1997 Revision of the Land and Resource Management Plan Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pawnee National Grassland

April 1999

Amendment No. 2

Page Code Superseded

Forest Plan Maps

Visual Quality Objective (VQO) map
as described below.

Description

This amendment is based on the environmental analysis conducted for the Lakewood Raw Water Pipeline Final Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision.

The adopted VQO for the Lakewood Pipeline Corridor is changed from "partial retention" to "modification" in the form of a 600 foot wide linear pattern that follows the final design for the pipeline alignment as adopted in the FLPMA easement.

Reason for Amendment

The less restrictive VQO of "modification" is appropriate because visual evidence of clearing and excavation activities associated with pipeline installation and maintenance will remain apparent in areas of the natural landscape for long periods of time. Portions of the pipeline corridor has a closed or partially closed tree canopy cover that will be cleared for construction. Some of these areas are visible from main travel routes and from some residential areas. Clearing forested areas may cause portions of the pipeline project to dominate the natural landscape for greater than 10 years which would be equivalent to a VQO of "modification". Within 20 years after construction "partial retention" is expected to be achieved on the construction corridor, but some portions may still somewhat dominate the landscape character for the lifetime of the pipeline from some vantage points, primarily because a 16 foot wide corridor will remain vegetated, but treeless.

This amendment will not result in a significant change to the Plan, as defined by 36 CFR 219.10(f).