

6.0 GLOSSARY

6.1 ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Acronym or Abbreviation	Meaning
APCD	Air Pollution Control District
APD	Application for Permit to Drill
AQMD	Air Quality Management District
AQMP	Air Quality Management Plan
AQRVs	Air Quality Related Values
BACT	Best Available Control Technology
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BMPs	Best Management Practices
BOE	Barrel of Oil Equivalent
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation & Liability Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
cfs	Cubic feet per second
COA	Conditions of Approval
CWA	Clean Water Act
CWE	Cumulative Watershed Effects
dB	Decibel
DB(A)	A weighted decibels
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement
EA	Environmental Assessment
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement (under NEPA)
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ERA	Equivalent Roaded Area
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act
Forest Plan	Forest Land and Resource Management Plan
FP	Forest Plan
FS	Forest Service

Acronym or Abbreviation	Meaning
FSM	Forest Service Manual
FWS	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
GIS	Geographic Information System
H ₂ S	Hydrogen Sulfide
HOGPA	High Oil and Gas Potential Area
ID	Interdisciplinary
IDT	Interdisciplinary Team
IRA	Inventoried Roadless Area
KGS	Known Geologic Structure
L _{dn}	Day-night noise measurement
LN	Lease Notice
LRMP	Land & Resource Management Plan
LSU	Limited Surface Use
MCF	Thousand cubic feet
MIS	Management Indicator Species
MMS	Minerals Management Service
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NFMA	National Forest Management Act
NFMP	National Forest Management Plan
NFSR	National Forest System Road
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NL	No Lease
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NO ₂	Nitrogen Dioxide
NOI	Notice of Intent
NO _x	Oxides of Nitrogen
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NSO	No Surface Occupancy
NSR	New Source Rule
NTL	Notice to Lessee(s)
NWPS	National Wilderness Preservation System
OHV	Off-Highway Vehicle

Acronym or Abbreviation	Meaning
PM ₁₀ & PM _{2.5}	Particulate Matter
PSD	Prevention of Significant Deterioration of Air Quality
psi	Pounds per square inch
RD	Ranger District
RFD	Reasonably Foreseeable Development Scenario
RN	Roaded Natural
RNA	Research Natural Area
ROC	Reactive Organic Compounds
ROD	Record of Decision
ROS	Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
ROW	Right-of-Way
RPA	Resource Planning Act
RVD	Recreation Visitor Day
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
SLT	Standard Lease Terms
SO ₂	Sulfur Dioxide
SUP	Special Use Permit
SUPO	Surface Use Plan of Operations
TENORM	Technology Enhanced Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material
TDS	Total Dissolved Solids
TEPS	Threatened, Endangered, Proposed and Sensitive (Species)
TES	Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive (Species)
TL	Timing Limitations
TOC	Threshold of Concern
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USDI	U.S. Department of Interior
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
USFWS	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
VAC	Visual Absorption Capability
VMS	Visual Management System
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound

Acronym or Abbreviation	Meaning
VQO	Visual Quality Objective
VRM	Visual Resource Management
WSI	Watershed Sensitivity Index

6.2 DEFINITIONS

<u>Word or Phrase</u>	<u>Definition</u>
Abandonment	Termination of operations for production from a well. Permanent abandonment involves plugging the well and removal of installations.
Active Lek	A Lek Displaying grouse present during the spring breeding season at least 1 year within a period of 5 consecutive years. Leks are assumed to be active in the absence of 5 consecutive years of data collected according to scientific methods that shows the lek to be inactive. Scientific data collection assumes qualified observers, survey times and conditions appropriate to detect breeding activity, and subsequent written reports. Results of surveys and a list of active leks are part of the Custer Forest Plan Monitoring and Evaluation Report.
Active Nest	A nest with an adult pair present at least 1 year within a period of 5 consecutive years. Nests are assumed to be active in the absence of 5 consecutive years of data collected according to scientific methods that shows the nest to be inactive. Scientific data collection assumes qualified observers, survey times and conditions appropriate to detect nesting activity, and subsequent written reports. The reporting process for results of surveys and a list of active nests are part of the Custer Forest Plan Monitoring and Evaluation Report. Evidence that a pair is present within a nesting territory can be based on evidence that eggs were laid or observations of 2 breeding-age birds that appear to be paired. In some species, the presence of a nest that has been recently built, repaired, or decorated may constitute evidence for occupancy because nest building behavior is probably elicited by the presence of a mate.
Affected Environment	Surface or subsurface resources (including social and economic elements) within or adjacent to a geographic area that could potentially be affected by oil and gas activities. The environment of the area to be affected or created by the alternatives under consideration. (40 CFR 1502.15)

Air Quality	Refers to air standards for various classes of air as designated by the Clean Air Act, P.L. 88-206: Jan. 1978.
Airshed	Basic geographic units in which air quality is managed.
Alternative	A combination of management prescriptions applied in specific amounts and locations to achieve a desired management emphasis as expressed in goals and objectives. One of several policies, plans, or projects proposed for decision.
Alternative, No Action	An alternative that maintains current established trends or management direction.
Alternative Energy	Energy sources not from naturally occurring hydrocarbons such as crude oil or natural gas. This category may include nuclear, solar, and any other form of energy that would reduce dependence upon hydrocarbons.
Amenity Values	Resource use for which market values (or proxy values) are not or cannot be established.
Anadromous Fish	Fish that migrate from salt water seas up fresh water streams to reproduce.
Ancillary	Equipment, tools, buildings, and facilities needed to perform full development of fluid mineral resources. Depending upon level of development and stage these may be tank batteries, treaters, separators, flaring stacks, oil or water pipelines, tool sheds, pump units, etc.
Animal Unit Month	The quantity of forage required by the equivalent of a 1,000-pound mature cow for one month.
Apparent Naturalness	Roadless area characteristic defined as an indicator of whether an area appears natural to most people who are using the area. It is a measure of importance of visitors' perception of human impacts to the area. There may be some human impact, but it would not be obvious to the casual observer and the area would have the appearance of being affected only by the forces of nature.

Application for Permit to Drill (APD)	An application to drill a well submitted by a lessee or operator to the BLM. The APD consists of a Drilling Plan that discusses downhole specifications and procedures (reviewed by the BLM) and a Surface Use Plan of Operations (SUPO) that examines surface uses, including access roads, well site layout, cut and fill diagrams, reclamation procedures, production facility locations, etc. (reviewed by the Forest Service). The approved APD is a contract between the operator and the federal government and cannot be changed or modified unless authorized by the BLM and the Forest Service.
Aquatic Ecosystem	A stream channel, lake or estuary bed, the water itself, and the biotic communities that occur therein.
Arterial Road	Serves large land areas and usually connects with public highways and other arterial roads to and from an integrated network. Usually developed and operated for long term land and resource management purpose and constant service.
Authorized Officer	The Forest Service employee delegated Officer given the authority to perform a duty described in these rules. A Regional Forester, Forest Supervisor, District Ranger, or Minerals Staff Officer, depending on the scope and level of the duty to be performed.
Background	One of the distance zones of a landscape being viewed. Extends from middleground to infinity. Texture is seen as groups or patterns of trees.
Background Viewing Area	A landscape viewing area visible to a viewer from approximately three to five miles to infinity.
Best Available Control Technology (BACT)	The best available air pollution control technology for a given purpose as stipulated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
Best Management Practices (BMPs)	The set of management practices that, when applied during implementation of a project, ensures that water-related beneficial uses are protected and that state water quality standards are met.
Big Game	Those species of large mammals normally managed as a sport hunting resource.

