

BLM Social Science Guideline 2  
 Model Scope of Work for Socio-Economic Analysis  
 in Resource Management Plans  
 Version 1.5 Revised 9/21/05

This model scope of work with guidance is intended to enhance the management of socio-economic analysis in BLM's land use planning process, whether the work is to be performed by contractors or field office staff. It should be used with Socio-Economic Guideline 1: Socio-Economic Checklist for Resource Management Plans. Guideline 1 is available on the BLM internal planning web site under the social science link at: <http://web.blm.gov/internal/wo-200/wo-210/index.html>. The scope of work text is also available as a standalone Word document.

Use of the following template scope of work document is recommended, not required, in contracting for socio-economic services. For comments or questions regarding this document, please contact Rob Winthrop, Senior Social Scientist, Planning and Science Support Division, BLM Washington Office. Phone: 202-785-6597; e-mail: robert\_winthrop@blm.gov.

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<i>Scope of Work</i>	<i>Guidance</i>
<p><b>1 INTRODUCTION</b>  <b>1.1 Need</b></p> <p>The [Name of FO] Field Office, [State] Bureau of Land Management (BLM), is contracting with [contractor] for preparation of the socio-economic analysis needed for completion of the [XXX] Resource Management Plan / Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS).</p>	<p>1. This socio-economic analysis should describe the human context and consequences of land management decisions considered in the preparation of a resource management plan (RMP). This requires a cooperative effort not only from multiple disciplines (potentially including economics, sociology, cultural anthropology, history, archaeology, and geography/GIS), but from multiple programs. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Cultural Resources program is usually responsible for documenting the historical and archaeological setting of communities in a planning area.</li> <li>• The Recreation program inventories visitor use and recreational opportunities on the public lands.</li> <li>• The Lands and Realty program documents land ownership and access within the planning area, which is important for understanding local-level social and economic effects of planning alternatives.</li> </ul> <p>The information collected for the RMP/EIS should be organized to</p>

	<p>present a useful and coherent picture of human use of the planning area, rather than divided into sections dictated by BLM’s table of organization. Development of the socio-economic portions of the RMP/EIS should be closely coordinated with related work organized by other program areas.</p>
<p><b>1.2 Project context</b></p> <p>The <i>planning area</i> is located in [region of state] and includes [number of public land surface acres, number of public subsurface acres, number of counties/names of counties].</p>	<p>1. A planning area is “the geographic area within which the BLM will make decisions during a planning effort.” A planning area boundary includes all lands regardless of jurisdiction; however the BLM will only make decisions on lands that fall under the BLM’s jurisdiction (including subsurface minerals). Unless the State Director determines otherwise, the planning area for a RMP is the geographic area associated with a particular field office (43 CFR 1610.1(b)). See LUPH, II.C.</p>
<p><b>1.3 Study area</b></p> <p>The <i>study area</i> includes _____.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The study area for economic and social analysis may be larger than the planning area. If so, describe here its boundaries and explain briefly the reasons for the difference.</li> <li>2. Examples of factors that might justify a larger study area include: a major market center outside but near the planning area; or industrial development (such as a mill or mine), many of whose workers live outside the planning area.</li> <li>3. Depending on the issues to be explored, the boundaries of the social and economic study areas may differ.</li> <li>4. The study area may need to be adjusted based on additional information developed in scoping.</li> <li>5. The analysis may need to consider populations that do not reside in the study area.</li> </ol>
<p><b>1.4 Objectives</b></p> <p>The contract is intended to provide the following. See §§ 2.1 and 2.2 (Tasks and Deliverables) for more detail.</p> <p>1.4(a) <u>Baseline social and economic assessments</u>, for inclusion in the Analysis of the Management Situation (AMS) and in abbreviated form</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If economic and social analyses are performed under separate contracts, BLM staff should ensure that the efforts are coordinated, sharing data and using compatible assumptions.</li> <li>2. Baseline assessments should review and summarize existing literature on history, economy and social systems of the study area,</li> </ol>

