means that a proposed action shall be specifically provided for in the land use plan or, if not specifically mentioned, shall be clearly consistent with the goals, objectives, or standards of the approved land use plan.

Conservation Agreement (CA): A formal signed agreement between federal, State or local agencies and other parties that implements specific actions, activities, or programs designed to eliminate or reduce threats or otherwise improve the status of a species.

Conservation Strategy: A strategy outlining current activities or threats that are contributing to the decline of a species, along with the actions or strategies needed to reverse or eliminate such a decline or threat. Conservation strategies are generally developed for species of plants and animals that are designated as BLM Sensitive species or that have been determined by the Fish and Wildlife Service or National Marine Fisheries Service to be Federal candidates under the Endangered Species Act.

Consistency: Means that the proposed land use plan does not conflict with officially approved plans, programs and policies of tribes, other federal agencies and state and local governments to the extent practical within federal law, regulation and policy.

Consumptive Use: Use of a resource that reduces its supply, such as logging, mining, and water use. Contrast with non-consumptive use.

Contour: A line drawn on a topographic map connecting points of the same elevation.

Cooperate: To work or act, together or jointly, for a common purpose or benefit.

Cooperating Agency: Assists the lead Federal agency in developing an EA or EIS. The Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA, defines a cooperating agency as any agency that has 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.

Cooperating Agency Agreement: A contract entered into between the U.S. government and a local government or other agency when the federal government is to be substantially involved in the activities covered by the cooperative agreement and is used for activities requiring the involvement of the agency funding the program.

Coordinate: The action that federal agencies are required to take to resolve inconsistencies between a federal proposal and an official local plan or policy; An action between two parties of equal rank, importance or degree.

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ): An advisory council to the President of the US established by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. It reviews federal programs for their effect on the environment, conducts environmental studies and advises the President on environmental matters.

Critical Habitat: Areas formally designated for the survival and recovery of federally listed threatened or endangered species. An area occupied by a threatened or endangered species "on which are found those physical and biological features (1) essential to the conservation of the species, and (2) which may require special management considerations or protection.

Cultural Resource: 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 and/or cultural groups.

Cumulative Effect: The impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of an action when added to other 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

-D-

Data Quality Act: The Data Quality Act of 2000 directed agencies to establish guidelines to ensure "quality, objectivity, utility and integrity" of information that they distribute or use, including in the land use planning process.

Decision Criteria: The rules and standards used to evaluate alternatives to a proposed action on National Forest System land. Decision criteria are designed to help a decision maker identify a preferred choice from the array of alternatives.

Decision Record (DR): The Decision Record is the formal document in which the BLM adopts the results of an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The DR should also identify specific conditions that may be placed on approving a project or activity and which support the FONSI.

Designated Right-of-Way Corridor: A parcel of land, usually linear in shape, which is identified through a Secretarial Order in a land use plan, or by other management decisions as a preferred location for existing and future rights-of-way grants.

Directional Drilling: The intentional deviation of a well bore from a vertical position to reach subsurface areas that are not located directly under the drilling site.

Disposal: Transfer of public land out of federal ownership to another party through sale, exchange, Recreation and Public Purposes Act of 1926, Desert Land Entry or other land law statutes.

Disturbance: Any relatively discrete event in time that disrupts ecosystem, community or population structure; and changes resources, substrate availability or the physical environment.

Documentation of NEPA Adequacy (DNA): A worksheet for determining and documenting that a new, site-specific proposed action both conforms to the existing land use plan(s) and is adequately analyzed in existing NEPA documents. The signed conclusion in the worksheet is an interim step in BLM's internal analysis process and is not an appealable decision.

Draft Land Use Analyses: The draft version of an Environmental Impact Statement that is released to the public and other agencies for review.

-E-

Easement: A right afforded a person or agency to make limited use of another's real property for access or other purposes.

Ecology: (1) The interrelationships and interconnectedness of living things to one another and to their environment. (2) The study of these interrelationships and interconnectedness.

Ecoregion: An area over which the climate is sufficiently uniform to permit development of similar ecosystems on sites that have similar properties. Ecoregions contain many landscapes with different spatial patterns of ecosystems.

Endangered Species: Any plant or animal species that is in danger of extinction, throughout all or a significant portion of its range (Endangered Species Act of 1973 and BLM Manual 6840, Special Status Species).

Environmental Analysis: (1) An analysis of actions and their predictable long and short-term environmental effects. Environmental analyses include consideration of physical, biological, social and economic factors. (2) A general term that could refer to an environmental assessment or an environmental impact statement.