<p>Biological Assessment (BA)</p>	<p>A stand alone document that reviews all Forest Service planned, funded, executed, or permitted programs and activities for possible effects on federally listed threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species as identified for the cumulative effects area in coordination with the USFWS. A Biological Assessment is used to satisfy consultation requirements with the USFWS for projects requiring an Environmental Impact Statement. (Reference: Sec. 7, ESA; 50 CFR, 402.12, 1508.7, 1508.25, and 1508.27.) The Biological Assessment displays the Determination of Effects for the DEIS or FEIS preferred alternative. The Determination of Effects (Salwasser, et al. Aug. 17, 1995) is limited to: (1) No Effect; (2) May effect - Not likely to adversely affect (NLAA); (3) *May effect - Likely to adversely affect (LAA); and (4) Beneficial effect.</p> <p>* = Considered a trigger for a significant action.</p>
<p>Biological Diversity</p>	<p>The number and abundance of species found within a common environment. This includes the variety of genes, species, ecosystems, and the ecological processes that connect everything in a common environment. The Custer Forest Plan and accompanying EIS addressed the four requirements to provide for diversity of plant and animal communities while achieving multiple use objectives across the Forest. Forestwide Management Standards provide for achieving these goals (FP pp 9-12 and planning record). No. 4 - d, and No. 8 - j, were developed for the management and recovery of threatened and endangered species. Standards No. 4 - c-h; No. 5 - c, d, and e; No. 6 - a, b, and e; No. 7 - a and c; No. 8 - b; No. 10 - a; No. 11 - a; and No. 12 - b, were developed for the management of indicator species. These standards are also designed to maintain viable populations of wildlife, fish, and plant species. Management Standards No. 2 - h-i, No. 4 - f-g, and No. 8 - b, were specifically developed for the management of species that warrant special habitats. These are forest, riparian, hardwood draw, evergreen shrub, prairie grassland, or aquatic dependent species and rare plants or plant communities. Desired conditions of all these populations are discussed on pages 9 to 12 of the Forest Plan.</p>

Biological Evaluation (BE)	<p>Documentation on USFS sensitive species (animal and plant) contained within an EIS. Documentation includes a review of USFS sensitive species present, their habitat, and addresses and identifies the Determination of Effects on these species. The USFWS review of the biological evaluation is addressed through public scoping and conducted in conjunction with overall agency review of the DEIS. Reference FSM 2673.4 - Biological Evaluations for Sensitive Species. Opinions in the determination of impacts to sensitive species (Salwasser, et al. Aug. 17,1995) are limited to: (1) NI = No impact; (2) MIIH = May impact individuals or habitat, but will not likely contribute to a trend towards federal listing, or cause a loss of viability to the population or species; (3) *WIFV = Will impact individuals or habitat with a consequence that the action may contribute to a trend towards federal listing or cause a loss of viability to the population of species; and (4) BI = Beneficial impact.</p> <p>* = Trigger for a significant action as defined in NEPA.</p>
Biological Opinion	<p>An official report by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) issued in response to a formal Forest Service request for consultation or conference. It states whether an action is likely to result in jeopardy to a species or adverse modification to its critical habitat.</p>
BLM lease form 3100-11	<p>The standard form used by the BLM for oil and gas leases.</p>
Blowout	<p>An uncontrolled explosion of gas, oil, or other fluids from a drilling well. A blowout or "gusher" occurs when formation pressure exceeds the pressure applied to it by the column of drilling fluid and when blowout prevention equipment is absent or fails.</p>
Blowout Preventor (BOP)	<p>A stack or an assembly of heavy-duty valves attached to the top of the casing during drilling to control well pressure and prevent fluid or gas loss in the event of excess pressure buildup and a potential blowout. The assembly includes a remote mechanism to actuate closing by hydraulic or mechanical means.</p>
Borrow Pits	<p>An excavated area where earth material (sand, gravel, etc.), taken from one location to be used for fill at another location, has been obtained.</p>
Brackish Water	<p>Water that contains relatively moderate concentrations of any soluble salts. Brackish water is saltier than fresh water but not as salty as salt water or brine water.</p>

Brine	Water containing relatively large concentrations of dissolved salts, particularly sodium chloride. Brine has higher salt concentrations than ordinary ocean water.
Brine Pit	An excavated pit used to hold brine produced from a well.
Buffer Zone	a) An area between two different land uses that is intended to resist, absorb, or otherwise preclude developments or intrusions between the two use areas; or, b) A strip of undisturbed vegetation that retards the flow of runoff water, causing deposition of transported sediment and reducing sedimentation in the receiving stream.
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	The Department of Interior agency responsible for managing most federal government subsurface minerals. BLM also has surface management responsibility for federal lands assigned to it.
Candidate Species	Any species not yet officially listed but that is undergoing a status review or is proposed for listing according to Federal Register notices published by the Secretary of the Interior.
Casing	Steel pipe placed in an oil or gas well to prevent the hole from collapsing.
Cave	The term "cave" means any naturally occurring void, cavity, recess, or system of interconnected passages that occurs beneath the surface of the earth or within a cliff or ledge (including any cave resource therein, but not including any vug, mine, tunnel, aqueduct, or other manmade excavation) and that is large enough to permit an individual to enter, whether or not the entrance is naturally formed or man-made. Such term shall include any natural pit, sinkhole, or other feature that is an extension of the entrance. (Source: Federal Cave Resource Protection Act of 1988.)
Cave, Significant	Significant cave means a cave located on National Forest System lands that has been determined to meet the criteria in July 1, 1994, CFR 36, Part 290.3 (c) or (d) and has been designated in accordance with CFR 290.3 (e).

Cave Resource	The term "cave resource" includes any material or substance occurring naturally in caves on federal lands, such as animal life, plant life, paleontological deposits, sediments, minerals, speleogens, and speleothems. (Source: Federal Cave Resource Protection Act of 1988.) See also July 1, 1994, CFR 36, Part 261-Prohibitions [specifically 261.8 (e), 261.9 (j), 261.10 (d)(3), and 261.10 (n)] and 290-Cave Resource Management.
Christmas Tree	The control valve, pressure gauges, and chokes assembled at the top of a well to control the flow of oil and gas after the well has been completed.
Class I Wilderness Areas	Class I areas are those wilderness areas more than 5,000 acres that were in existence as of August 7, 1977, or any later expansions made to these wildernesses. All other National Forest land is Class II, including new wilderness.
Class II Injection Well	A well, as defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, that injects fluids: a. that have been brought to the surface in connection with oil or natural gas production (produced waters); b. for enhancing recovery of oil or natural gas; or c. for storing liquid hydrocarbons.
Classified Road	Roads wholly or partially within or adjacent to National Forest System lands that are determined to be needed for long-term motor vehicle access, including state roads, county roads, privately owned roads, National Forest System roads, and other roads authorized by the Forest Service.
Clean Water Act	The Clean Water Act is the primary federal law that protects our nation's waters, including lakes, rivers, aquifers, and coastal areas.
Closed Mud System	A drill mud system that reuses or reclaims all the drilling fluid used. Oil-base mud systems are often closed mud systems.
Closure	The administrative order that does not allow specified users in designated areas or on Forest development roads or trails.
Code of Federal Regulation (CFR)	Regulations developed at the Department level for the specific implementation of a Public Law. For example, 36 CFR 228 are the implementing regulations for the Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing Reform Act of 1987 (FOOGLRA).