<p>in the Affected Environment chapter of the RMP/EIS.</p>	<p>characterize the economic structure and activity of communities and group affected by BLM land management, and characterize the social structure, activities and values of these communities and groups. See LUPH, App. D, Sect. II.B.1.</p>
<p>1.4(b) <u>Social and economic impact analyses</u>, for inclusion in the Impacts chapter of the RMP/EIS.</p>	<p>1. Impact analysis should analyze positive and negative effects of each alternative within an RMP, both social and economic, and identify any disproportionate negative effects on low-income or minority populations associated with these alternatives. See LUPH, App. D, Sect. II.B.2.</p>
<p>1.4(c) <u>Mitigation opportunities</u>, identifying measures that may reduce or avoid potential adverse economic or social effects of the alternatives, and maximize their positive effects.</p>	<p>1. Note that the Preferred Alternative is not required to be the alternative with the least cumulative adverse impacts or that provides full mitigation to all social and economic impacts.</p>
<p><b>1.5 Contractor furnished items</b></p> <p>The Contractor shall furnish all labor, management, facilities, supplies, equipment, and material (except as specified under §1.6, Government-Furnished Property), and do all tasks necessary for performance of the work specified below. During prosecution of the work, the Contractor shall provide adequate professional supervision and quality control to assure the accuracy, quality, completeness, and progress of the work.</p>	
<p><b>1.6 Government-furnished property and services</b></p> <p>The Government will furnish to the Contractor the following materials, supplies, property or services:</p> <p>[enumerate].</p>	<p>1. In such contracts, government-furnished materials commonly include unpublished, out of print, or other hard to locate studies on local social and economic conditions produced by government agencies, universities, or consulting firms.</p> <p>2. Where the BLM possesses a data set or analytic tool that can facilitate completion of required tasks, it should be provided to the contractor. It may be appropriate to require its use in the analysis to realize cost savings.</p> <p>3. It is BLM policy to encourage contractors' use of the Sonoran Institute's Economic Profile System databases in preparation of affected environment and AMS documents. See BLM Land Use Planning Handbook (revised 2005), Appendix D, Section VI.A .</p>

	<p>County-level (EPS) and community-level (EPSC) database tools are available free of charge at <a href="http://www.sonoran.org/eps">www.sonoran.org/eps</a>.</p> <p>4. Certain studies, for example impact analyses using models such as IMPLAN, may require the purchase of data sets. The contract should specify whether such data sets will be provided at the contractor's or the Government's expense.</p> <p>5. Economic data sets should include information on the self-employed (often a third of the workforce) and non-labor income sources (often over 40 percent of total personal income). Contractors should also differentiate between various types of service industries; some are low-paying, often associated with tourism, while others are high-paying knowledge-based industries. This can help identify how various management activities on BLM lands influence the ability of adjacent communities to attract and retain the high-wage component of services.</p> <p>6. Field office staff should supply current and historic information on BLM-permitted activities within the study area: for example, in fluid minerals, timber, grazing, and recreation.</p>
<p><b>1.7 Contractor qualifications</b></p> <p>The contractor's and/or subcontractor's personnel responsible for the social and economic studies prepared under this scope of work shall meet the minimum requirements for education and professional experience described in BLM Social Science Guideline 3.</p>	<p>1. BLM Social Science Guideline 3: Minimum Qualifications for Contractors is in preparation.</p>
<p><b>1.8 Requirements incorporated by reference</b></p> <p>The contractor shall prepare the products identified in §§2.1 and 2.2 of this document in a manner consistent with the following laws, regulations, policy, and guidance.</p> <p>1.8(a) Statutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976</li> <li>• National Environmental Policy Act of 1969</li> </ul>	