Environmental Assessment (EA): A public document for which a federal agency is responsible that serves to: (a) briefly provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a finding of no significant impact; (b) aid an agency's compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act when no EIS is necessary; (c) facilitate the preparation of an EIS when one is necessary. An EA includes brief discussions of the need for the proposal and of the environmental impacts of the proposed action and other alternatives. If the EA concludes that no EIS is necessary, it will result in a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and a Decision Record.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or Land Use Analysis: A public document for which a federal agency is responsible that performs a written analysis of the impacts on the natural, social, and economic environment of a proposed project or resource management plan, which has been determined to have significant environmental impacts. The EIS includes a detailed analysis of different alternative approaches to managing potential impacts, including a "no action" alternative. The results of an EIS ultimately form the basis for the management approach adopted in an RMP and later formalized in a Record of Decision (ROD)

Estray: Any domesticated livestock or progeny of domesticated livestock showing signs of domestication, running at large upon public or private lands in the State of Nevada, whose owner is unknown (NRS 569.0075)

Evaluation (Plan Evaluation): the process of reviewing the land use plan and the periodic plan monitoring reports to determine whether the land use plan decisions and NEPA analysis are still valid and whether the plan is being implemented

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. (See, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook, H-1606-1).

-F-

Federal Advisory Committee: A committee established to advise a federal agency, often regarding land use planning or management decision-making. Federal Advisory Committees are chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), which requires that they be given a specific purpose and permit public participation and oversight. A RAC is a form of Federal Advisory Committee.

Federal Land: Land owned by the United States, without reference to how the land was acquired or which Federal Agency administers the land, including mineral and coal estates underlying private surface.

Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA): Public Law 94-579 (43 U.S.C. 1701, et seq.), October 21, 1976, often referred to as the BLM's "Organic Act, 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.

Feral Livestock: Any formerly domesticated livestock or progeny of domesticated livestock which have become wild and are running at large upon public or private lands in the State of Nevada, and which have no physical signs of domestication. The term does not include horses or burros that are subject to the jurisdiction of the Federal Government pursuant to the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act, 16 USC 1331 to 1340 inclusive, and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, or any other federal statute or regulation (NRS 569.008)

Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI): A determination, after completion of an Environmental Assessment, that there will be no significant impacts to the environment from the proposed action.

Floodplain: (1) the nearly level plain that borders a stream and is subject to inundation under flood-stage conditions unless protected artificially. It is usually a constructional landform build of sediment deposited during overflow and lateral migration of streams. (2) At a minimum, an area subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year.

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

-G-

Geographic Information System (GIS): A system of computer hardware, software, data, people, and applications that capture, store, edit, analyze, and display a potentially wide array of geospatial information.

Geophysical Exploration: Efforts to locate deposits of oil and gas resources and to better define the sub-surface. Seismic exploration is the most common form of geophysical exploration.

Goal: A broad statement of a desired outcome, often included in RMPs. Goal is usually not quantifiable, and may not have established time frames for achievement.

Governor's Consistency Review: A 60-day review period of a proposed RMP/Final EIS provided to a State Governor. The Governor identifies any inconsistencies with State or local plans, policies or programs and provides written recommendations to the BLM State Director as to how to address the identified inconsistencies.

Grazing-Fee Year: March 1 of a given calendar year through the last day in February of the following year.

Grazing Lease: An authorization that permits the grazing of livestock on public lands outside the grazing districts during a specified period of time (Section 15 of the Taylor Grazing Act).

Grazing Lease Lands: Lands outside grazing districts that are owned, leased or otherwise controlled by the United States and administered by the Bureau of Land Management, and that are subject to leasing for grazing purposes under Section 15 of the Taylor Grazing Act of June 28, 1934.

Grazing permit: An authorization that permits the grazing of a specified number and class of livestock on a designated area of grazing district lands during specified seasons each year (Section 3 of the Taylor Grazing Act).

Groundwater: The supply of fresh water under the earth's surface in an aquifer or in the soil.

Guidelines: Actions or management practices that may be used to achieve desired outcomes, sometimes expressed as best management practices. Guidelines may be identified during the land use planning process, but they are not considered a land use plan decision unless the plan specifies that they are mandatory. Guidelines for grazing administration must conform to 43 CFR 4180.2.