Collector Road	Serves smaller land areas than an arterial road and is usually connected to a forest arterial or public highway. May be operated for constant or intermittent service depending on land use and resource management objective.
Commodities	Resources with commercial value; all resource products that are articles of commerce, such as timber, range forage, and minerals.
Completion	The activities and methods to prepare a well for production. Includes installation of oil or gas well production equipment.
Condition of Approval (COA)	Mitigation measures applied at the time a Plan of Operation for the Application for Permit to Drill is approved. These are site-specific and may not modify the original intent of the lease or interfere with the rights granted in it.
Congressionally Designated Areas	Areas established by Congressional legislation, such as National Wildernesses, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, and National Recreation Areas.
Connected Actions	<p>A connected action is one type of action considered in determining the scope of the Proposed Action. Connected actions are actions that closely relate and therefore should be discussed in the same EIS (40 CFR 1508.29(i)(ii)(iii)). Actions are connected if they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Automatically trigger other actions that may require environmental impact statements. (ii) Cannot or will not proceed unless other actions are taken previously or simultaneously. (iii) Are interdependent parts of larger actions and depend on the larger action for their justification.
Connectivity	Condition in which the spatial arrangement of land cover types allows organisms and ecological processes (such as disturbance) to move across the landscape. Connectivity is the opposite of fragmentation.
Contrast	The effect of a striking difference in the form, line, color, or texture of an area being viewed.

Controlled Surface Use (CSU)	Allowed use and occupancy (unless restricted by another stipulation) with identified resource values requiring special operational constraints that may modify the lease rights.
Controlled Surface Use (CSU) Stipulation	The Controlled Surface Use (CSU) stipulation is intended to be used when fluid mineral occupancy and use are allowed on all or portions of the lease area year-round, but because of special resource concerns or values, lease activities must be strictly controlled. It will be used in areas where restrictions or controls are necessary for specific types of activities rather than all activities, and applies to development as well as production phases. It may be used to route on-lease access roads and move pads and facilities further than 200 meters to protect a resource that is too small or extremely difficult to map, such as heads of canyonlands.
Corridor (Utility Corridor)	A linear strip of land that has ecological, technical, economic, social, or similar advantages over other areas for the present or future location of transportation or utility routes.
Cost	The negative or adverse effects of expenditures resulting from an action. Costs may be monetary, social, physical, or environmental in nature.
Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)	An advisory council to the President 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.
Cover	Vegetation used by wildlife for protection from predators, or to ameliorate conditions of weather, or in which to reproduce.
County Road	A road under the jurisdiction of the county.
Criteria Pollutants	Air pollutants used in determining significance of impacts: NO _x , ROC, SO _x , CO, & PM ₁₀ .

Critical Habitat	Specific areas within the geographical area occupied by the species on which are found those physical and biological features (1) essential to the conservation of the species, and (2) that may require special management considerations or protection. Critical habitat shall not include the entire geographic area that can be occupied by the threatened and/or endangered species.
Crown	The part of a tree or woody plant bearing live branches and foliage.
Crown Class	<p>A class of tree based on crown position relative to the crowns of adjacent trees.</p> <p>Dominant - Trees with crowns extending above the general level of the main canopy of even-aged groups of trees, and receiving full light from above and partly from the sides.</p> <p>Codominant - Trees with crowns forming the general level of the main canopy in even-aged groups of trees, receiving full light from above and comparatively little from the sides.</p> <p>Intermediate - Trees with crowns extending into the lower portion of the main canopy of even-aged groups of trees, but shorter in height than the codominants. They receive little direct light from above and none from the sides.</p> <p>Overtopped (Suppressed) - Trees of varying levels of vigor that have their crowns completely covered by the crowns of one or more neighboring trees.</p>
Cultural Resources	The physical remains of human activity (artifacts, ruins, burial mounds, petroglyphs, etc.) and conceptual content or context (as a setting for legendary, historic, or prehistoric events, as a sacred area of native peoples, etc.) of an area of prehistoric or historic occupation.
Cumulative Actions	Cumulative actions are actions that, when viewed with other past, present and reasonably foreseeable actions, may have cumulatively significant impacts. (40 CFR 1508.25.)
Cumulative Effect	The impact on the environment that results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other actions. Cumulative impacts can also result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

Cumulative Effects Analysis	An Analysis of the effects of the environment that results from the incremental impact of a proposed action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency (federal or non-federal), or person undertakes such other actions.
Cumulative Impact	The impact on the environment that results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably 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.
Cumulative Watershed Effects (CWE)	CWE is estimated by evaluating the sensitivity of the watershed to disturbance from land use and the amount of land use that has occurred, and is planned to occur, in the watershed.
Deepen	To increase the depth of a well. Deepening is generally a workover operation carried out to produce from a deeper formation or to control excessive gas found in the upper levels of a reservoir.
Developed Recreation	Recreation that occurs where improvements have been added to enhance recreation opportunities and accommodate intensive recreation activities in a defined area.
Developed Recreation Sites	Relatively small, distinctly defined areas where facilities are provided for concentrated public use (i.e., campgrounds, picnic areas, and swimming areas).
Development Well	A well drilled in proven territory (usually within one mile of an existing well).
Direct Effects	Effects on the environment that occur at the same time and place as the initial cause or action.
Directional Drilling	The intentional deviation of a wellbore from vertical to reach subsurface areas off to one side from the drilling site. Also known as slant drilling.

Dispersed Recreation	That portion of outdoor recreation use that occurs outside of developed sites in the unroaded and roaded forest environment (i.e., hunting, backpacking, and hiking).
Displacement	As applied to wildlife, forced shifts in the patterns of wildlife use, either in location or timing of use.
Disposal Well	A well that produced water from other wells is injected into, and thereby into an underground formation for disposal.
District Ranger	The official responsible for administering the National Forest System lands on a Ranger District.
Distance Zone	The divisions of a landscape being viewed. Three zones are used to describe a landscape: foreground, middleground, and background.
District Ranger	The official responsible for administering the National Forest System lands on a Ranger District.
Diversity	(1) The relative abundance of wildlife species, plant species, communities, habitats, or habitat features per unit of area. (2) The distribution and abundance of different plant and animal communities and species within the area covered by a Land and Resource Management Plan.
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)	A detailed written statement as required by Sec. 102 (2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
Drainage	The uncompensated loss of hydrocarbons from federal lands from wells on adjacent nonjurisdictional lands or jurisdictional lands with lower participation, allocation, royalty rate or distribution of funds, resulting in revenue losses to the federal lessor.
Drill Pipe	The heavy seamless tubing used to rotate the drill bit and circulate the drilling fluid. The standard drill pipe section is 30 feet long (a joint).
Drill Rig	The mast, drawworks, and attendant surface equipment of a drilling or workover unit.

Duration	The length of time management activity and its impacts will be taking place.
Dry Hole	Any well incapable of producing oil or gas in commercial quantities. A dry hole may produce water, gas or even oil, but not enough to justify production.
Ecosystem	All organisms in a community plus the associated environmental factors.
Ecosystem Composition	The specific elements that make up an interacting system, i.e., plant and animal species, microorganisms, soil type, landform, and climate regimes.
Ecosystem Functions	(Processes): The major processes of ecosystems that regulate or influence the structure, composition, and pattern. These include nutrient cycles, energy flows, trophic levels (food chains), diversity patterns in time/space development and evolution, cybernetics (control), hydrological cycles, and weathering processes.
Ecosystem Structure	The physical arrangement of the various components. Also, trophic structure; measured in standing crop or energy fixed per unit area per unit time. May be pyramids of numbers, biomass, or energy flows.
Ecotone	The area where two major (biotic) communities meet and blend together.
Effects (also see Impacts)	Physical, biological, social, and economic results (expected or experienced) resulting from achievement of outputs. Effects can be direct, indirect, and cumulative and may be either beneficial or detrimental. (See Impacts)
Elevated Flares	The use of piping and a burn stack to elevate the flare that burns unusable petroleum vapors. Elevated flares may include an ignitor to ensure continuous burning or an incinerator where gas is added to ensure complete combustion of petroleum products.
Endemic	Restricted to a specified region or locality.
Endangered Plants	See Threatened and Endangered Species.