<p>1.8(b) Regulations &amp; Executive Orders</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BLM planning regulations (43 CFR 1600), <u>revised January 2005</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR 1500)</li> <li>• Executive Order 12898: Environmental Justice, February 11, 1994</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. In 2005, BLM’s land use planning regulations were modified to incorporate new requirements regarding the involvement of state, local, and tribal governments, and other federal agencies, as cooperating agencies. The revised sections are available at: <a href="http://www.blm.gov/planning/cadg/Web-FinalPlanningRule3-23-05.pdf">http://www.blm.gov/planning/cadg/Web-FinalPlanningRule3-23-05.pdf</a>. The complete Code of Federal Regulations is available at: <a href="http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html">http://www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html</a>.</li> <li>2. For Council on Environmental Quality regulations: <a href="http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/nepa/regs/ceq/toc_ceq.htm">http://ceq.eh.doe.gov/nepa/regs/ceq/toc_ceq.htm</a></li> <li>3. For Executive Order 12898: <a href="http://www.dotcr.ost.dot.gov/documents/ycr/eo12898.pdf">http://www.dotcr.ost.dot.gov/documents/ycr/eo12898.pdf</a>.</li> </ol>
<p>1.8(c) BLM Policy and Guidance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land Use Planning, BLM Handbook H-1601-1 (issued March 2005), particularly Appendix D (Social Science Considerations)</li> <li>• NEPA, BLM Handbook H-1790-1 (revision pending)</li> <li>• A Desk Guide to Cooperating Agency Relationships (BLM, Washington Office, 2005)</li> <li>• Department of the Interior Information Quality Guidelines</li> <li>• Foundations for Managing Cultural Resources, BLM Manual 8100</li> <li>• Tribal Consultation under Cultural Resource Authorities, BLM Manual 8120</li> <li>• Guidelines for Conducting Tribal Consultation, BLM Handbook H-8120-1</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Desk Guide to Cooperating Agency Relationships and related documents are available at: <a href="http://www.blm.gov/planning/cadg">www.blm.gov/planning/cadg</a>.</li> <li>2. BLM has specific coordination and consultation responsibilities regarding federally recognized American Indian and Alaska native tribal governments, summarized in the BLM Manual 8120: Tribal Consultation Under Cultural Resource Authorities. See also H-8120-1: Guidelines for Conducting Tribal Consultation. Note that American Indians and Alaska natives are also members of ethnically distinct social groups, which must be considered in assessments of social impacts and environmental justice.</li> <li>3. One objective of the National Historic Preservation Act is to identify, evaluate, and protect places that have both past and present social or cultural significance for communities or groups. Such places can include “rural historic landscapes” and “traditional cultural properties,” as well as buildings, structures and other properties of local, state, or national significance. In this sense, the National Historic Preservation Act is concerned with the place-based expression of social and economic systems. An adequate social impact assessment should consider how land use decisions may affect the integrity and significance of such places.</li> </ol>

	<p>For guidance on these categories of socially significant places, see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USDI, National Register Bulletin 30: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Rural Historic Landscapes</li> <li>• USDI, National Register Bulletin 38: Guidelines for Evaluating and Documenting Traditional Cultural Properties.</li> </ul> <p>See also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USDI, National Register Bulletin 15: How to Apply the National Register Criteria for Evaluation.</li> </ul>
<p>1.8(d) Socio-economic Guidelines.</p> <p>[Indicate which guidance documents apply.]</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Social science guidelines and/or access to guidelines should be provided to contractors at the solicitation stage.</li> <li>2. BLM Social Science Guidelines are in preparation. Currently available: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guideline 1: Socio-Economic Checklist for Resource Management Plans.</li> </ul> <p>Available on the BLM's <u>internal</u> planning web site under the social science link at: <a href="http://web.blm.gov/internal/wo-200/wo-210/index.html">http://web.blm.gov/internal/wo-200/wo-210/index.html</a>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guideline 2: Model Scope of Work for Socio-Economic Analysis (this document).</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. The following guidance prepared by the International Association for Impact Assessment provides an authoritative summary of best practices in social impact assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Principles and Guidelines for Social Impact Assessment in the USA, <i>Social Impact and Project Appraisal</i>, September 2003, pp. 231-50.</li> </ul> <p>Available at:  <a href="http://www.iaia.org/Members/Publications/Guidelines_Principles/US%20principles%20final%20IAPA%20version.pdf">http://www.iaia.org/Members/Publications/Guidelines_Principles/US%20principles%20final%20IAPA%20version.pdf</a></p> </li> </ol>

