

Special Interest

Management Area Category-

S, G, B, 9

Includes Management Prescriptions-
SD, GD, GL, BL, and 9L

Goal

Maintain the special feature(s) in a substantially natural condition. While providing for an appropriate level of public access and enjoyment.

Description of Lands Where This MAC is Applied

Areas with a special feature or features which are important enough to deserve particular attention. Areas S, G, and B qualify for classification under Code of Federal Regulations (CFR 294.1).

Scenic Areas - SD

Places of outstanding or matchless beauty.
Management Prescription SD.

Geologic Areas - GD and GL

Outstanding formations, fossils, caves, or other geologic features which display the earth's evolutionary processes.

Botanical Areas - BL

Lands containing plant species or communities which are significant because of form, color, occurrence, habitat, location, life history, arrangement, ecology, environment, rarity, or other quality.

Other Areas - 9L

These lands, like those described above, are unique because they include features deserving special management. They include a wide range of features, such as waterfalls, scenic spots, caves, and botanical, historical, and geological sites. They differ from the above areas in two respects. First, they are relatively small in size; ranging from one acre to about 1,200 acres, most are 20 acres or less. The second and most significant difference in these areas, however is that they are not significant enough to qualify for classification under Code of Federal Regulations (CFR 294.1).

Desired Future Condition

Visual evidence of management activities is subordinate to the special feature(s). Fences, signs, viewpoints, and other facilities may exist if needed to protect the feature(s) or provide for public use and enjoyment. Plant communities are usually the product of natural succession. Vegetation may range from natural openings through stands of mature and old-growth timber.

Most features included in this MAC will remain in a substantially undisturbed condition. Some, however, may be partially altered to provide access or recreational facilities.

In most Special Interest Areas, there is an opportunity to interact with the natural environment. In some, there is an opportunity for solitude; in others, the experience is shared.

Standards/Guidelines

The following direction applies to all Management Areas in MAC-S, G, B, 9, unless otherwise indicated.

Recreation

Planning and Inventory

1. The location of trails, campsites, viewpoints, and other recreational opportunities should be identified and evaluated for development.
2. Access to cultural features, wildlife viewing areas, berryfields, and other features of interest should also be evaluated for development or interpretation.
3. All areas, except for those to which the 9L Prescription is assigned, will be classified as Special Interest Areas under the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR 294.1).
4. The Visual Quality Objective and Recreation Opportunity Spectrum class assigned to these Management Areas are:

Management Prescriptions SD and GD-

VQO	-	Retention
ROS	-	Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized

Management Prescriptions GL, BL, and 9L-

VQO	-	Retention
ROS	-	Roaded Natural

NOTE: In the event that oversnow machines are permitted within management areas assigned Prescriptions SD or GD, the ROS class is changed to Semi-Primitive Motorized for the duration of such use.

The assigned VQO is applicable to all roads, trails, and use areas within the management area.

Use Administration

1. Off-road vehicles, including oversnow machines, should not be permitted in management areas assigned Prescriptions BL, GD, GL, or SD, except oversnow machines may be permitted in GD, GL, and SD when snow is deep enough to ensure that resource damage will not occur.
2. Off-road vehicles, including oversnow machines, may be permitted in 9L areas on a case-by-case basis.

3. Hazard trees near use areas should be removed.

Facility, Site, and Trail Reconstruction and Construction

Trails and facilities should be subordinate to features for which the Management Area was created.

Wildlife

Nonstructural and Structural Habitat Improvement and Maintenance

Native or natural materials should be used.

Range

Planning and Inventory

Domestic livestock grazing may be permitted if it does not detract from the special feature(s) and public use and enjoyment. No grazing should be permitted in areas assigned the BL prescription.

Nonstructural/Structural Improvements and Maintenance

1. Native or natural materials, should be used in improvements.
2. Stock tanks, fences, and holding pens should be located away from the special interest feature, or areas where recreation is concentrated.
3. Revegetation or rehabilitation necessitated by stock grazing should be initiated no later than the following season.