Endangered Species	Any species in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Classified by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
Enhanced Recovery	The use of artificial means to increase reservoir pressures or reduce fluid resistance to increase the amount of hydrocarbons that can be recovered from a reservoir. A reservoir depleted by normal extraction practices usually can be restored by secondary or tertiary methods of enhanced recovery.
Enhancement	A short-term visual resource management objective aimed at increasing positive visual variety where little variety now exists.
Environmental Analysis	An analysis of alternatives actions and their predictable short- and long-term environmental effects, which include physical, biological, economic, social, and environmental design factors and their interactions. Completion of this level of analysis may result in a Decision Notice (DN) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI).
Environmental Assessment (EA)	A concise public document prepared to provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or a finding of no significant impact. It includes a brief discussion of the need for the proposal, alternatives considered, environmental impact of the proposed action and alternatives, and a list of agencies and individuals consulted.
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)	A formal public document prepared to analyze and disclose the impacts on the environment of the proposed project or action and alternatives.
Environmental Justice	When environmental effects do not disproportionately affect minority or low-income communities.
Ephemeral Stream	A stream that flows only in direct response to precipitation and whose channel is at all times above the water table.
Erosion	(1) The wearing away of the land surface by running water, wind, ice, or other geological agents, including such processes as gravitational creep. (2) Detachment and movement of soil or rock fragments by water, wind, ice, or gravity.

Erosion Hazard	The probability of soil loss resulting from complete removal of vegetation and litter. It is an interpretation based on potential soil loss in relation to tolerance values.
Even-Aged Stand	A stand of trees containing a single age class in which the range of tree ages is usually less than 20 percent of rotation.
Exception	Case-by-case exemption from a lease stipulation. The stipulation continues to apply to all other sites within the leasehold to which the restrictive criteria apply.
Executive Orders 11990 and 11988	The purpose of these executive orders is to avoid to the extent possible the long- and short-term adverse impacts associated with the destruction or modification of wetlands and floodplains.
Existing Scenic condition	Current Scenic Condition of the Forest.
Exotic	Foreign, not native.
Exploration	A well drilled in an area where there is no oil or gas production. Same as a "wildcat" well.
Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing Reform Act of 1987	Act that gave USDA and FS increased authority regarding oil and gas leasing and administration on National Forest System lands.
Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS)	The final version of the public document required by NEPA.
Fisheries	Resident and anadromous fish species.
Flare	The piping and burners used to dispose (by burning) of unusable vapors from a well or collection plant. The flaring of oil field gas is regulated by North Dakota State Department of Health ND Air Pollution Control Rules, including applicable AAQS and PSD requirements.
Forage	All browse and nonwoody plants available to livestock or wildlife for feed.

Foreground	One of the distance zones of a landscape being viewed. A distance that details can be perceived, normally within one-quarter to one-half mile of the viewer. Must be determined on a case-by-case basis.
Foreground Viewing Area	The landscape area visible to an observer from the immediate area to 1/2 mile.
Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (RPA)	The parent act that preceded Forest Planning. This act directed that the National Forest System begin systematic resource planning on the National Forest units.
Forest Development Transportation System	Those facilities, Forest Development Roads, trails, and airfields, in the transportation network and under Forest Service jurisdiction.
Forest Plan	A comprehensive management plan prepared under the National Forest Management Act of 1976 that provides standards and guidelines for management activities on the Custer National Forest. The Custer Forest Plan was approved in June 1987.
Forest Service (FS)	The agency of the United States Department of Agriculture responsible for managing National Forests and Grasslands.
Form	The mass of an object or objects that appears visually unified.
Formation	A body of rock identified by lithic characteristics and stratigraphic position; it is prevailing, but not necessarily tabular, and is mapable at the earth's surface or traceable in the subsurface.
Fuelbreak	A linear corridor in which vegetation is modified to prevent fires from easily crossing.

Fracture Treatment	A method of stimulating well production by increasing the permeability of the producing formation. Under extremely high hydraulic pressure, the fracturing fluid (water, oil, dilute hydrochloric acid, or other fluids) is pumped into the formation and parts or fractures it. Proppants or propping agents such as sand or glass beads are pumped into the formation as part of the fracturing job. The proppants become wedged in the opened fractures, leaving channels for oil to flow into the well after the hydraulic fracture pressure is released. This process is often called a "frac job." When high concentrations of acid are used, it may be called an "acid-frac job."
Fragile Soils	Soils that are located on steep topography, are highly susceptible to wind/or water erosion, have high potential for mass failure, are shallow to bedrock, are saline or alkaline, or soils that are virtually impossible or extremely difficult to reclaim.
Fragmentation	Breaking up of contiguous areas into progressively smaller patches of increasing degrees of isolation. Opposite of connectivity.
Game Species	Any species of wildlife or fish for which seasons and bag limits have been prescribed under state or federal laws, codes, and regulations, and that are normally harvested by hunting, trapping, and fishing.
General Conformity Rule	The Clean Air Act Amendment of 1990 requires the EPA to promulgate rules to ensure that federal actions conform to appropriate State Implementation Plans (SIPs). The conformity provisions of the Clean Air Act, Section 176(c), prohibit federal agencies from taking any action that causes or contributes to any new violation of the NAAQS, increases the frequency or severity of an existing violation, or delays the timely attainment of a standard. Conformity to a SIP is defined in the Act as meaning conformity to a SIPs purpose of eliminating or reducing the severity and number of violations of the NAAQS and achieving expeditious attainment of such standards.
Geology	The study of the planet Earth. It is concerned with the origin of the planet, the material and morphology of the Earth, and its history and the processes that acted (and act) upon it to affect its historic and present forms.
Guilds	A group of organisms that share a common food resource.

Habitat	A specific set of physical conditions that surround a single species, a group of species, or a large community. In wildlife management, the major components of habitat are considered to be food, water, cover, and living space.
Habitat Indicator Species	Species whose population changes are believed to indicate effects of management on other species of a major biological community or on water quality. The forest will provide for the maintenance and improvement of habitats for these indicator species.
Heritage Resources	Prehistoric, historic and Native American cultural resources.
Hiding Cover	Trees or other vegetation of sufficient size and density to conceal animals from view at 300 feet.
High Seral	The last seral stage before a vegetation community becomes climax.
Human Dimension	An integral component of Ecosystems Management that recognizes people are part of ecosystems, that people's pursuits of past, present, and future desires, needs, and values (including perceptions, beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors) have and will continue to influence ecosystems and that ecosystem management must include consideration of the physical, emotional, mental, spiritual, social, cultural, and economic well being of people and communities.
Human Environment	The factors that include, but are not limited to biological, physical, social, economic, cultural, and aesthetic factors that interrelate to form the environment.
Hydrocarbon	Any organic compound, gaseous, liquid, or solid, consisting solely of carbon and hydrogen.
Hydrologic Unit	Hierarchical units for designating combinations of watersheds.
Impact (See Effects)	Physical, biological, social, and economic results (expected or experienced) resulting from achievement of outputs. Effects can be direct, indirect, and cumulative and may be either beneficial or detrimental.

