

Places significance criteria were triggered in draft impacts tables

NOTE: This document is meant to show you where the BLM determined impacts to be significant in the effects analysis. It is important to remember that BAH and BLM will disclose all impacts, significant or not. Therefore, just because there is no significant impact to a resource or use does not mean there are no impacts at all.

We are still working out some of the finer details on significance criteria. These may change in the next couple weeks as BAH starts their writing. I will let you know if anything changes.

Soils:

- Alternative A: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative B: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative C: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative D: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Water:

- Alternative A: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative B: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative C: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative D: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Vegetation:

- Alternative A: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative B: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative C: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative D: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Fish and Wildlife:

- Alternative A: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative B: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions. Where stipulations are lifted, BLM would apply a Condition of Approval.
- Alternative C: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative D: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Fire:

- Alternative A: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative B: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative C: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative D: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Wild Horses:

- Alternative A: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative B: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative C: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative D: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Cultural:

- Alternative A: Areas Open to OHV that do not go through Section 106 Cultural clearance is a significant impact to cultural resources. Significance criteria triggered: “Management actions that directly or indirectly result in the inadvertent physical alteration, destruction, or loss of cultural resources protected by Federal or state law.”
- Alternative B: Areas Open to OHV that do not go through Section 106 Cultural clearance is a significant impact to cultural resources. Significance criteria triggered: “Management actions that directly or indirectly result in the inadvertent physical alteration, destruction, or loss of cultural resources protected by Federal or state law.”
- Alternative C: Areas Open to OHV that do not go through Section 106 Cultural clearance is a significant impact to cultural resources. Significance criteria triggered: “Management actions that directly or indirectly result in the inadvertent physical alteration, destruction, or loss of cultural resources protected by Federal or state law.”
- Alternative D: Areas Open to OHV that do not go through Section 106 Cultural clearance is a significant impact to cultural resources. Significance criteria triggered: “Management actions that directly or indirectly result in the inadvertent physical alteration, destruction, or loss of cultural resources protected by Federal or state law.”

Paleo:

- Alternative A: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative B: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative C: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.
- Alternative D: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Special Management Areas:

ACECs:

- Alternative A: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions. Plant values and white tailed prairie dog are protected by avoidance.
- Alternative B: Where designation and also protections are lifted in areas that have Relevant and Important values, there is a significant impact to these values. Significance criteria triggered: “Management decisions that do not ‘prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values, fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes, or to protect life and safety from natural hazards.’”
- Alternative C: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions. Plant values and white tailed prairie dog are protected by avoidance.
- Alternative D: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions. All ACECs are designated.

Lands with Wilderness Character outside existing WSAs:

- Alternative A: WC are significantly impacted by Vermillion Basin and other areas “Likely to contain wilderness characteristics” because of being Open to leasing and OHV.

Significance criteria triggered: “Any degradation of the individual wilderness characteristics (naturalness and outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation) to the degree the value would no longer be present within the specific area.”

Alternative B: WC are significantly impacted by Vermillion Basin and other areas “Likely to contain wilderness characteristics” because of being Open to leasing and OHV. Significance criteria triggered: “Any degradation of the individual wilderness characteristics (naturalness and outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation) to the degree the value would no longer be present within the specific area.”

Alternative C: WC are significantly impacted in Northern Vermillion Basin because of allowing leasing and development. Significance criteria triggered: “Any degradation of the individual wilderness characteristics (naturalness and outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive recreation) to the degree the value would no longer be present within the specific area.”

Alternative D: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Visual Resource Management:

Alternative A: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Alternative B: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Alternative C: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Alternative D: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Energy and Minerals:

Alternative A: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Alternative B: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Alternative C: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Alternative D: Designation of WTPD ACEC and associated NSO is a significant impact to oil and gas. Closing Vermillion Basin is a significant impact to oil and gas. Significance criteria triggered: “A substantial reduction in federal leasing and development of oil and gas in high potential areas.”

Livestock Grazing:

Alternative A: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Alternative B: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Alternative C: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Alternative D: If there were a reduction of permitted AUMs as a result of livestock decisions, (we are still mulling this one over), there would result in a significant impact to livestock grazing. Significance criteria triggered: “A reduction in forage levels that lead to a decrease in permitted AUMs or cumulative management actions that adversely affect operations to the degree considered vital to an individual operation.”

Recreation:

Alternative A: An Open OHV designation in Vermillion Basin and other areas with opportunities for primitive, unconfined recreation would be a significant impact to

non-motorized recreation. Significance criteria triggered: “Management actions that result in long-term elimination or reduction of recreation opportunities, activities or experience or compromise public health and safety.”

Alternative B: An Open OHV designation in Vermillion Basin, Little Yampa Canyon, Serviceberry, and other areas with opportunities for primitive, unconfined recreation would be a significant impact to non-motorized recreation. Significance criteria triggered: “Management actions that result in long-term elimination or reduction of recreation opportunities, activities or experience or compromise public health and safety.”

Alternative C: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Alternative D: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Forest and Woodlands:

Alternative A: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Alternative B: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Alternative C: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Alternative D: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Transportation and Access:

Alternative A: Any closures of areas to OHVs (only WSAs and a few other areas in this alternative) are a significant impact. Significance criteria triggered: “Substantial limitation to nonmotorized or motorized (including OHV) public access to and travel within public lands.”

Alternative B: Any closures of areas to OHVs (only WSAs in this alternative) are a significant impact. Significance criteria triggered: “Substantial limitation to nonmotorized or motorized (including OHV) public access to and travel within public lands.”

Alternative C: Any closures of areas to OHVs (WSAs, Serviceberry, Flycreek, portion of southern Vermillion Basin, etc in this alternative) are a significant impact. Significance criteria triggered: “Substantial limitation to nonmotorized or motorized (including OHV) public access to and travel within public lands.”

Alternative D: Any closures of areas to OHVs (many areas in this alternative) are a significant impact. Significance criteria triggered: “Substantial limitation to nonmotorized or motorized (including OHV) public access to and travel within public lands.”

Lands and Realty:

Alternative A: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Alternative B: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Alternative C: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.

Alternative D: Significance criteria not triggered by any actions.