Revised Other DC Statement List

"Need for Change" Statements

- Watershed and Water
- Wildlife and fish
- Vegetation (including rare and sensitive plants, noxious weeds)
- Recreation – motorized, non-motorized, dispersed camping

Other Desired Condition Statement

Recreation – Other – trails (winter and summer use), developed (campgrounds, trailheads, rest areas, vistas, etc),

Air

Geology and Soil

Disturbance – insect, disease, fire,etc

Lands

Heritage Resources

Special Designations – Wilderness, Wild and scenic rivers, Research Natural Areas, Special features, Caves

Economic Conditions – Products and Services: Range, Timber Management, Special forest products, guides, and Minerals

Social Conditions – Knowledge management and Collaboration, Tribal program, Public Health and Hazardous Materials, Cooperative Management

DISTURBANCE DCs

Air Quality and Smoke Management Desired Condition

Ambient air quality and visibility values across the Forest are within federal and state standards for particulate matter and visibility. Within the scope of Federal and State standards, prescribed and wildland fires often mimic the historical frequency, distribution, and size.

Soil Resource Desired Condition

Most soils have at least minimal protective ground cover, soil organic matter, and coarse woody material. Soils have adequate physical properties for vegetative growth and soil-hydrologic function. Physical, chemical, and biological processes in most soils function similarly to soils that have not been harmfully disturbed. Degradation of soil quality and loss of soil productivity is prevented. Soil-hydrologic function and productivity in riparian areas is protected, preserving the ability to serve as a filter for good water quality and regulation of nutrient cycling. Soil productivity, quality, and function are restored where adversely impaired and contributing to an overall decline in watershed condition.

Fire Management Desired Condition

Fire—both prescribed and wildland—is used as a tool to enhance ecosystem resiliency, to maintain desired fuel levels, and to help maintain desired vegetation conditions. Fire plays its natural role where appropriate and desirable, but is actively suppressed where necessary to protect life, investments, and valuable natural resources. Effects of wildland fire are acceptable, and fire operates within historical fire regimes appropriate to the vegetation type.

Mineral Resources Desired Condition

Energy mineral development is compatible with ecosystem capabilities and resource values. Balanced use and development of mineral resources are allowed, while protecting other resource values with stipulations, mitigation, and careful monitoring. Facilities and landscape modifications are visible but are reasonably mitigated to blend and harmonize with natural features. Lands disturbed by minerals and energy are restored through effective reclamation techniques.

Lands and Special Uses Desired Condition

Special use authorizations, landownership adjustments, rights-of-way, landline location, and easements serve public needs. National Forest property boundaries are located and posted on the ground. Adjustments made in land ownership achieve resource management or protection objectives, provide needed access, or allow National Forest System lands to be managed more efficiently. Rights-of-way to access Forest lands are acquired to meet planned resource activities. Pro-active efforts to educate and inform users and adjacent landowners result in reduced levels of unpermitted uses, encroachments, and user conflicts.

Facilities and Roads Desired Condition

Facilities are safe, efficient, and meet land and resource management objectives. The road network matches the level of management activities occurring on the Forest and supplies the transportation

system needed for public use related to recreation, special uses, timber harvest, range management, minerals development, and fire protection. Roads needed for long-term objectives are maintained in a manner that provides for user safety and reduces sedimentation and migration barriers for aquatic species. Roads not needed for long-term objectives are decommissioned and stabilized.

Recreation Resources Desired Condition

People visiting the National Forest find opportunities for a wide spectrum of recreation experiences that are harmonious with predominantly natural settings. A balance of diverse landscapes offer a variety of settings for a wide range of activities, including primitive settings where there are opportunities for solitude, risk and challenge, to more modified settings where there are opportunities for social interaction, comfort and less risk. Recreation facilities are constructed, reconstructed, relocated, eliminated or decommissioned as needed to provide a balance of safe, efficient, and environmentally responsible experiences and opportunities. Recreation facility maintenance meets established national standards and contributes to healthy, safe recreation experiences. Recreation information and facility design and construction focus on people of all abilities and provide amenities and information to meet their needs. Conflicts between recreationists and with other users are minimized. Local communities, partnerships, and volunteers are involved and benefit from their roles in providing recreational opportunities. Recreationists understand the potential for impacts to resources and other users and actively assist in caring for the land and resolving conflicts.

SOCIAL and ECONOMIC DCs

Heritage Program Desired Condition

Heritage Resources enrich visitors' experiences by creating opportunities to discover the Forest's unique past. They enhance local communities, and build bridges of understanding between the Forest and its neighbors. Heritage information contributes to overall Forest management by helping us understand past human interaction with Forest ecosystems. Some heritage resources present a cultural link for Native Americans, as such, they are preserved, protected, and interpreted in a manner that respects their unique values.

Social and Economic Desired Condition

Sustainable and predictable levels of goods and services are provided contributing to community resiliency. Firewood, post and poles, sawlogs, forage, oil and gas, and other products are provided consistent with management direction.

National Forest decisions and their associated tradeoffs are understood and accepted by many people. There is increased intergovernmental coordination with federal, state, county, and tribal governments, and a high level of communication and dialogue with a broad range of stakeholders. Local economic development goals are considered when developing National Forest land uses and management strategies.