Indicator Species	A species of animal or plant whose presence is a fairly certain indication of a particular set of environmental conditions. Indicator species serve to show the effects of development actions on the environment.
Indigenous Species	A species that originally inhabited a particular National Forest or National Grassland (see definition of exotic).
Indirect Effects	Indirect effects, which are caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable. Indirect effects may include growth-inducing effects and other effects related to induced changes in the pattern of land use, population density or growth rate, and related effects on air and water and other natural systems, including ecosystems.
Injection Well	A well used to inject fluids into an underground formation to increase reservoir pressure.
Interior Habitat	That portion of an ecosystem or a fragment that is far enough removed from its outside boundaries so as not to be significantly influenced by edge effects. The width of the zone effected by the edge, and accordingly, the core of the interior habitat, will vary with the composition and structure of the ecosystem and the requirements of the species being considered. Species that require specific attributes of interior habitats are often referred to as interior species.
Intermittent Stream	A stream that flows only at certain times of the year when it receives water from springs or from some surface source such as melting snow.
Inventoried Roadless Area (IRA)	Unroaded areas typically 5000 acres or more that meet criteria for wilderness consideration under the Wilderness Act and that were inventoried during the Forest Service's Roadless Area and Review and Evaluation (RARE II) process, subsequent assessments, or forest planning.
Invertebrate	An animal lacking a spinal column.
Irretrievable Effect	An irretrievable effect is one that is sustained for a certain period of time but is reversible.
Irreversible Effects	An irreversible effect is one that cannot be reversed.

Issue	Potentially significant impact areas or areas of controversy
Keystone Species	A species that plays a pivotal role in an ecosystem and upon which the diversity of a large part of the community depends. Keystone species are often the dominant species at their tropic level, but their importance in a biotic community is greater than abundance alone might suggest. Examples include beaver-wetland and pocket gopher-meadow.
Key Wildlife Area	Any area that is critical to wildlife during at least a portion of the year. This importance may be due to vegetative characteristics such as residual nesting cover, or behavioral aspects of the animals such as lambing areas. Key areas include: winter ranges, lambing/fawning/calving areas, dancing/strutting grounds, nesting areas, breeding grounds, riparian and woody drainages, and roosting areas.
Landscape Character Type	The visual arrangement of a particular landscape as formed by the variety and intensity of the landscape features and the four basic elements of form, line, color, and texture. These factors give the area a distinct quality that distinguishes it from its immediate surroundings.
Lease Notice (LN)	Provides more detailed information concerning limitations that already exist in law, lease terms, regulations, or operational orders. A lease notice also addresses special items the lessee should consider when planning operations, but does not impose new or additional restrictions. Lease notices attached to leases should not be confused with Notices to Lessees (NTL). (See 43 CFR 3160.0-5.)
Leasable Minerals	Minerals acquired only by lease and include oil, gas, oil shale, sodium, potassium, phosphate, native asphalt, solid and semi-solid bitumin, and deposits of sulfur.
Lease	(1) A legal document that conveys to a lessee the right to drill for oil and gas. (2) The tract of land on which a lease has been obtained, where producing wells and production equipment are located.
Lease Stipulations	Additional specific conditions that change the manner in which the operation may be conducted on a lease, or modify the lease rights granted.
Lease Study Area	The area of the Custer National Forest being considered for mineral leases in this EIS.

Leasing Reform Act of 1987	The Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing Reform Act of 1987. (FOOGLRA). Implementing regulations are found in 36 CFR 228.
Lek	See active lek.
Limited Surface Use	Use and occupancy is allowed (unless restricted by another stipulation), but identified resource values require special operational constraints that may modify the lease rights. LSU is used for operating guidance, not as a substitute for the NSO or timing stipulations.
Local Roads	Connect terminal facilities with collector or arterial roads or public highways. Location and standards are usually controlled by specific resource activity and the road may be for long- or short-term service.
Long-term Effects	Those effects that generally occur after the maximum 15-year life of the Forest Plan.
Low Seral	The earliest stage of plant succession; the stage where pioneer plants inhabit a community.
Management Area	An aggregation of capability areas that have common management direction under the Forest Plan and may be noncontiguous in the Forest. Consists of a grouping of capability areas selected through evaluation procedures and used to locate decisions and resolve issues and concerns.
Management Direction	A statement of multiple-use and other goals and objectives, the associated management practices identified by the Forest Service in the planning process.
Management Indicator Species	Species identified in a planning process that are used to monitor the effects of planned management activities on viable populations of wildlife and fish, including those that are socially or economically important.
Mid Seral	The middle stage of plant succession.

Middleground	One of the distance zones of a landscape being viewed. This zone extends from the limit of the foreground to three to five miles from the observer. Texture is characterized by masses of trees.
Mineral Rights	Mineral rights outstanding are third party rights, an interest in minerals not owned by the person or party conveying the land to the United States. It is an exception in the deed that is the result of a prior conveyance separating title of certain minerals from the surface estate. Reserved mineral rights are the retention of ownership of all or part of the mineral rights by a person or party conveying land to the United States. Conditions for the exercising of these rights have been defined in the Secretary's "Rules and Regulations to Govern Exercising of Mineral Rights Reserved in Conveyance to the United States" attached to and made a part of a deed reserving mineral rights.
Mitigation	Includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action. (b) Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree of magnitude of the action and its implementation. (c) Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment. (d) Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action. (e) Compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.
Modification	Fundamental change to the provisions of a lease stipulation, either temporarily or for the term of the lease. Therefore, a modification may include an exemption from or alteration to a stipulated requirement. Depending on the specific modification, the stipulation may or may not apply to all other sites within the leasehold to which the restrictive criteria apply.
Monitoring	To watch, observe, or check, especially for a specific purpose, such as to keep track of, regulate, or control (Webster's dictionary).
Monitoring and Evaluation	The periodic evaluation on a sample basis of Forest Plan management practices to determine how well objectives have been met and how closely management standards have been applied.

Multiple Use (MU)	The management of all the various renewable surface resources of the National Forest System so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the needs of the American people, by 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 conform to changing needs and conditions, and recognizing that some lands will be used for less than all of the resources. It also provides for harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources, each with the other, without impairment of the productivity of the land, with consideration being given to the relative values of the various resources, and not necessarily the combination of uses that will give the greatest dollar return or the greatest unit output.
National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)	An act which encourages productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environments; promotes efforts to prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man; enriches the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the Nation; and establishes a Council on Environmental Quality.
National Forest Management Act (NFMA)	A law passed in 1976 as amendments to the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act that requires the preparation of Regional and Forest plans and the preparation of regulations to guide that development.
National Forest System (NFS)	All National Forest System lands reserved or withdrawn from the public domain of the United States; all National Forest System lands acquired through purchase, exchange, donation, or other means, and other lands, waters, or interests therein which are administered by the Forest Service or are designated for administration through the Forest Service as a part of the system (16 U.S.C. 1609).
National Forest System Road (NFSR)	A Forest road under jurisdiction of the Forest Service.
National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)	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.
Native Species	All animal and plant species originally occurring in the United States.