<p><b>2 REQUIREMENTS</b> <b>2.1 Tasks</b></p> <p>2.1(a) Review and summarize the relevant published and unpublished literature on the history, economy, and social system(s) of the study area.</p>	<p>1. Regarding the need to coordinate the socio-economic work with related information collection and analysis, see §1.1 (Guidance).</p>
<p>2.1(b) Characterize the local and regional economic structures and activities that significantly affect or are affected by the management of BLM lands and resources identified in the [XXX] RMP.</p>	<p>1. Note that the relevant regional economic structures may extend beyond the RMP study area.</p>
<p>2.1(c) Characterize the social systems (including local communities, and groups or networks based on interest, resource use, or ethnicity) that significantly affect or are affected by the management of BLM lands and resources identified in the [XXX] RMP.</p>	<p>1. Note that the relevant social systems may extend beyond the RMP study area.</p> <p>2. Information produced under §§2.1(a) through 2.1(c) will be provided in Deliverables 1a and 1b. See §2.2(a).</p>
<p>2.1(d) Prepare an impact analysis strategy, describing the key socio-economic issues, relevant social and economic variables, key data sources, and analytic methods proposed.</p>	<p>1. The socio-economic impact analysis strategy provides a key milestone. This allows the planning team, cooperating agency partners, and the public to confirm that key issues will be addressed and important sources of information included. Information produced under §2.1(d) will be provided in Deliverable 2. See §2.2(b).</p> <p>2. The impact analysis strategy should be based on requirements provided in this document (including §1.8, Requirements Incorporated by Reference), issues identified in the pre-plan, information obtained through scoping and other public involvement, guidance from cooperating agencies, and the social and economic baseline assessments. The strategy should identify key resource-specific projections that will be needed to complete economic and social impact analyses, and identify the criteria to used to determine significant effects. (On <i>significance</i>, see Guidance, §3.5(c)).</p>
<p>2.1(e) Analyze the effects of each alternative developed within the [XXX] RMP on the local and regional economies described in §2.1(b).</p>	<p>1. For general guidance on economic impact assessments, see U.S. Forest Service, Economic and Social Analysis Handbook, Chapter</p>

	<p>20: Economic Impact Analysis. Available at:  <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/im/directives/fsh/1909.17/1909.17,20.txt">http://www.fs.fed.us/im/directives/fsh/1909.17/1909.17,20.txt</a></p> <p>2. Information produced under §§ 2.1(e) through (g) will be provided in Deliverable 3 (see §2.2(c)).</p>
<p>2.1(f) Analyze the effects of each alternative developed within the [XXX] RMP on the social systems (communities, groups, and networks) described in §2.1(c).</p>	<p>1. For general guidance on social impact assessments, see U.S. Forest Service, Economic and Social Analysis Handbook, Chapter 35: Estimate Effects. Available at:  <a href="http://www.fs.fed.us/im/directives/fsh/1909.17/1909.17,35-38.txt">http://www.fs.fed.us/im/directives/fsh/1909.17/1909.17,35-38.txt</a>.</p>
<p>2.1(g) Identify measures that may reduce or avoid potential adverse economic or social impacts of the alternatives and maximize their positive effects.</p>	<p>BLM is required to identify all relevant, reasonable mitigation measures, even if some or all mitigation measures fall outside the jurisdiction of lead or cooperating agencies (Council on Environmental Quality, Forty Most Asked Questions, §19b). In supporting local and state efforts to mitigate socio-economic impacts, BLM “may provide information and other assistance, sanction local activities, legitimize community and project proponent agreements, and cooperate with responsible officials to the fullest extent feasible” (BLM Handbook of Socio-Economic Mitigation, IV-2).</p>
<p><b>2.2 Deliverables</b></p> <p>2.2(a) <u>Deliverable 1a: draft baseline social and economic assessment</u>, for inclusion in the Analysis of the Management Situation (AMS) document, providing the information specified in §§2.1(a) through 2.1(c). <u>Deliverable 1b: draft abbreviated baseline social and economic assessment</u>, for inclusion in the Affected Environment chapter of the draft plan/DEIS.</p>	
<p>2.2(b) <u>Deliverable 2: draft impact analysis strategy</u>, providing the information specified in §2.1(d).</p>	