Tribal Rights and Interests Desired Condition

Tribes continue to have interest and reliance on ecosystems even as their cultures change, employing both traditional and contemporary ways of relating to their homelands and interest areas (lands where tribes have traditionally ranged to sustain their life way). Lands within the Forest

serve to help sustain Native American way of life, cultural integrity, social cohesion, and economic well being. Federal agencies take a more proactive role on the tribes' behalf, especially in areas of treaty interest, rights, traditional and cultural resources, and ecosystem integrity. Federal agencies provide opportunities for traditional American Indian land uses and resources. The presence of healthy habitats is fundamental to the achievement of both useable and harvestable levels of resources significant to Native American, as well as to ecosystem integrity.

SPECIAL DESIGANTION DCs

Designated Wilderness Desired Condition

Wilderness is managed and protected, for the plants and animals that live there and their habitat, the preservation of large, intact ecosystems, clean air and water, and primitive recreation opportunities. Natural ecological processes are dominant. Ecosystems are influenced by natural process with little or no intervention. Native fish and wildlife species are featured and the habitat needs of species-at-risk receive protective measures where needed.

The Forest Service and the State of Utah employ a cooperative approach to management that recognizes the unique values of wilderness in providing diverse fish and wildlife habitats and opportunities across the landscape. Reintroductions of native wildlife species are planned for cautiously and jointly in an open public process. Exotic wildlife, wildlife presently or historically within the ecosystems of the United States, species are not considered for introduction in wilderness even if desirable for recreational purposes. The cooperative strategy for aquatic ecosystem management recognizes that self-sustaining populations of native species are an appropriate goal for wilderness waters. Some lakes and streams are cooperatively designated as fishless, and allowed to remain so in order to provide habitat for native amphibians and aquatic invertebrates. Since fishing is also an important aspect of many people's wilderness experience stocking of native species in designated locations will remain a part of the management picture. Selection of waters to stock and species will be coordinated with the state agency. Exotic fish species, species not currently or historically found in ecosystems of the United States, will not be stocked in wilderness waters.

Designated wilderness areas are managed and their values protected according to the 1964 Wilderness Act, the 1978 Endangered Wilderness Act (Lone Peak), and the 1984 Utah Wilderness Act and approved wilderness management plans. Wilderness is managed as a scarce resource, where wilderness-dependent activities are favored when managing wilderness use. Wilderness management work emphasizes the minimum tool concept that has the least discernible impact on the land. People visiting wilderness within the National Forest find opportunities for exploration, solitude, risk, and challenge. Human use in the wilderness is provided while preserving wilderness character. The adverse impacts of human use are controlled and reduced through education and minimum regulation. Crowding and physical impacts from visitor use should not be allowed to reach the point where solitude is destroyed or evidence of humans dominates. Pristine areas, which are precious areas that approach the ideal of being "untrammeled by man", are protected to maintain their undisturbed and undeveloped character and prevent degradation of their unique and valuable wilderness values.

Recommended Wilderness Desired Condition

Recommended wilderness areas are managed to maintain wilderness qualities. Activities allowed in recommended wilderness do not compromise wilderness values or reduce the area's potential for wilderness designation.

Roadless Area Values Desired Condition

Roadless areas are managed according to the management prescriptions applied. Most are protected and maintained to conserve and preserve important values and benefits of them by prohibiting activities that have a likelihood of degrading desirable characteristics of inventoried roadless areas.

Roadless areas mapped with prescriptions 1.5, 2.4, 2.6, 2.7, 3.1A, 3.1W, 3.2U, 4.1 and 4.2 are maintained for values including soil, water, diversity of plant and animal communities, habitat for TES and species dependant on large undisturbed land, primitive and semi-primitive non-motorized and motorized (open in current travel plan) recreation, reference landscapes for research, study and interpretation, landscape character and scenic integrity, traditional cultural properties and sacred sites and other identified unique conditions. With no or limited additional road construction and timber sales in these areas, the altering of natural landscapes, habitat fragmentation and changes in native plant and animal communities is minimized. Roadless areas function as biological strongholds and refuges for many species. Sedimentation and disruption of water flows is minimized and the roadless areas provide sources of clean public drinking water. Competition by nonnative invasive species is minimized in roadless areas. Roadless areas support healthy and diverse ecosystems. There is no long-term loss of roadless characteristics and values.

Roadless areas not mapped with prescription 1.5 provide for outstanding recreation opportunities both motorized and non-motorized, such as hiking, horseback riding, ATV riding, mountain biking, snowmobiling, camping, picnicking, wildlife viewing, hunting, fishing, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. In some areas, roadless backcountry will be managed for semi-primitive recreation opportunities, as an alternative to high use wilderness areas and to reduce the impacts on wilderness values and pristine areas. While the areas have many wilderness-like attributes, unlike wilderness, the use of mountain bikes and other mechanized travel is often allowed. Where possible, roadless areas will be managed to minimize conflicts between motorized and non-motorized users through management prescription categories, recreation opportunity classes and travel management plans.

Eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers Desired Condition

River segments and their corridors that are eligible as Wild and Scenic Rivers are managed to retain their free-flowing status and outstandingly remarkable values.