



Scenery Management

General

5601. The existing scenic integrity, based on current landscape character, is usually accepted as the scenic integrity objective (SIO) unless special, documented circumstances warrant a change. Scenic integrity objectives are summarized below and displayed on the accompanying Scenery Management Map. **GUIDELINE**

Scenic Integrity Objective by Management Area (Acres)

MGMT AREAS	NAME	VERY HIGH	HIGH	MOD	LOW	VERY LOW
1.1A	Black Elk Wilderness	13,543 ¹				
*2.2	Research Natural Areas		2,277			
3.1	Botanical Areas		7,348			
3.2A	Inyan Kara Mountain	1,304				
3.31	Back Country Motorized Recreation Emphasis		1,126	10,577	167	
3.32	Back Country Non-Motorized Recreation Emphasis		11,563			
3.7	Late Successional Forest Landscapes		3,397	12,508	7,982	
4.1	Limited Motorized Use and Forest Product Emphasis		6,722	23,097	13,965	
4.2A	Spearfish Canyon		5,575	2,972	1,222	



MGMT AREAS	NAME	VERY HIGH	HIGH	MOD	LOW	VERY LOW
4.2B	Peter Norbeck Scenic Byway (Within Norbeck Wildlife Preserve)		1,694			
5.1	Resource Production Emphasis		58,130	247,384	258,384	
5.1A	Southern Hills Forest and Grassland Areas		1,796	17,208	70,702	
5.2A	Fort Meade VA Hospital Watershed		3,308			
5.3A	Black Hills Experimental Forest					3,393
5.3B	Sturgis Experimental Watershed					1,079
5.4	Big Game Winter Range Emphasis		50,626	163,454	182,436	
5.4A	Norbeck Wildlife Preserve		6,823	4,262	1,151	
5.43	Big Game and Resource Production		276	6,520	3,366	
5.6	Forest Products, Recreation and Big Game Emphasis		1,378	19,539	6,259	
8.2	Developed Recreation Complexes		6,908	3,726	734	
	Total	14,847	168,947	511,247	546,368	4,472

¹ Includes Upper Pine Creek Research Natural Area

5602. Management activities which are inconsistent with the scenic integrity objectives will be prohibited unless a decision is made to change the scenic integrity objective. Such decisions will be documented in a site-specific decision document. **GUIDELINE**

5603. Use the following priorities for rehabilitating areas that do not meet scenic integrity objectives (SIO):

- a. Relative importance of the area and the amount of deviation from the scenic integrity objectives. “Foreground” of high public use areas has highest priority;
- b. Length of time it will take natural processes to reduce the visual impacts so that they meet the scenic integrity objective(s);
- c. Length of time it will take for rehabilitation measures to meet the scenic integrity objective; and
- d. Benefits to other resource management objectives to accomplish rehabilitation.

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5604. Achieve enhancement of landscapes where determined appropriate.

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5605. *Plan, design, and locate vegetation manipulation in a scale that retains the color and texture of the landscape character, borrowing directional emphasis of form and line from natural features. However, the scale of vegetation manipulation around at-risk communities will be on a landscape scale. The design



will borrow from the prairie-forest-edge character to create an open landscape with trees scattered across it. **GUIDELINE**

5606. *Where the scenic integrity objectives (SIO) criterion is high or moderate, meet the criterion within 1 full growing season after completion of a project. In the wildland-urban interface (WUI) areas, the moderate SIO should be met within 2 to 4 years after the fire-hazard objective is met. Future management activities in WUIs shall meet SIO within 1 year of treatment. Where it is low or very low, meet the criterion within 3 full growing seasons after completion of a project.

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5607. Choose facility and structure design, color of materials, location and orientation to meet the scenic integrity for the management area. **GUIDELINE**

5608. Integrate the protection of aesthetic values with all resource planning.

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5609. Highest priority for protection of scenic quality are those areas of heavy public use, such as scenic byways, major roads or trails, developed recreation sites, administrative sites, and backdrops for cities and towns. **GUIDELINE**

5610. *Within the immediate foreground of primary travelways/use areas, manage tree stands to enhance the scenic quality and recreational opportunities. Manage for a variety of scenic quality and recreation opportunities. Manage for a variety of scenic conditions including areas of large, yellow-barked ponderosa pine, areas of hiding cover for wildlife, and areas with open park-like conditions, except as needed to meet Objective 10-02. **GUIDELINE**

5611. Vary stand densities to create vegetative diversity in areas with an adopted scenic integrity objective of Moderate or High. **GUIDELINE**

5612. Large facilities, such as power lines, should not be noticeable features within travel corridors. **GUIDELINE**