Guzzler: General term covering guzzler, water catchment, and wildlife drinker. A natural, or artificially constructed structure or device to capture and hold naturally flowing water, and make it accessible to small and/or large animals. Most guzzlers involve above or below ground piping, storage tanks, and valves.

-H-

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.

Heritage Resources: The remains of sites, structures or objects used by people in the past; this can be historical or pre-historic.

Historic Resources: Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places.

Hydrology: The science dealing with the study of water on the surface of the land, in the soil and underlying rocks, and in the atmosphere.

-I-J-K-

Implementation Decisions: Decisions that take action to implement land use plan decisions to specific proposed activities or projects, such as issuance of an APD. They are generally appealable to the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA) under 43 CFR 4.40.

Implementation Plan: A site-specific plan written to implement decisions made in a land use plan. An implementation plan usually selects and applies best management practices to meet land use plan objectives. Implementation plans are synonymous with "activity" plans. Examples of implementation plans include interdisciplinary management plans, habitat management plans, allotment management plans and ACEC management plans.

Interim Management Policy (IMP) for Lands under Wilderness Review: A policy governing management of lands under wilderness review, during the "interim" until Congress decides whether or not to designate them as Wilderness. This policy protects Wilderness Study Areas from impairment of their suitability as wilderness

-L-

Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP): The document that guides the management of a particular national forest and establishes management standards for all lands controlled by that national forest.

Land Use Analysis: See Environmental Impact statement.

Land Use Plan: A set of decisions that establish management direction for land within an administrative area, as prescribed under the planning provisions of FLPMA; an assimilation of land use plan level decisions developed through the planning process outlined in 43 CFR 1600, regardless of the scale at which the decisions were developed. The term includes both RMPs and management framework plans (BLM Handbook H-1601-1, Land Use Planning).

Land Use Plan Decision: Establishes desired outcomes and actions needed to achieve them, which may include management prescriptions or Management Units. Decisions are reached using the planning process in 43 CFR 1600. When they are presented to the public as proposed decisions, they can be protested to the BLM Director. Land use plan decisions are not appealable to IBLA.

Land Use Planning Base: The entire body of land use plan decisions resulting from RMPs, MFPs, planning analyses, the adoption of other agency plans, or any other type of plan where land use-plan-level decisions are reached.

Leasable Minerals: Minerals such as coal, oil shale, oil and gas, phosphate, potash, sodium, gold, silver, quicksilver in certain private land claims; silica deposits in certain parts of Nevada and all other minerals that may be acquired under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended. Geothermal resources are also leasable under the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970.

Livestock: All cattle or animals of the bovine; equine (horses, mules burros and asses); porcine (swine); caprine (goats); ovine (ovine); poultry or domesticated fowl or birds; alternative stock (NRS 569.0085).

Locatable Minerals: A mineral subject to location under the 1872 mining laws. Examples of such minerals would be gold, silver, copper and lead as compared to oil and natural gas, which are leasable minerals.

-M-

Management Decision: A decision made by the BLM regarding management of public lands. Management decisions include both land use plan decisions and implementation decisions.

Management Prescriptions: Specific guidelines for managing an area or resource, including a geographic area, certain species, habitat, and cultural resources.

Management Units (MU): Planning areas are often divided into Management Units that are easier to work with during the land use planning process. Although Management Units may vary, there are several basic criteria of a Management Unit including: smaller than the planning area as a whole; involves multiple resources; facilitates communication and understanding for internal and external publics; does not overlap other MUs; and may vary by alternative in the EIS.

MBF: ***Thousand Board Feet.*** A board foot is a unit of lumber measurement 1 foot long, 1 foot wide, and 1 inch thick, or its equivalent. It is the standard unit of measurement in the logging and lumber industry by which standing timber is measured and sold and manufactured lumber is merchandised.

Mechanized Travel: Travel using self-propelled bicycles. This is sometimes included in the definition of non-motorized but making the distinction is often important.

Memorandum of Understanding: A written agreement between two or more parties that defines the roles and responsibilities of each party with respect to the collaborative efforts of a particular program or project.

Mineral Estate: The ownership of minerals, including rights necessary for access, exploration, development, mining, ore dressing, and transportation operations.

Mining Claim: A mineral entry and appropriation of public land under the Mining Law of 1872, as amended (30 U.S.C. 22 et seq.). There are four types of mining claims: lode claims, placer claims, millsites, and tunnel sites. Only tunnel sites may not be patented. A valid lode or placer claim contains a discovery of a valuable mineral deposit subject to location under the Mining Law of 1872. A valid mill site is one that is being used for the support of a mining or milling operation. A valid tunnel site is one that is being diligently worked and maintained. A mining claim may contain as many adjoining locations as the locator may make or buy.