<p>2.2(c) <u>Deliverable 3: draft impact analysis</u>, providing the information specified in §§ 2.1(e) through 2.1(g).</p>	
<p>2.2(d) <u>Deliverable 4: responses and revisions</u>, including responses to comments concerning social and economic elements in the draft plan/DEIS; and revisions to affected environment and impact analysis sections for the final plan/FEIS.</p>	
<p>2.2(e) <u>Deliverable 5: technical report</u>, briefly summarizing the significant analytic assumptions and methods utilized in preparing the statement of social and economic impacts.</p>	<p>1. This will normally appear as an appendix. The technical report should incorporate information from the impact analysis strategy (§2.1(d)).</p>
<p><b>2.3 Period of performance</b></p> <p>[Insert project timeframe, with deadlines for important milestones, including deliverables.]</p>	<p>1. Note that the economic analysis (and indirectly, the social analysis) is dependent on sound output projections for each resource, over each alternative to be evaluated. This might include millions of board feet of timber to be harvested; number of rafters or OHV users projected for recreation areas; or animal unit months allowed for grazing allotments. <u>Ensure that deadlines for the social and economic impact analyses reflect the dependence on such output projections.</u> For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The economic analysis of recreation-related impacts (changes in study area payroll and employment) cannot be done until the recreation specialists have determined the changes in visitor days, by alternative.</li> <li>• The economic analysis of the benefits and costs of mineral development cannot be done until the geologists have developed an analysis of the changes in mineral availability and production, by alternative.</li> </ul>
<p><b>3 FACTORS OF ANALYSIS—GENERAL</b></p> <p><b>3.1 Information quality and analytic soundness</b></p> <p>The social and economic analysis must be based on sound and replicable scientific concepts and methods. All work should be</p>	<p>1. Information quality, as defined in the Department of the Interior’s Information Quality Guidelines, pp. 1-2:</p> <p>“All information disseminated by the Department must comply with basic standards of quality to ensure and maximize its objectivity, utility, and integrity. . . . Information released by the Department will be</p>

<p>performed according to professionally recognized methods and techniques, which should be identified and referenced in the impact analysis strategy and the technical report. See §§2.2(b) and (e).</p>	<p>developed only from reliable data sources based on accepted practices and policies, utilizing accepted methods for information collection and verification. It will be reproducible to the extent possible. Influential information [such as that supporting an RMP] will be produced with a high degree of transparency about data and methods. Analytic results shall generally require sufficient transparency about data and methodology that an independent reanalysis could be undertaken by a qualified member of the public resulting in substantially the same results.”</p>
<p><b>3.2 Data sources</b></p> <p>3.2(a) Use existing data to the extent possible. If additional (primary) data collection is needed to achieve a reasonable level of validity or precision, describe and justify the proposed work in the impact analysis strategy (§2.2(b)).</p> <p>3.2(b) Ensure that any primary data collection complies with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 USC Chapter 35).</p>	<p>1. Data needed to conduct the social and economic analyses will come from a variety of sources. Utilize BLM sources as well as other governmental agencies that routinely collect and report economic and social data. Locally and regionally produced reports on social and economic conditions that are produced on a one-time basis (such as county or community planning documents and university extension studies) may also be useful.</p> <p>2. Collecting primary (new) data may be necessary, particularly for the social impact assessment. Such data could take a variety of forms, including surveys, focus groups, and key informant interviews. Nonetheless, planning documents and environmental impact statements do not routinely require primary data collection. Whether by agency requirement or contractor's proposal, any plan to include primary data collection should be justified in terms of gaps in available data or special circumstances.</p> <p>3. If answers to identical questions are to be collected from 10 or more members of the public (for example, through a survey questionnaire), the Paperwork Reduction Act requires Office of Management and Budget approval for the study. OMB review is normally a lengthy process, which should be initiated through the BLM Washington Office. Unless the proposed data collection can be processed by expedited review under the terms of an existing generic OMB authorization (such as that for Customer Satisfaction Surveys), approval is likely to be time-consuming.</p>

<p><b>3.3 Integration with public involvement.</b></p> <p>Technical socio-economic analyses should build on the social knowledge of BLM staff and its publics. The contractor should integrate information from public involvement processes with technical data collection and analysis.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To the extent feasible, BLM's public involvement process should seek not only attitudes and values relevant to planning issues and alternatives, but also suggestions regarding useful sources of data and appropriate methods of analysis. Local and tribal government representatives in particular can often provide useful guidance on these points. Involving local publics in discussions of appropriate data and methods early in a planning process increases the likelihood that the resulting analysis of effects will be considered credible and useful.</li> <li>2. Information in the RMP can assist adjacent communities to anticipate the impacts of BLM's proposed management alternatives. A community in the midst of an energy development boom, for example, should be able to use the resource management plan to anticipate the duration of production, the projected employment growth or decline, and associated economic impacts. With this information, community leaders can project tax revenues, additional needs for police, health care, and educational services, or demand for residential construction.</li> <li>3. It is strongly recommended the contractor take an active role in the required economic strategy workshop conducted as part of the public involvement process. See BLM Land Use Planning Handbook (revised 2005), Appendix D, §III.B. Such workshops can facilitate the collaboration process, providing an understanding of communities' economic performance across time. They can help establish a common frame of reference for community members, BLM staff, and contractors.</li> <li>4. Development of the impact analysis strategy (§2.1(d)) provides another opportunity for collaboration with key stakeholders, particularly cooperating agencies.</li> </ol>
<p><b>3.4 Scope and level of effort</b></p> <p>The scope of analysis and level of effort should be commensurate with the importance of the resource issues addressed in the RMP/EIS.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The level of effort in socio-economic analysis should be sufficient to provide a defensible basis for decision-making. In other words, focus data collection and analysis on those issues and sectors that are important for the agency's decision-making and/or</li> </ol>

