

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Date

District

Resource Area

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING SHEET

1. Evaluators (*names*)

SENSITIVITY LEVEL RATING UNIT (1)	Type of User (2)	Amount of Use (3)	Public Interest (4)	Adjacent Land Uses (5)	Special Areas (6)	Other Factors (7)	Overall Rating (8)	EXPLANATION (9)

INSTRUCTIONS

Steps in the Sensitivity Level Analysis

1. Divide the inventory area into logical sensitivity rating units.
2. Analyze the factors which indicate visual sensitivity.
3. For each rating unit, rate each factor as high, moderate, or low using the following outline as a general guide:
 - a. *Type of Users.* Maintenance of visual quality is:
 - a major concern for most users High
 - a moderate concern for most users Moderate
 - a low concern for most users Low
 - b. *Amount of use.* Maintenance of visual quality becomes more important as the level of use increases(see table below):
 - high level of use High
 - moderate level of use Moderate
 - low level of use Low
 - c. *Public Interest.* Maintenance of visual quality is:
 - a major public issue High
 - a moderate public issue Moderate
 - a minor public issue Low
 - d. *Adjacent Land Uses.* Maintenance of visual quality to sustain adjacent land use objectives is:
 - very important High
 - moderately important Moderate
 - slightly important Low
 - e. *Special Area.* Maintenance of visual quality to sustain Special Area management objectives is:
 - very important High
 - moderately important Moderate
 - slightly important Low
4. Determine the over-all sensitivity level for each rating unit. This is a judgmental process which requires a careful analysis of all the above factors. Review the ratings given to each factor and analyze the relationship between factors. A high rating in any one factor does not necessarily mean that the over-all sensitivity level rating should be high. For example, the rating for "type of users" might be high but the "amount of use" might be low. Consequently, the over-all rating could be low or moderate. Management should be involved in this rating process.
5. Record the ratings and explanation on the sensitivity level rating sheet.

TABLE FOR CLASSIFYING AMOUNT OF USE			
TYPE AREA	HIGH	MODERATE	LOW
Roads & Highways	Greater than 45,000 visits/yr.	5,000-45,000 visits/yr.	Lesser than 5,000 visits/yr.
Rivers & Trails	Greater than 20,000 visits/yr.	2,000-20,000 visits/yr.	Lesser than 2,000 visits/yr.
Recreation Sites	Greater than 10,000 visitor days/yr.	2,000-10,000 visitor days/yr.	Lesser than visitor 2,000 days/yr.