Mining Law of 1872: Provides for claiming and gaining title to locatable minerals on public lands. Also referred to as, "the General Mining Laws" or "Mining Laws".

Mitigation: Collective actions taken to avoid, minimize or rectify the negative impact of a land management practice.

Monitoring: The process of tracking the implementation of land use plan decisions and collecting and assessing the data/information necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of those land use planning decisions.

Multi-Jurisdictional Planning: Collaborative planning process in which the purpose is to address land use planning issues for an area such as an entire watershed or other landscape unit, in which there is a mix of public and/or private land ownerships and adjoining of overlapping tribal, state, local government or other federal agency authorities.

Multiple-use: The management of the public lands and their various resource values so that they are used in the combination that will best meet the present and future needs of the American people; making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to changing needs and conditions; the use of some land for less than all of the resources; a combination of balanced and diverse resource uses that takes into account the long-term needs of future generations for renewable and nonrenewable resources, including recreation, range, timber, minerals, watershed, wildlife and fish, and natural scenic, scientific and historical values; and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources without permanent impairment of the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment with consideration being given to the relative values of the resources and not necessarily to the combination of uses that will give the greatest economic return or the greatest unit output (FLPMA) (BLM Manual 6840, Special Status Species).

-N-

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA): Public Law 91-190 - A law that established a national policy to maintain conditions under which man and nature can exist in productive harmony and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations of Americans. It established the Council on Environmental Quality for coordinating environmental matters at the federal level and to serve as the advisor to the President on such matters. The law made all federal actions and proposals that could have a significant impact on the environment subject to review by federal, state and local environmental authorities

National Environmental Policy Act process: Based on the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, to insure that environmental information is available to public officials and citizens before decisions are made and before actions are taken. The NEPA process is intended to help public officials make decision that are based on understanding of environmental consequences and take actions that protect, restore, and enhance the environment.

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF): A non-profit organization, created in 1984 and approved by the Secretary of the Interior, designed to work with the public and private sectors to protect and restore our nations fish, wildlife, plants and habitats.

National Historic Preservation Act: An Act of Congress, originally enacted on October 15, 1966, to establish a program for the preservation of additional historic properties throughout the nation, and for other purposes

National Landscape Conservation System (NLCS): A system of public lands within the broader National System of Public Lands that includes presidential or congressional designations, managed by BLM, for the purposes of conserving, protecting, and restoring nationally significant landscapes recognized for their outstanding cultural, ecological, and scientific values. The NLCS includes national monuments, national conservation areas, wilderness areas, wilderness study areas, national scenic and historic trails, wild and scenic rivers, and other units designated by Congress to be administered for conservation purposes.

National Register of Historic Places: A listing of architectural, historical, archaeological, and cultural sites of local, state, or national significance established by the Historic Preservation Act of, 1966, and maintained by the National Park Service.

National Wild and Scenic Rivers System: A system of nationally designated rivers and their immediate environments that have outstanding scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, and other similar values and are preserved in a free-flowing condition. The system consists of three types of streams: (1) recreation rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad and that may have some development along their shorelines and may have undergone some impoundments or diversion in the past; (2) scenic rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments with shorelines or watersheds still largely undeveloped but accessible in places by roads; and (3) wild rivers or sections of rivers free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trails, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted.

Native Species: Any species native to a given land or water area by natural occurrence.

Natural Resource: A feature of the natural environment that is of value in serving human needs.

Non-Consumptive Use: The use of a resource that does not reduce its supply. For instance, bird watching is a non-consumptive use of a wildlife resource. Boating and fishing are non-consumptive uses of water resources.

Non-Game Species: Any species of wildlife or fish that is ordinarily not managed or otherwise controlled by hunting, fishing or trapping.

Non-Native Species: An introduced species that evolved elsewhere, and that has been transported and disseminated purposefully or accidentally.

Non-Point Source Pollution: Pollution of the air or water from diffuse sources and which cannot be traced to a single point of origin. For example, air pollutants result from power plants, vehicle emissions and other widespread activities. Water pollutants result from agriculture, forestry, urban, minim and construction projects and are generally carried off the land by storm water runoff into waterways.

Non-Renewable Resource: A resource whose total quantity does not increase measurably over time, so that each use of the resource diminishes the supply.