Natural Integrity	Roadless area characteristic defined as the extent to which long-term ecological processes are intact and operating. Impacts to natural integrity are measured by the presence and magnitude of human-induced change to an area. This change includes physical developments as well as activity in the area.
New Road Construction	Investment in construction of a road to provide access that adds new miles of road to the transportation system.
No Action Alternative	The management direction, activities, outputs, and effects that are likely to exist in the future if the current trends and management would continue unchanged. Under NEPA, it means following the current approved Forest Plan management direction and guidance.
No Surface Occupancy (NSO)	A fluid mineral leasing stipulation that prohibits occupancy or disturbance on all or part of the land surface to protect special values or uses. Lessees may access the oil and gas or geothermal resources under leases restricted by this stipulation through use of directional drilling from sites outside the NSO area.
No Surface Occupancy (NSO) Stipulation	<p>The NSO stipulation is intended for use only when other stipulations are determined insufficient to adequately protect the other resource values. An NSO stipulation is not needed if the desired protection could be accomplished by relocating proposed operations 200 meters or less as allowed under the Standard Lease Terms (43 CFR 3101.1-2 Surface use rights). The Forest Plan direction for the use of the NSO lease stipulation does not apply to road construction. Road construction is regulated by the Forest Plan management direction for each Management Area. Roads may be considered in NSO areas on case-by case basis when:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is an entitlement to access; 2. Alternative access routes create greater environmental impact; 3. Providing such access is consistent with the Forest Plan standards and guidelines for the relevant Management Area(s). <p>Road construction proposals are evaluated at the time a lessee submitted plans for exploration, development, or operations.</p>

Nonpoint Source Pollution	Sources, including natural pollution sources not directly or indirectly caused by man, from which the pollutants discharged are: a. Induced by natural processes, including precipitation, seepage, percolation, and runoff; b. Not traceable to any discrete or identifiable facility; or c. Better controlled through the utilization of Best Management Practices, including process and planning techniques.
Notice to Lessees (NTL)	The NTL is a written notice issued by the BLM authorized officer. NTLs implement regulations and operating orders, and serve as instructions on specific item(s) of importance within a State, District, or Area.
Noxious Weed	According to the Federal Noxious Weed Act (PL 93-629), a weed that causes disease or has other adverse effects on man or his environment and therefore is detrimental to the agriculture and commerce of the United States and to the public health.
Objective	A concise time-specific statement of measurable planned results that respond to pre-established goals. An objective forms the basis for further planning, to defining the precise steps to be taken and the resources to be used in achieving identified goals.
Off Highway Vehicle	Any motorized vehicle designed for and/or capable of travel off roads.
Operations	Surface disturbing activities that are conducted on a leasehold on National Forest System lands pursuant to a current approved surface use plan of operations, including but not limited to, exploration, development, and production of oil and gas resources and reclamation of surface resources.
Ozone	Ozone, the major constituent of smog, is formed through a complex series of chemical reactions and transformations in the presence of sunlight. Ozone is a strong irritant, which attacks the respiratory system, leading to lung tissue damage. Ozone also affects materials such as surface coatings, fabrics, and rubber.
Paleontology	The study of life in past geologic periods, based on fossil plants and animals and including phylogeny, their relationships to existing plants and animals, and the chronology of the Earth's history.

Particulates	Small particles suspended in the air and generally considered pollutants.
Perennial Stream	A stream that flows continuously year round.
Pit Flaring	The burning of unusable petroleum vapors in an excavated pit.
Pixel	A picture element, one of the tiny dots that make up a character or graphic.
Plant Community	A group of individual plants of one or more species growing in a specific area in association with one another and with a complex of other plants and animals.
Policy	A guiding principle upon which is based a specific decision or set of decisions.
Population	A group of individuals with common ancestry that are much more likely to mate with one another than with individuals from another such group.
Prehistoric Site	Archeologic sites associated with American Indians and usually occurring before contact with Europeans.
Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD)	A classification established to preserve, protect, and enhance the air quality in National Wilderness Preservation System areas in existence prior to August 1977 and other areas of National significance, while ensuring economic growth can occur in a manner consistent with the preservation of existing clean air resources. Specific emission limitations and other measures, by class, are detailed in the Clean Air Act. (42 U.S.C. 1875 et seq.)
Primitive (P)	Those recreation activities that occur in areas characterized by an essentially unmodified natural environment of fairly large size.

Primitive Recreation Setting	A classification of the recreation opportunity spectrum (ROS) that characterizes an essentially unmodified natural environment of a size or remoteness that provides significant opportunity for isolation from the signs and sounds of man and a feeling of vastness of scale. Visitors have an opportunity to be part of the natural environment, encounter a high degree of challenge, and use a maximum of outdoor skills but have minimum opportunity for social interaction.
Primitive Roads	Roads that were developed through use but were not constructed. These roads are not maintained for passenger cars and are excluded from the Highway Safety Act.
Productive	The ability of an area to provide goods and services and to sustain ecological values.
Project Area	Area of analysis for proposed leasing on Sioux Ranger District of the Custer National Forest.
Proposed Action	In terms of National Environmental Policy Act, the project, activity, or action that a federal agency intends to implement or undertake and which is the subject of an environmental analysis.
Public Domain Minerals	Mineral rights that have always been the property of the United States.
Raptor	Birds of prey, such as owls, hawks, and eagles.
Reasonably Foreseeable Development (RFD)	The hypothetical projected oil and gas activity that is expected to be generated if each alternative were implemented. These are the activities that would generate physical / biological and social / economic effects on the human environment.
Reasonable Range of Alternatives	The NEPA requires the proposed action, a no action alternative, and a reasonable range of alternatives to the proposed action be addressed in an EIS.
Reclamation	Rehabilitation of a disturbed area to make it acceptable for designated uses. This normally involves regrading, replacement of topsoil, revegetation, and other work such as fertilization and fencing necessary to restore it for use.

Record of Decision (ROD)	A document separate from, but associated with, an environmental impact statement, that publicly and officially discloses the responsible official's decision on the proposed action.
Recreation Capacity	The number of people that can take advantage of a recreation opportunity at any one time without substantially diminishing the quality of the experience sought after.
Recreation Opportunities	The combination of recreation settings, activities, and experiences provided by an area.

<p>Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS)</p>	<p>A system for planning and managing recreation resources that recognizes recreation activity opportunities, recreation settings, and recreation experiences along a spectrum or continuum of settings as follows:</p> <p>Primitive - Characterized by essentially unmodified natural environment of fairly large size. Interaction between users is very low and evidence of other users is minimal. The area is managed to be essentially free from evidence of human-induced restrictions and controls. Motorized use is not permitted.</p> <p>Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized - Characterized by predominately natural or natural appearing environment of a moderate to large size. Concentrations of users is low, but there is often evidence of other area users. The area is managed in such a way that minimum on-site controls and restrictions may be present, but are subtle. Motorized use is not permitted.</p> <p>Semi-Primitive Motorized - Characterized by a predominantly natural or natural appearing environment of moderate-to-large size. Concentration of users is low, but there is often evidence of other users. The area is managed in such a way that minimum on-site controls and restrictions may be present, but are subtle. Motorized use is permitted.</p> <p>Roaded Natural - Characterized by predominantly natural appearing environment with moderate evidence of the sights and sounds of man. Such evidences usually harmonize with the natural environment. Interaction between users may be low to moderate, but with the evidence of other users prevalent. Resource modification and utilization practices are evident, but harmonize with the natural environment. Motorized use is permitted.</p> <p>Rural - Characterized by substantially modified natural environment. Resource modification and utilization practices are to enhance specific recreation activities and to maintain vegetative cover and soil. Sights and sounds of humans are readily evident, and the interaction between users is often moderate to high. Facilities are often provided for special activities. Moderate densities are provided far away from developed sites.</p> <p>Urban - Characterized by a substantially urbanized environment, although the background may have natural-appearing elements. Vegetative cover is often exotic and manicured. Sights and sounds of humans on-site are predominant.</p>
<p>Recreation Visitor Days (RVD)</p>	<p>One visitor day equals 12 hours of human use (one person for 12 hours, or 12 people for 1 hour, or any combination thereof).</p>

Rehabilitation	A short-term visual resource management objective used to restore landscapes containing undesirable visual or other resource impacts to the desired visual or other acceptable quality level.
Remoteness	A characteristic of an area defined as the perceived condition of being secluded, inaccessible, and "out of the way." Topography, vegetative screening, distance from human impacts, distance from sights and sounds of man, and difficulty of travel all contribute to remoteness.
Research Natural Area (RNA)	A physical or biological unit in which current natural conditions are maintained insofar as possible. In such areas, activities such as grazing and vegetation manipulation are prohibited unless they replace natural processes and contribute to the protection and preservation of an area. Such recreation activities as camping and gathering plants are discouraged.
Reserve Pit	a) An excavated pit that may be lined with plastic, which holds drill cuttings and waste mud; or, b) A standby pit that holds already-mixed drilling mud for use in an emergency.
Restore	To bring back to a former or original condition or appearance.
Revegetation	The reestablishment and development of self-sustaining plant cover. On disturbed sites, this normally requires human assistance such as seedbed preparation, reseeding, and mulching.
Rig	The mast, drawworks, and attendant surface equipment of a drilling or workover unit.
Rimrock	The term "rimrock" is used in this analysis to describe rocky outcrops, usually of scoria/sandstone, primarily unvegetated or sparsely vegetated, where gullies and canyons provide vertical cliff habitat consisting of caves and ledges.
Riparian	Riparian areas consist of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, those lands in a position to directly influence water quality and water resources, whether or not free water is available. This would include all lands in the active flood channel and lands immediately upslope of stream banks. These areas may be associated with lakes, reservoirs, marshes, streams, bogs, wet meadows, and intermittent or permanent streams where free and unbound water is available.