	important for our publics.
<b>3.5 Dimensions of analysis</b>	
3.5(a) Describe impacts across multiple geographic scales: individual, household, community, region, and if appropriate, the nation.	1. Identifying direct or indirect national impacts may be appropriate where a large-scale project has discernable effects on the national economy, for example the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System.
3.5(b) Describe impacts across multiples time scales: short-term versus long-term; consider tradeoffs between them.	1. “Another consideration involves the extent or duration of impacts in time and space. Like biophysical impacts, some social impacts can be of short duration, while others can last a lifetime; and some communities ‘return to normal’ quite quickly once a source of disruption is removed, while others do not.” Principles and Guidelines for Social Impact Assessment in the USA, <i>Social Impact and Project Appraisal</i> , September 2003, pp. 239.
3.5(c) Describe the magnitude and significance of projected impacts.	<p>1. Council on Environmental Quality regulations provide guidance on determining the <i>significance</i> of a proposed action (40 CFR 1508.27). Criteria of significance include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Impacts that may be both beneficial and adverse. A significant effect may exist even if the Federal agency believes that on balance the effect will be beneficial.” (b)(1)</li> <li>• “The degree to which the proposed action affects public health or safety.” (b)(2)</li> <li>• “The degree to which the effects on the quality of the human environment are likely to be highly controversial.” (b)(4)</li> <li>• “The degree to which the possible effects on the human environment are highly uncertain or involve unique or unknown risks.” (b)(5)</li> <li>• “The degree to which the action may establish a precedent for future actions with significant effects or represents a decision in principle about a future consideration.” (b)(6)</li> <li>• “Whether the action is related to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant impacts. Significance exists if it is reasonable to anticipate a cumulatively significant impact on</li> </ul>

	<p>the environment.” (b)(7)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “The degree to which the action may adversely affect districts, sites, highways, structures, or objects listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places or may cause loss or destruction of significant scientific, cultural, or historical resources.” (b)(8)</li> </ul>
<p>3.5(d) Describe the likelihood of a projected impact occurring.</p>	<p>1. “All EISs and SIAs are by their nature anticipatory. Therefore, questions about the ‘proof’ of impacts cannot be answered with true confidence in advance of the actions in question. Accordingly, if the evidence for a potential social and economic impact is not definitive in either direction, the ‘conservative’ conclusion is that the impact cannot be ruled out with confidence, and not that the impact ‘is not proven.’” Principles and Guidelines for Social Impact Assessment in the USA, <i>Social Impact and Project Appraisal</i>, September 2003, p, 236.</p>
<p>3.5(e) Describe direct, indirect, and cumulative projected impacts.</p>	<p>1. Impacts (or “effects”) may be direct, indirect, or cumulative. The Council on Environmental Quality’s NEPA regulations define these as follows.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Direct effects</u> “are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place.” [40 CFR 1508.8(a)]</li> <li>• <u>Indirect effects</u> “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.” [40 CFR 1508.8(b)]</li> <li>• <u>Cumulative effect</u> “is the impact on the environment which 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.” [40 CFR 1508.7]</li> </ul>

