Design Fundamentals

UNIT 6
Objective

Students will learn concepts, methods, and techniques to minimize adverse affects to visual resources from resource development projects on the public lands.
Design Fundamentals

- Proper Siting & Location
- Reduction of Visibility
- Repetition of Landscape Character Elements
- Reduction of Unnecessary Surface Disturbance
Proper Siting & Location

• The location is screened by topographic or vegetative features
• The optimum site enables the operator to minimize visual impacts and surface disturbance
• Locate project away from sensitive areas
• Locate project away from dominant landscape features
• Locate project away from points of convergence
Proper Siting & Location

Locating projects to minimize visual impacts

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Proper Siting & Location

Water tank located in plain view
Proper Siting & Location

Better location for water tank
Proper Siting & Location

Gas well exposed on skyline
Proper Siting & Location

Gas well located below skyline
Proper Siting and Location

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Reduction of Visibility

- Screen project with vegetation
- Bury projects underground
- Hide projects behind a hill or knoll
Reduction of Visibility
Screen project with vegetation
Reduction of Visibility

Water tank is screened from view
Reduction of Visibility

Bury projects underground
Reduction of Visibility

Taking advantage of vegetative screening
Reduction of Visibility

Hide projects behind a hill or knoll
Repetition of Landscape Character Elements

• Modifications don’t contrast with **Forms** in the landscape

• Modifications follow **Lines** in the landscape

• Modifications repeat dominant **Colors** in the landscape

• Modification’s texture is similar to **Texture** in the landscape

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Repeating FORM

Remember: Forms that are bold, regular, vertical, or solid tend to be dominant in the landscape.
Repeating FORM

Openings repeat natural forms

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Repeating FORM

Water tank form similar to vegetative form
Repeating FORM

Ski Area Development - Kemmerer

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Repeating LINE
Road in Red Canyon

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Repeating LINE

Roads fit lines in the landscape
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Straight line in a horizontal landscape
• Color is a powerful design tool

• Color is increasingly effective in direct proportion to the distance the project is located from where it is viewed

• Color has not been used nearly as effectively as it should have been

• Past experience reveals that colors have often been lighter than they should be

• Use desert brown and greens with caution
Repeating COLOR

Standard Environmental Colors

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Not Repeating COLOR

Material site near Casper. The high degree of contrast draws attention to the disturbance.
Repeating COLOR

Water Tank at Arches National Park

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Effective use of color to minimize visual impacts for power line development
Repeating COLOR

Recreation Site Development

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Repeating COLOR

Dark color matches dominant colors in landscape
Repeating COLOR

Always use a color that is equal to or SLIGHTLY DARKER than the surrounding colors.

Color selected should match the dominant color in the landscape.
Gas development near Parachute, CO
Repeating COLOR

Same scene, better color (Simulation)
Repeating COLOR

Visualize the impact with the proper color
Repeating COLOR

A structure very close to the highway
Repeating "Texture" means matching the overall character of the surfaces of major features in the landscape.
Repeating TEXTURE

Building with natural materials often results in a texture that fits the surroundings better than building with man-made materials.

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Repeating TEXTURE

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Repeating TEXTURE

Recreating texture through reclamation

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Repeating TEXTURE

Reclamation to restore texture

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Reduction of Unnecessary Disturbance

- Fit the project to the landscape
- Use smallest area necessary for project
- Minimize cuts and fills
- Promote early reclamation

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Reduction of Unnecessary Disturbance

I-70 Corridor – Glenwood Springs, Colorado

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Reduction of Unnecessary Disturbance

Use the smallest possible location
Reduce Unnecessary Disturbance

Use the minimum road necessary
Reduction of Unnecessary Disturbance
Reduction of Unnecessary Disturbance

It isn’t always necessary to clear the ROW
Reduction of Unnecessary Disturbance

Avoid locations that require large cuts and fills.
Reduction of Unnecessary Disturbance

Don’t cast excess material down-slope
Camouflage Patterns

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