Riparian Areas	Geographically delineable areas with distinctive resource values and characteristics that comprise the riparian ecosystems.
Riparian Ecosystem	a) Ecosystems transitional between terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. Also streams, lakes, wet areas, and adjacent vegetation communities and their associated soils that have free water at or near the surface. b) Those assemblages of plants, animals, and aquatic communities whose presence can either be directly or indirectly attributed to factors that are water influenced or related. c) Interacting system between aquatic and terrestrial situations, identified by soil characteristics and distinctive vegetation that requires or tolerates free or unbound water.
Riparian Zone	An area of vegetation adjacent to an aquatic ecosystem. It has a high water table, certain soil characteristics, and some vegetation that requires free (unbound chemically) water or conditions that are more moist than normal. This zone is transitional between aquatic and upland zones.
Road	A motor vehicle travelway over 50 inches wide, unless designated and managed as a trail. A road may be classified, unclassified, or temporary.
Road Decommissioning	Activities that result in the stabilization and restoration of unneeded roads to a more natural state.
Road Rehabilitation	(Same as Road Obliteration) - Roads that serve no other resources will be obliterated and rehabilitated when oil and gas production ceases (FSM 7731.6). Roadways will be ripped, plowed, or scarified and the slopes rounded to approximately the original contour (Engineer Manual, 7720-100LL, Section 210.01, page 83).
Roaded Natural	A recreation opportunity classification term for describing a land area that has predominately a natural appearing environment with moderate evidence of sights and sounds of humans. Concentration of users is moderate to low. Roads of better than primitive class are usually within 0.5 mile. A broad range of motorized and non-motorized activity opportunities is available. Management activities are present and harmonize with the natural environment.
Roaded Natural Appearing Recreation Setting	See Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS).

Roadless	Refers to the absence of roads that have been constructed and maintained by mechanical means to ensure regular and continuous use.
Rural Recreation Setting	A classification on the recreation opportunity spectrum that is characterized by substantially modified natural environment. Resource modification and use practices are to enhance specific recreation activities and to maintain vegetative cover and soil. Sights and sounds of humans are readily evident, and the interaction between users is often moderate to high.
Saline Water	Water containing high concentrations of salt (see also brine water and brackish water).
Scenic Quality Class	The designation (A, B, or C) assigned a scenic quality rating unit to indicate the visual importance or quality of a unit relative to other units within the same physiographic province.
Scoping/Scoping Process	An early and open public involvement process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to the proposed action. Identifying the significant environmental issues deserving of study and de-emphasizing insignificant issues, narrowing the scope of the Environmental Impact Statement accordingly. (Ref. CEQ Regulations, 40 CFR 1501.7.)
"Scoria" (Porcellanite)	A hard, dense, siliceous rock having the texture, dull luster, hardness, fracture, or general appearance of unglazed porcelain, often found in the roof or floor of a burned out coal seam. In North Dakota, it is commonly used as a road surfacing material.
Section 404 Permit	All riparian and wetland areas that qualify as jurisdictional wetlands are regulated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and a Section 404 permit is required before any "dredge and fill" activities can occur in such areas.
Sediment	Solid mineral or organic material that is transported by air, water, gravity, or ice.

Seen area	That portion of the landscape that can be viewed from one or more observer positions. The extent or area that can be viewed is normally limited by landform, vegetation, structures, or distance.
Seismic Exploration	Seismic exploration is used to map underground geological features to obtain information on the earth's subsurface and to locate areas where accumulations of oil and gas might occur. Seismic waves, generated at or near the surface, penetrate the earth's crust and reflect from subsurface rock layers back to the surface. The geophysicist receives a printed record or seismograph from which is measured the depth to various strata and from which subsurface structures with a potential for oil and gas accumulation can be determined such as faults, anticlines, and folds.
Seismic Operations	Use of explosive or mechanical thumpers to generate shock waves that can be read by special equipment to give clues to subsurface conditions.
Semiprimitive	A recreation opportunity classification term for describing land areas that have very few management controls lying between 0.5 mile and 3 miles from the nearest point of motor vehicle access, excepting four-wheel drive roads and trails, with mostly natural landscapes and some evidence of other people.
Semi-Primitive Motorized (SPM)	A land area classified as semi-primitive that may have primitive roads present and where motorized use is permitted. Settings, activities, and opportunities are affected accordingly though there is still a moderate probability of experiencing isolation from sights and sounds of humans.
Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized (SPNM)	A land area classified as semi-primitive that has a natural environment and motorized use is not permitted. Non-motorized status increases the probability of experiencing isolation, independence, and closeness to nature. Challenge and risk are generally high. Resource management may be present; however, natural appearance is still maintained.
Semi-Primitive Recreation Setting	See Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS).
Sensitive Receptors	Sensitive receptors sites are defined as locations where adverse impacts could affect people or resources.

Sensitive Species	Those plant or animal species that are susceptible or vulnerable to activity impacts or habitat alterations and will be managed similar to threatened or endangered species. The Forest Service policy is to ensure that species would not be affected in such a manner as to have them listed or proposed for listing as threatened or endangered.
Sensitivity Levels	A measure of people's concern for the scenic quality of the forest. Sensitivity levels are developed for visitors viewing the forest as a result of traveling by car, hiking, camping, fishing, or boating. Some degree of sensitivity is established for all National Forest System lands. Three levels of sensitivity are used, with (1) one being most sensitive and (3) three the least.
Seral	A biotic community that is developmental; a transitory stage in an ecologic succession.
Significance Threshold	A point beyond which impacts are assumed to be significant
Significant Impact/Effect	An impact or effect is significant when it is projected to meet or exceed threshold standards, while considering how substantial the impact or effect is, considering its context and intensity.
Slope	The amount or degree of deviation from the horizontal or vertical. Concerning visual or scenic resources, as slope increases, views into a site and the size of the disturbance increase. Generally, the steeper slopes are more visible due to their location in the landscape.
Soil Productivity	The capacity of a soil to produce a specific crop such as fiber and forage, under defined levels of management. It is generally dependent on available soil moisture and nutrients and length of growing season.
Solitude	A personal, subjective value and roadless area characteristic defined as isolation from the sights, sounds, presence of others, and the developments of man. A primitive recreation experience includes the opportunity to experience solitude, a sense of remoteness, closeness to nature, serenity, and spirit of adventure.
Sour Well	In an oil or gas well, a condition caused by the presence of hydrogen sulfide or another sulfur compound.