<p><b>4. FACTORS – ECONOMIC</b>  <b>4.1 Baseline assessment</b></p> <p>4.1(a) Characterize the local and regional economic structures and activities that significantly affect or are affected by the management of BLM lands and resources identified in the [XXX] RMP. The baseline assessment should include current and historic resource-specific information (outputs) for economic sectors anticipated to have particular importance for the study area.</p>	<p>1. Potential topics for the baseline assessment include interrelationships among producing sectors, resource-specific projections (estimated oil/gas reserves, anticipated visitor days by activity), community dependence on BLM lands and resources, employment, income, subsistence activities, government revenues and expenditures, and nonmarket values of resources and activities.</p>
<p>4.1(b) All baseline assessments shall include at a minimum the categories of economic data identified as Priorities 1 and 2 in the Socio-Economic Checklist for the [XXX] RMP.</p>	<p>1. The Socio-Economic Checklist (BLM Socio-Economic Guideline 1) allows BLM staff overseeing the socio-economic analysis to prioritize topics based on their relevance to features of the study area and issues to be addressed in the RMP. The checklist should be incorporated in the Scope of Work by reference.</p>
<p><b>4.2 Impact analysis</b></p> <p>4.2(a) Analyze the effects of each alternative developed within the [XXX] RMP on the local and regional economies described in §4.1, relative to the “No Action” alternative.</p>	<p>1. The impact analysis should describe how management under various planning alternatives is likely to affect the economic conditions identified in the baseline assessment.</p> <p>2. While the no-action alternative assumes no new impacts within the RMP’s scope of decisions, it should include other changes anticipated to affect the study area within the planning timeframe, for example, coalbed methane wells developed from privately-owned mineral estate.</p>
<p>4.2(b) In assessing economic effects, identify any disproportionate burden on low-income or minority populations.</p>	<p>1. Regarding Environmental Justice requirements, see Executive Order 12898; and BLM Land Use Planning Handbook (revised 2004), Appendix D, §IV.</p> <p>2. One of the key tasks accomplished in social and economic impact assessment is to determine who benefits, who loses, and why, under each proposed management alternative. Seldom if ever will all parties be affected the same way by an action, program, or policy.</p>
<p>4.2(c) Where appropriate, include estimates of nonmarket values, particularly use and amenity values. The need to analyze nonmarket</p>	<p>1. The economic value of lands and resources can be considered under several headings, including:</p>

values should be determined by the issues to be addressed in the RMP and the likelihood that the inclusion of such information would significantly improve the basis for decision-making. The need to include nonmarket values in the socio-economic analysis should be explained in the impact analysis strategy (see §2.1(d)).

- available renewable and non-renewable resources (timber, fossil fuels);
- associated services (lodging income, heritage tourism, environmental education);
- ecosystem function (groundwater recharge);
- environmental amenities (recreational experiences).

Only in the first two cases are economic values directly derived from market transactions. These are the values normally estimated in economic impact analyses. Ecosystem function and environmental amenities also have value for humans, but lack markets to assign an appropriate price. The task of assigning an appropriate economic value in the absence of markets is termed nonmarket valuation. Such calculations provide a basis for estimating the total benefits of a policy, project, or plan within a framework of cost-benefit analysis.

2. All RMPs should provide an economic impact analysis for market-based goods and services associated with each plan alternative. Nonmarket (non-monetized) values can also be important. For example, many communities consider the views provided by the surrounding public lands to be an essential factor for economic success. The decision to include estimates of nonmarket values in the socio-economic analyses should be made on a case-by-case basis, when the additional information would be clearly relevant to the issues considered in the planning process.

3. One approach to estimating nonmarket value is to determine what individuals would be willing to pay to preserve a given environmental good. There are numerous techniques for estimating “willingness to pay” (WTP). These include:

- stated preference approaches (such as the contingent valuation method, CVM), which ask informants to identify the value they assign to nonmarket goods and services: for example, willingness to pay for preserving wildlife habitat; and
- revealed preference approaches (such as hedonic pricing), which examine actual consumer behavior to infer nonmarket values: for

