

Glossary of Terms

Terms used in this document are defined as follows

Canyoneering: hiking requiring wet suits, life vests, and ropes.

Cherry-stem: a dead-end road or feature that forms a portion of an inventory unit boundary and that remains outside the inventory unit.

Contiguous: lands or legal subdivisions having a common boundary; lands having only a common corner are not contiguous.

Inventory unit: see definition for “wilderness inventory unit”.

Naturalness: refers to an area that “generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man’s work substantially unnoticeable.” (From Section 2(c), Wilderness Act of 1964.)

Outstanding: 1. standing out among others of its kind; conspicuous; prominent. 2. superior to others of its kind; distinguished; excellent.

Primitive and unconfined recreation: non-motorized and non-developed types of outdoor recreational activities.

Pristine: refers to an area with little or no disturbance of its natural character; generally unaffected by civilization.

Public land(s): any land and interest in land owned by the United States within the several States and administered through the Secretary of the Interior by the Bureau of Land Management, without regard to how the United States acquired ownership, except:

- lands located on the Outer Continental Shelf;
- lands held in trust for the benefit of Indians, Aleuts, and Eskimos; and
- lands where the United States retains the mineral rights, but the surface is privately owned.

region: an area of land or grouping that is easily or frequently referred to by the public as separate and distinguishable from adjoining areas.

Roadless: refers to the absence of roads which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.

Roadless area: that area bounded by a road, using the edge of the physical change that creates the road or the edge of the right-of-way, other ownership, or water, as a boundary. The boundary of a roadless area may be formed by one or more dead-end roads.

Solitude: 1. the state of being alone or remote from others; isolation. 2. a lonely or secluded place.

Substantially unnoticeable: refers either to something that is so insignificant as to be only a very minor feature of the overall area, or to a feature created or caused by human beings that is not distinctly recognizable by the average visitor because of age, weathering, or biological change.

Way: a trace maintained solely by the passage of vehicles that has not been improved and/or maintained by mechanical means to ensure relatively regular and continuous use.

Wilderness: the definition contained in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 891).

Wilderness area: an area formally designated by Congress as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

Wilderness inventory unit: a portion of public land evaluated to determine its roadless character and the presence of wilderness characteristics as defined in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Wilderness program: a term used to describe all wilderness activities of the BLM, including identification, planning, management, and administrative functions.

Wilderness review: the term normally used to cover the entire wilderness inventory, planning, and reporting phases of BLM’s wilderness program; may also refer to other types of programs involving various aspects of wilderness information gathering.

Wilderness study: the process of analyzing and planning for wilderness preservation opportunities, along with other resource opportunities, within BLM’s planning system.

Wilderness Study Area (WSA): a roadless area or island that has been inventoried and found to have wilderness characteristics as described in Section 603 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) and Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 891), and that has been designated as a Wilderness Study Area.