Special Features	Unique geological, biological, ecological, cultural, or scenic features located in a roadless area. Unique fish and animal species, unique plants or plant communities, potential Research Natural Areas, outstanding landscape features such as unique rock formations, and significant cultural resource sites are some of the items that should be considered when analyzing this element.
Species	A population or series of populations of organisms that are capable of interbreeding freely with each other but not with members of other species.
Split Estate	A term that refers to different ownership of the surface and subsurface properties. For example, the federal government may own the surface and a private person or persons may own the minerals underlying the parcel.
Staged Decision Process	Oil and gas leasing on federal lands is a staged decision process. The stages are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lands Availability Decision • Specific Lands Leasing Decision • Approval of the Application for Permit to Drill • Field Development Plan
Standard Lease Terms and Conditions	The terms and conditions contained in Bureau of Land Management Form 3100-11, Offer To Lease And Lease For Oil And Gas. This form contains the minimum terms and conditions to which stipulations and Lease Notices may be attached.
Statistical Fire	A fire that constitutes a threat to the forest and requires Forest Service suppression action.
Step-Out Well	A well drilled adjacent to or near a proven well to ascertain the limits of the oil or gas reservoir. An outpost is a well drilled a further distance from a step-out but still on the same structural trend. (Distance could be a couple of miles.)
Stipulation	A provision that modifies standard lease rights and is attached to and made a part of the lease.
Sundry Notice	Standard form to notify of or propose change of approved well operations subsequent to the APD in accordance with 43 CFR 3162.3-2 (BLM) and Forest Service regulations.

Surface Use Plan of Operations (SUPO)	A plan for surface use, disturbance, and reclamation on a leasehold.
Sweet Well	An oil or gas well lacking sulfur and any significant amount of hydrogen sulfide or mercaptans.
Tank Battery	A group of production tanks that store crude oil in the field.
Temporary Road	Roads authorized by contract, permit, lease, other written authorization, or emergency operation, not intended to be part of the forest transportation system and not necessary for long-term resource management.
Terrestrial	Living or growing in or on the land.
Terrestrial Ecosystem	A land based ecosystem. An interacting system of soil, geology, and topography with plant and animal communities. (See ecosystem.)
Texture	Detail of landscape that varies with distance.
The IMPLAN Pro™	An economic input / output model.
Threatened Species	Any species likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range, and that has been designated in the Federal Register by the Secretary of the Interior as a threatened species.
Tiering	Refers to the elimination of repetitive discussions of the same issue by incorporating by reference the general discussion in an environmental impact statement of broader scope. For example, a project environmental assessment could be tiered to the Forest Plan EIS.
Timing Limitations (TL) Stipulation	This stipulation (often called seasonal) prohibits fluid mineral exploration and development activities for time periods less than yearlong. A TL is not necessary if the time limitation involves the period of prohibition of new surface-disturbing activities for less than 60 days (43 CFR 3101.1-2).

Trailhead	A developed recreation site with parking, signing, and other facilities designated to provide a take-off point for trail users.
Unclassified Road	Roads on National Forest System lands that are not managed as part of the forest transportation system, such as unplanned roads, abandoned travelways, and off-road vehicle tracks that have not been designated and managed as a trail; and those roads that were once under permit or other authorization and were not decommissioned upon termination of the authorization.
Understory	The trees and other woody species that grow under a more or less continuous cover of branches and foliage formed collectively by the upper portion of adjacent trees and other woody growth.
Variety Class	A designation (A, B, or C) assigned to a homogeneous area of the landscape to indicate the visual importance or quality relative to other landscape areas within the same physiographic province.
Vascular Plants	Plants with well-developed vascular systems that transport water, minerals, sugars, and other nutrients throughout the plant body. (Excludes the bryophytes; mosses, hornworts, and liverworts.)
Viability	The likelihood of continued existence in an area for some specified period of time.
Viewer Position	The relationship of the viewer to a specific site or structure. That is, whether a person is looking up at, down at, or across. Viewer position is classified as superior, normal, or inferior.
Viewshed	A total landscape as seen from a particular viewpoint.
Visual (or Scenic) Resource	The composite of basic terrain, geologic features, water features, vegetative patterns, and land use effects that typify a land unit and influence the visual appeal of the unit.
Visual Absorption Capability (VAC)	The ability of a landscape to accept management practices without affecting its visual characteristics. The capability to absorb visual change. A prediction of how difficult it will be for a landscape to meet recommended VQOs.

Visual Management System	A management system that establishes the "visual landscape" as a basic resource, treated as an essential part of the land. The visual management system provides a framework to inventory the visual resource and provides measurable standards for its management.
Visual Quality Objectives (VQO)	<p>A classification based upon variety class, sensitivity level, and distance zone determinations. Each objective describes a different level of acceptable alteration based on aesthetic importance. The degree of alteration is based on contrast with the surrounding landscape. The VQOs are:</p> <p>Preservation: In general, human activities are not detectable to the visitor.</p> <p>Retention: Human activities are not evident to the casual Forest visitor.</p> <p>Partial Retention: Human activities may be evident, but must remain subordinate to the characteristic landscape.</p> <p>Modification: Human activity may dominate the characteristic landscape, but must, at the same time, use naturally established form, line, color, and texture. It should appear as a natural occurrence when viewed in middle ground or background.</p> <p>Maximum Modification: Human activity may dominate the characteristic landscape, but should appear as a natural occurrence when viewed as background.</p>
Visual Resource	The composite of basic terrain, geologic features, water features, vegetative patterns, and land use effects that typify a land unit and influence the visual appeal the unit may have for visitors.
Waiver	Permanent exemption from a lease stipulation. The stipulation no longer applies anywhere within the leasehold.
Waivers, Exceptions and Modifications to the Stipulations (WEMs)	For those action alternatives that may require special stipulations, a waiver, exception or modification to the stipulation may be approved. A stipulation can only be waived or modified if "the record shows that circumstances or relative resource values have changed or that the lessee can demonstrate that operations can be conducted without causing unacceptable impacts, and that less restrictive stipulations will protect the public interest." (Uniform Format for Oil and Gas Lease Stipulations 1989.)

Watch Species	A plant species, or recognized subspecies or variety that meets the above definition of a sensitive species, but is not presently known to occur on National Forest land in South Dakota. These taxa are predicted to occur on National Forest land on the basis of suitable habitat. If found on National Forest System land, these taxa would immediately be evaluated for placement on the sensitive species plant list.
Wetlands	Those areas that are inundated by surface or ground water with a frequency sufficient, under normal circumstances, to support a prevalence of vegetative or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction. Wetlands include marshes, bogs, sloughs, potholes, river overflows, mud flats, wet meadows, seeps, and springs.
Wildcat Well	An exploratory well drilled in an area where there is no oil or gas production.
Wilderness	An area of undeveloped federal land designated Wilderness by Congress, retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, protected and managed to preserve its natural conditions and that (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable, (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation, (3) has at least 5,000 acres or is of sufficient size to make practical its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition, and (4) also may contain features that are of ecological, geological, scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value. These characteristics were identified by Congress in the Wilderness Act of 1964.

Wilderness Management Direction	A document prescribing the general objectives, policies, and specific activity guidance applicable to all designated forest wilderness areas. Specific management objectives, requirements, and decisions implementing administrative practices and visitor activities in individual wilderness areas are developed and described in the wilderness management plan for each unit.
Wildlife	Mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates.
Withdrawal	A Congressional or administrative order that does not allow specified uses (e.g. oil and gas leasing) in designated areas.
Woody Draw	A classification of areas, particularly in grassland settings, where an overstory of woody vegetation in small drainages creates habitat for many wildlife species and shade/wind protection and forage for livestock. The vegetation is a result of higher moisture conditions than in the surrounding areas but surface water, if any, running through the areas is generally short-term.