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.

Notice of Intent: A notice in the Federal Register that an environmental impact statement will be prepared and considered.

-O-

Objective: A description of a desired condition for a resource. Objectives can be quantified and measured and, where possible, have established time frames for achievement.

Off-Highway Vehicle (off-road vehicle) (OHV): Any motorized vehicle capable of, or designated for travel on or immediately over land, water or other natural terrain, excluding: (1) any non-amphibious 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.

Off-Highway Vehicle Area Designations: BLM-administered lands in the CCD are designated as Open, Limited, or Closed for OHV use.

- Open. Designated areas where all types of motorized vehicles (jeeps, all-terrain vehicles, motorized dirt bikes, etc.) are permitted at all times, anywhere in the area, on roads or cross country, subject to the operating regulations and vehicle standards set forth in 43 CFR subparts 8340, 8341 and 8342.
- Limited. Designated areas where motorized vehicles are restricted to designated routes. Off-road, cross-country travel is prohibited in Limited areas, unless an area is specifically identified as an area where cross-country over-snow travel is allowed. Some existing routes may be closed in Limited areas.
- Closed. Designated areas where off-road motorized vehicle travel is prohibited yearlong. Emergency use of vehicles is allowed yearlong.

Off-Road: Cross-country travel between designated routes.

Operator: An individual, group, association, or corporation authorized to conduct livestock grazing on public lands.

Outstanding Mineral Rights: The rights to extract subsurface minerals that are retained by the owner of those minerals, when ownership of the surface of the land (by another party) is transferred to the federal government.

-P-Q-

Paleontological Resources: The physical remains or other physical evidence of plants and animals preserved in soils and sedimentary rock formations. Paleontological resources are important for correlating and dating rock strata and for understanding past environments, environmental change, and the evolution of life.

Patent: A Government deed; a document that conveys legal title to public lands to the patentee. Public domain lands are patented; acquired lands are deeded by the Government.

Perennial Stream: A stream that flows continuously. Perennial streams are generally associated with a water table in the localities through which they flow.

Permit: A revocable authorization to use public land for a specified purpose for up to 3 years.

Permitted Use: The forage allocated by, or under the guidance of, an applicable land use plan for livestock grazing in an allotment under a permit or lease; expressed in Animal Unit Months (AUMs) (43 CFR 4100.0-5).

Permittee: A person or company permitted to graze livestock on public land or conduct other specific activities on public land.

Petroglyph: A form of rock art manufactured by incising, scratching or pecking designs into rock surfaces.

Pictograph: A form of rock art created by applying mineral based or organic paint to rock surfaces.

Planning Analysis: A process using appropriate resource data and NEPA analysis to provide a basis for decisions in areas not yet covered by an RMP.

Planning Area: The geographical area for which land use and Resource Management Plans (RMPs) are developed and maintained. The Carson City District (CCD) RMP planning area totals approximately 5 million acres in 11

Planning Criteria: The standards, rules and other factors, developed by managers and interdisciplinary teams, for their use in forming judgments about decision making, analysis, and data collection, during planning. Planning criteria streamlines and simplifies the resource management planning actions.

Pre-Existing Use: A land use that may not conform to a current zoning ordinance but which existed prior to the enactment of the ordinance.

Primitive Road: A linear route managed for use by four-wheel drive or high-clearance vehicles. Primitive roads do not normally meet any BLM road design standards. Primitive roads shall not be designated within a wilderness study area or within lands that have been identified as having wilderness characteristics for which a land-use plan has determined that wilderness characteristics are to be protected. Any linear feature located within areas that have been identified as wilderness study areas and/or those lands outside of WSAs with wilderness characteristics will be identified in a transportation inventory as a "route".

Private Roadway: A roadway that is located within an easement or right-of-way and has not been accepted for ownership or maintenance by a public entity.

Public domain lands: Original public domain lands that have never left Federal ownership; also, lands in Federal ownership that were obtained by the Government in exchange for public domain lands or for timber on public domain lands; One category of public lands.

Public Involvement: In Planning, the use of appropriate procedures to inform the public, obtain early and continuing public participation, and consider the views of interested parties in planning and decision making.

Public Land: Land for which title and control rests with a government, at the federal, state, regional, county or municipal level to which no claims or rights to others have attached.