	<p>example, the prices of otherwise comparable homes that vary in a particular amenity, such as a scenic view.</p> <p>4. Assigning nonmarket values through <u>benefit transfer</u> provides a simpler alternative to undertaking new data collection and analysis. This approach adapts the findings of existing nonmarket value studies to a new but comparable setting. The estimation of recreation use values (such as camping or waterfowl hunting) provides one common application of this approach.</p> <p>5. For further information, see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Myrick Freeman, “Economic Valuation: What and Why,” in Patricia A. Champ et al., eds., <i>A Primer on Nonmarket Valuation</i>. Boston: Kluwer, 2003, pp. 1-25.</li> <li>• John B. Loomis, <i>Integrated Public Lands Management</i>, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. New York: Columbia University Press, 2002, pp. 201-19.</li> <li>• Randall S. Rosenberger and John B. Loomis, <i>Benefit Transfer of Outdoor Recreation Use Values</i>. U.S. Forest Service, General Technical Report RMRS-GTR-72, 2001.</li> </ul>
<p><b>5 FACTORS—SOCIAL</b>  <b>5.1 Baseline assessment</b></p> <p>5.1(a) Characterize the social systems (including local communities, and groups or networks based on interest, resource use, or ethnicity) that significantly affect or are affected by the management of BLM lands and resources identified in the [XXX] RMP.</p>	<p>1. Potential topics for the baseline assessment include population characteristics and trends, social inequality, communities of place, occupations and interest groups, social groups and networks, perceived quality of life, attitudes and beliefs regarding the local environment, patterns of land ownership and access, and socially significant places and activities.</p>
<p>5.1(b) All baseline assessments shall include at a minimum the categories of social data identified as Priorities 1 and 2 in the Socio-Economic Checklist for the [XXX] RMP.</p>	<p>1. The Socio-Economic Checklist (BLM Socio-Economic Guideline 1) allows BLM staff overseeing the socio-economic analysis to prioritize topics based on their relevance to features of the study area and issues to be addressed in the RMP. The checklist should be incorporated in the Scope of Work by reference.</p>

<p><b>5.2 Impact analysis</b></p> <p>5.2(a) Analyze the effects of each alternative developed within the [XXX] RMP on the communities, groups, and networks described in §5.1, relative to the “No Action” alternative.</p>	<p>1. The impact analysis should describe how management under various planning alternatives is likely to affect the social conditions identified in the baseline assessment.</p> <p>2. Social impacts involve “the consequences to human populations of any public or private actions that alter the ways in which people live, work, play, relate to one another, organize to meet their needs and generally cope as members of society. The term also includes cultural impacts involving changes to the norms, values, and beliefs that guide and rationalize their cognition of themselves and their society.” Principles and Guidelines for Social Impact Assessment in the USA, <i>Social Impact and Project Appraisal</i>, September 2003, p. 231.</p> <p>3. Regarding the “no action” alternative, see guidance for §4.2(a).</p>
<p>5.2(b) In assessing social effects, identify any disproportionate burden on low-income or minority populations.</p>	<p>1. See guidance, §4.2(b).</p>
<p><b>6. QUALITY ASSURANCE PLAN</b></p> <p>[describe]</p>	<p>1. Field office staff responsible for the socio-economic analysis should request assistance in arranging review of the draft materials prepared under this Scope of Work. Coordinate review with state office social science staff, or if unavailable, social science staff at the Planning Group, Washington Office.</p>
<p><b>7 COMMUNICATION AND COORDINATION</b></p> <p><b>7.1 Contract project manager</b></p> <p>[identify project manager]</p>	<p>1. Specify who shall serve as contractor’s project manager, and his/her authority.</p>
<p><b>7.2 Coordination with BLM contracting officer’s representative</b></p> <p>[identify COR]</p>	<p>1. Specify who shall serve as BLM’s contracting officer’s representative (COR), his/her duties in overseeing this work, and contractor’s responsibilities for reporting.</p>
<p><b>7.3 Coordination with RMP team</b></p> <p>Consultant(s) responsible for the social and economic analyses shall participate as members of the RMP team, attending team meetings and participating in discussions and data sharing.</p>	

<p><b>7.4 Coordination with other program areas</b></p> <p>Consultant(s) responsible for the social and economic analyses shall coordinate the work performed under this contract with other BLM staff or contractors responsible for related inventory and analysis, such as cultural resource studies.</p>	<p>1. Regarding the need to coordinate the socio-economic work with related information collection and analysis, see §1.1 (Guidance).</p>
<p><b>7.5 Coordination of economic and social analyses</b></p> <p>To the extent feasible, care should be taken to integrate the economic and social analyses. This is particularly important if the analyses are undertaken by different (sub)contractors.</p>	<p>1. Both the analysis and writing of the social and economic assessments should be closely coordinated. The fact that EISs conventionally present economic and social analyses separately is a matter of convenience. The analyses should be interdependent.</p>