

Unit 4.2. Monitoring and Modifying the Plan



Unit Objectives

Identify appropriate approaches to monitoring and evaluating plan implementation and effectiveness



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Natural Disasters



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Natural Disasters



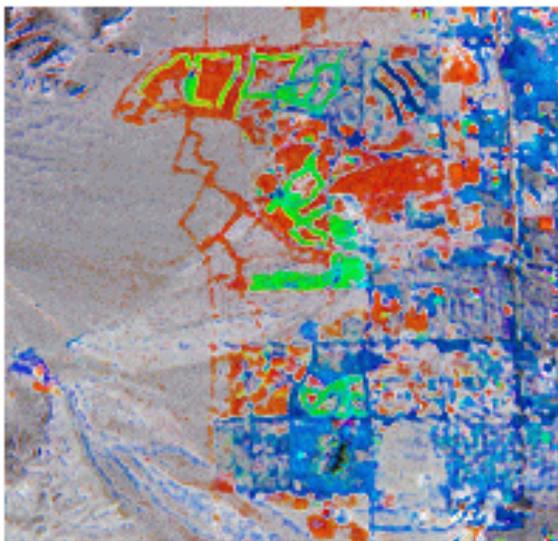
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Changing Recreational Uses



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Changing Demographics



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Definition of Monitoring

The process of:

- ◆ Tracking the implementation of land use planning decisions (implementation monitoring)
- ◆ Collecting data/information necessary to evaluate the effectiveness of land use planning decisions (effectiveness monitoring)

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Why Is Monitoring Important?

- Link to adaptive management
- Planning as a dynamic, iterative process
- Ongoing data collection is an essential component of the planning cycle
- Feedback is the first step in future adjustments
- Monitoring Plan must be included in RMP

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Legal Requirements

- CEQ NEPA Regulations
 - ◆ Require a monitoring and enforcement program
 - ◆ Must be summarized in ROD
- BLM Planning Regulations
 - ◆ Require ongoing monitoring and evaluation of approved land use plans
 - ◆ Documentation of monitoring required at least annually
 - ◆ Five-year evaluation of RMP should be done (BLM Planning Handbook, p 32 V. B.)

43 CFR 1610.4-9

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Adaptive Management through Monitoring

- Adaptive management requires ongoing information-gathering
- Implementation of planned contingency measures requires conditional attainment



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Types of Monitoring

- Implementation
- Effectiveness
- Plan evaluation

BLM Land Use Planning Handbook, pages 32-36

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Implementation Monitoring

- Question: was the specified activity carried out?
- No specific thresholds or indicators required



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Effectiveness Monitoring

- Question: Was the specified activity successful in achieving its objective?
- Requires knowledge of the objectives and measurable indicators of success

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Elements of an Effective Monitoring Plan

- List of resources to be monitored
- Indicators or thresholds for evaluating results
- BLM and collaborator responsibilities
- Schedule
- Budget
- Use of IT

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Plan Evaluation

- Question: Was the entire plan successful? Did plan objectives and actions meet desired outcomes or is modification needed?
- Involves review of entire plan and all interim monitoring reports
- Requires analysis of multiple variables reviewed below
- Evaluation report should be prepared every 5 years; put schedule in plan

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Land Use Plan Evaluation: BLM Handbook Planning Requirements

- Are actions outlined in the plan being implemented?
- Does the plan establish desired outcomes (e.g., goals, objectives, standards)?
- Are the desired outcomes being achieved?
- Do decisions continue to be correct or proper over time?
- Have there been changes in related plans of other agencies or tribes?

BLM Land Use Planning Handbook, page 34-35

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Land Use Plan Evaluation: BLM Handbook Planning Requirements (Cont.)

- Are there new data or analysis that significantly affect the planning decisions or NEPA analysis?
- Are there unmet needs which require a plan amendment or revision?
- Are new inventories warranted as a result of policy changes?
- Are there new legal mandates not addressed in the plan?

BLM Land Use Planning Handbook, page 34-35

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Three Types of Plan Modifications

- Maintenance—minor technical changes necessary to keep plan up-to-date
- Amendment—changes to objectives, standard, or land use allocations
- Revision—wholesale update of the plan

BLM Land Use Planning Handbook, page 44-46

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Notes

- What I have learned so far....

Notes

- What I am going to do differently when I get back to my office...