Public Land States: Refers to the 30 states that made up the public domain at its greatest extent. These states are Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

-R-

Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenario (RFD): An estimate of oil and gas development for a planning area, which the BLM uses as a baseline for assessing the environmental impacts of this activity. The BLM is supposed to take into account not only estimates of the presence of oil and gas resources based on geology, but also other factors affecting oil and gas activity: economics, changes in technology, physical limitations affecting surface access, bid performance at lease sales, infrastructure and transportation.

Record of Decision (ROD): The formal document adopting the management plan set out in an RMP and based on the findings of an EIS.

Recreation and Public Purposes Act of 1926: Provides for the lease and sale of public lands determined valuable for public purposes. The objective of the Recreation and Public Purposes 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 purpose uses. Examples of uses made of Recreation and Public Purposes Act lands are parks and greenbelts, sanitary landfills, schools, religious facilities, and camps for youth groups. The act provides substantial cost-benefits for land acquisition and provides for recreation facilities or historical monuments at no cost.

Rehabilitation: The process of repairing damage done to the ecosystem or a part of it, such that natural processes will again function in the repaired system.

Renewable Energy: Resources that constantly renew themselves or that are regarded as practically inexhaustible. These include solar, wind, geothermal, hydro and wood. Although particular geothermal formations can be depleted, the natural heat in the Earth is a virtually inexhaustible reserve of potential energy.

Research Natural Area (RNA): Research Natural Areas are areas that contain important ecological and scientific values and are managed for minimum human disturbance. RNAs are primarily used for non-manipulative research and baseline data gathering on relatively unaltered community types. Since natural processes are allowed to dominate, RNAs also make excellent controls for similar communities that are being actively managed. In addition, RNAs provide an essential network of diverse habitat types that will be preserved in their natural state for future generations.

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 Revocation and Withdrawal)

Reserved Mineral Rights: The rights to extract subsurface minerals that are retained by a landowner when ownership of the surface of the land is transferred to the federal government. Basic standards for conducting mineral operations are inserted into the deed held by the private owners.

Resource Advisory Council (RAC): A council established by the Secretary of the Interior to provide advice or recommendations to BLM management. In some states, Provincial Advisory Councils (PACs) are functional equivalents of RACs.

Resource Management Plan (RMP): 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. The BLM considers resource management plans to be synonymous with land use plans so the terms may be used interchangeably. Land use plan decisions made in RMPs establish goals and objectives for resource management (such as desired future conditions), the measures needed to achieve these goals and objectives, and parameters for using public lands. Land use planning decisions are usually made on broad scale and customarily guide subsequent site-specific implementation decisions.

Resource Use Level: The level of use allowed within an area. It is based on the desired outcomes and land use allocations in the land use plan. Targets or goals for resource use levels are established on an area-wide or broad watershed level in the land use plan. Site-specific resource use levels are normally determined at the implementation level, based on site specific resource conditions and needs as determined through resource monitoring and assessments.

Revegetation: The re-establishment and development of a plant cover by either natural or artificial means, such as re-seeding.

Revision: The process of completely rewriting the land use plan due to the current plan being out of date or due to changes in the planning area affecting major portions of the plan or the entire plan.

Right-of-Way (ROW): (1) An easement or permit, which authorizes public land to be used for a specified purpose that generally requires a long narrow strip of land. Examples are roads, power lines and pipelines. (2) Public lands authorized to be used or occupied for specific purposes pursuant to a right-of-way grant, which are in the public interest and which require ROWs over, on, under, or through such lands.

Riparian Area: A form of wetland transition between permanently saturated wetlands and upland areas. Riparian areas exhibit vegetation or physical characteristics that reflect the influence of permanent surface or subsurface water. Typical riparian areas include lands along, adjacent to, or contiguous with perennially and intermittently flowing rivers and streams, glacial potholes, and the shores of lakes and reservoirs with stable water levels. Excluded are ephemeral streams or washes that lack vegetation and depend on free water in the soil.

Road: A linear route declared a road by the owner, managed for use by low-clearance vehicles having four or more wheels, and maintained for regular and continuous use.

1. **Roadless:** A linear route declared a road by the owner, managed for use by low-clearance vehicles having four or more wheels, and maintained for regular and continuous use.

Routes: Multiple roads, trails; a group or set of roads, trails, and primitive roads that represents less than 100 percent of the BLM transportation system. Generically, components of the transportation system are described as "routes."

R.S. 2477: Pursuant to the Mining Law enacted by the United States Congress in 1866, it granted Counties and States the right-of-way for the construction of highways across public lands not otherwise reserved for public purposes. It was repealed in 1976 under the FLPMA, but was subject to "valid existing rights" or rights-of-way for which there is a clear historical record. The relevant text (Sec. 701. 43 U.S.C. 1701) reads (a) "Nothing in this Act, or in any amendment made by this Act, shall be construed as terminating any valid lease, permit, patent, right-of-way, or other land use right or authorization existing on the date of approval of this Act".

-S-

Scoping: An early and open public participation process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to a proposed action.

Secondary Road: A road supplementing a main road, usually wide enough and suitable for two-way, all-weather traffic at moderate or slow speeds.

Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA): A public lands unit identified in land use plans to direct recreation funding and personnel to fulfill commitments made to provide specific, structured recreation opportunities (i.e., activity, experience, and benefit opportunities). Both land use plan decisions and subsequent implementing actions for recreation in each SRMA are geared to a strategically identified primary market- destination, community, or undeveloped (See, BLM Land Use Planning Handbook, H-1606-1).

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

Split Estate: Lands on which the mineral estate remains with the federal government (BLM).

Standard: A description of the physical and biological conditions or degree of function required for healthy, sustainable lands (e.g., land health standards).

State Implementation Plan (SIP): A strategic document, prepared by a State (or other authorized air quality regulatory agency) and approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which thoroughly describes how requirements of the Clean Air Act will be implemented (including standards to be achieved, control measures to be applied, and enforcement actions in case of violation).

Strategic Plan (BLM Strategic Plan): A plan that establishes the overall direction for the BLM. This plan is guided by the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act of 1993, covers a 5-year period, and is updated every 3 years. It must be consistent with FLPMA and other laws affecting the public lands.

-T-

Temporary Route: Short-term, overland roads, primitive roads or trails authorized or acquired for the development, construction or staging of a project or event that has a finite lifespan. Temporary routes are not intended to be part of the permanent or designated transportation network system and must be reclaimed when their intended purpose(s) has been fulfilled. Temporary routes should be constructed to minimum standards necessary to accommodate the intended use; the intent is that the project proponent (or their representative) will reclaim the route once the original project purpose or need has been completed. Temporary routes are considered emergency, single use or permitted activity access.

Threatened Species: 1) Any species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range, and 2) as further defined by the Endangered Species Act of 1973 and BLM Manual 6840. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service are the two agencies charged with making "threatened" listing determinations.

Topography: The general configuration or shape of the earth's surface, including its relief or elevation, and the position of its natural features.

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL): An estimate of the total quantity of pollutants (from all sources: point, nonpoint, and natural) that may be allowed into waters without exceeding applicable water quality criteria under the Clean Water Act.

Traditional Cultural Property: A property that derives significance from traditional values associated with it by a social or cultural group, such as an Indian tribe or local community. A traditional cultural property may qualify for the National Register of Historic Places if it meets the criteria and criteria exceptions at 36 CFR 60.4. See National Register Bulletin 38.

Trail: A linear route managed for human-powered, stock, or off-highway vehicle forms of transportation or for historical or heritage values. Trails are not generally managed for use by four-wheel drive or high-clearance vehicles.

-U-

Use, Allowable: An estimate of proper range use. Forty to fifty percent of the annual growth is often used as a rule of thumb on ranges in good to excellent condition. It can also mean the amount of forage planned to accelerate range rehabilitation.

-V-

Valid Existing Right (VER): Any lease established (and valid) prior to a new authorization, change in land designation, or in regulation.

Visual Resource: A part of the landscape important for its scenic quality. It may include a composite of terrain, geologic features or vegetation.

Visual Resource Management (VRM): The inventory and planning actions taken to identify the visual resources of a given area, to establish objectives for managing those values, and for determining what degree of protection, rehabilitation, or enhancement is desirable and possible to achieve the visual resource management objectives.

Watershed: (1) In general, the entire region drained by a waterway into a lake or reservoir; (2) More specifically, the land above a given point that contributes water to the stream flow at that point.

Water Table: The upper surface of groundwater. Below the water table, the soil is saturated with water.

Water Yield: The run-off from a watershed including groundwater outflow.

Wetland: Area that is inundated or saturated by surface or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances does support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include, for example, swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas.

Wild and Scenic Study River: Rivers identified in Section 5 of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 for study as potential additions to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. The rivers will be studied under the provisions of Section 4 of the act (BLM Manual 8351, Wild and Scenic Rivers Policy and Program Direction for Identification, Evaluation, and Management).

Wilderness Area: 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 contained in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 891) (BLM Handbook H-6310-1, Wilderness Inventory and Study Procedures).

Wilderness Characteristics: Wilderness characteristics include size, the appearance of naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude, or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. It is required that the area possess at least 5,000 acres or more of contiguous or be of a size to make practical its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; They may also include ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value. However Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 has been updated by Instruction Memorandum 2003-195, dated June 20, 2003. Indicators of an area's naturalness include the extent of landscape modifications, the presence of native vegetation communities, and the connectivity of habitats. Outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined types of recreation may be experienced when the sights, sounds, and evidence of other people are rare or infrequent, in locations where visitors can be isolated, alone or secluded from others, where the use of the area is through non-motorized, non-mechanical means, and where no or minimal developed recreation facilities are encountered.

Wilderness Study Area (WSA): (1) Created by the BLM under Section 603 FLPMA, which required the BLM to inventory its lands for wilderness quality and protect those lands until Congress decides whether or not to designate the land as Wilderness. Section 201 of FLPMA also requires the BLM to inventory its lands to identify "resource and other values" and Section 202 provides for the BLM to develop resource management plans based on the inventory, which may also include designating WSAs. (2) A designation made through the land use planning process of a roadless area found to have wilderness characteristics, as described in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (BLM Handbook H-6310-1, Wilderness Inventory and Study Procedures).

Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros: All unbranded and unclaimed horses and burros using public lands as all or part of their habitat.

Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI): The line, area or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels.

Wildlife: Any wild mammal, wild bird, fish, reptile, amphibian, mollusk or crustacean found naturally in a wild state, whether indigenous to Nevada or not and whether raised in captivity or not (NRS 501.097)

Withdrawal: An action that restricts the use of public land and segregates the land from the operation of some or all of the public land and mineral laws. Withdrawals are also used to transfer jurisdiction of management of public lands to other federal agencies.

Woodlands: Forest lands usually supporting open-grown, widely scattered trees of marginal merchantability and generally more valuable for watershed or wildlife protection purposes than for the production of timber for commercial purposes.

Acronyms

ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
ADR	Alternative Dispute Resolution
ADT	Average Daily Traffic
ALUA/ROD	Approved Land Use Analysis/ Record of Decision
ALC	American Lands Council
APD	Application for Permit to Drill
AUM	Animal Unit Month
BAE	Biological Assessment and Evaluation
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BMRR	Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation
BO	Biological opinion
BOC	Board of Commissioners
BOR	Bureau of Reclamation
CA	Conservation Agreement
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAB	Community or Citizens Advisory Boards
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CIP	Capital Improvements Plan
CS	Conservation Strategy
CWA	Clean Water Act
CX	Categorical Exclusion
DM	Departmental Manual
DNA	Documentation of Land Use Plan Conformance and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Adequacy
DOI	Department of the Interior
DR	Decision Record
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FACA	Federal Advisory Committee Act
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FWS	Fish and Wildlife Service
FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
FR	Federal Register
GIS	Geographic Information System

HU	Hydrological Unit
IBLA	Interior Board of Land Appeals
IMP	Interim Management Policy
LAC	Limits of Acceptable Change
LOS	Level of Service
LULU	Locally Undesirable Land Use
LUP	Land use plan
MFP	Management Framework Plan
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NOA	Notice of Availability
NOI	Notice of Intent
NACO	Nevada Association of Counties
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NFWF	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NLCS	National Landscape Conservation System
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NRCS	US Natural Resources Conservation Service
NSO	No surface occupancy
NSP	Nevada State Parks
OHV	Off-Highway Vehicle (also refers to Off-Road Vehicles)
PC	Planning Commission
PD	Planning Department
PLMAB	Public Lands Management Advisory Board
POD	Plan of Development
RAC	Resource Advisory Council
RMP	Resource Management Plan
RNA	Research and Natural Area
ROD	Record of Decision (for an EIS)
ROS	Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
ROW	Right-of-way
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
SMCRA	Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act
SRMA	Special Recreation Management Area
SRP	Special recreation permit
T&E	Threatened and Endangered
TES	Threatened and Endangered Species
TSM	Transportation System Management
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
USACE	US Army Corps of Engineers (Dept. of the Army)
U.S.C.	United States Code
USFWS	United States Fish & Wildlife Service
USFS	United States Forest Service

USGS	United States Geological Survey
USSCS	US Soil Conservation Service (Dept. of Agriculture)
VER	Valid Existing Right
VRM	Visual Resource Management