<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>UNTRAMMELED</th>
<th>NATURAL</th>
<th>UNDEVELOPED</th>
<th>SOLITUDE OR PRIMITIVE AND UNCONFINED RECREATION</th>
<th>OTHER FEATURES OF VALUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From the Wilderness Act, wilderness is “...an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man...” and “…generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature”</td>
<td>From the Wilderness Act, wilderness “...is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions”</td>
<td>From the Wilderness Act, wilderness “...an area of undeveloped Federal land...without permanent improvement or human habitation” and “…where man himself is a visitor who does not remain”</td>
<td>From the Wilderness Act, wilderness “...may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilderness is essentially free from the intentional actions of modern human control or manipulation</td>
<td>Wilderness ecological systems are substantially free from the effects of modern civilization</td>
<td>Wilderness retains its primeval character and influence, and is essentially without permanent improvement or modern human occupation</td>
<td>Wilderness provides outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation</td>
<td>Wilderness preserves other features that are of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Indicators are:  
  • Actions authorized by the federal land manager that intentionally manipulate the biophysical environment  
  • Actions not authorized by the federal land manager that intentionally manipulate the biophysical environment | Indicators are:  
  • Plants  
  • Animals  
  • Air and water  
  • Ecological processes | Indicators are:  
  • Presence of non-recreational structures, installations, and developments  
  • Presence of inholdings  
  • Use of motor vehicles, motorized equipment, or mechanical transport | Indicators are:  
  • Remoteness from sights and sounds of human activity inside wilderness  
  • Remoteness from sights and sounds of human activity outside the wilderness  
  • Facilities that decrease self-reliant recreation  
  • Management restrictions on visitor behavior | Indicators are:  
  • Deterioration or loss of integral cultural features  
  • Deterioration or loss of other tangible and integral features of value |
| Measures could include:  
  • spraying weeds  
  • suppressing or lighting fire  
  • introducing non-native species  
  • using biocontrol agents  
  • unauthorized actions such as predator control | Measures could include:  
  • presence, abundance, or distribution of non-native plant species  
  • presence, abundance, or distribution of terrestrial non-native animal species  
  • presence, abundance, or distribution of aquatic non-native animal species  
  • visibility, ozone, chemical deposition  
  • water quality and quantity condition  
  • presence of sensitive lichen species  
  • watershed condition  
  • fragmentation | Measures could include:  
  • authorized installations and developments such as scientific equipment, radio repeaters, fish barriers  
  • unauthorized installations and developments  
  • inholdings or allotments  
  • administrative and emergency use of motor vehicles, motorized equipment, or mechanical transport  
  • unauthorized uses of motor vehicles, motorized equipment, or mechanical transport | Measures could include:  
  • visitor use  
  • area affected by travel routes  
  • night sky visibility  
  • impacts to soundscape  
  • authorized recreation facilities such as trails, toilets, bridges, shelters  
  • unauthorized recreation facilities such as user-created campsites, illegal motorcycle/ATV trails  
  • visitor management restrictions |

Modified from – *Keeping It Wild 2: An Updated Interagency Strategy to Monitor Trends in Wilderness Character Across the National Wilderness Preservation System.* v08.2015
The Wilderness Stewardship Principles
(from Wilderness Management, Hendee & Dawson, 2002)

1. Manage wilderness at the pristine extreme of the land modification spectrum
2. Manage wilderness comprehensively, not as separate parts
3. Manage wilderness, and sites within, under a non-degradation concept
4. Manage human influences, a key to wilderness protection
5. Manage wilderness to produce human values and benefits
6. Favor wilderness-dependent activities
7. Guide management with written plans that state objectives for specific areas
8. Set carrying capacities as necessary to prevent unnatural change
9. Focus management on threatened sites and damaging activities
10. Apply only minimum regulations and tools necessary to achieve objectives
11. Involve the public as a key to acceptance and success of wilderness management
12. Monitor conditions and experience opportunities for long-term stewardship
13. Manage wilderness in relation to management of adjacent lands

The Wilderness Stewardship Principles represent the essence of sound wilderness stewardship taken from law and policy and supported by scientific research. The Four Cornerstones of Wilderness Stewardship encompass all the principles to provide a more concise and easy to remember set of guidelines that form the foundation of wilderness stewardship.

THE FOUR CORNERSTONES of Wilderness Stewardship

1. Manage wilderness as a whole.
2. Preserve wilderness and natural conditions.
3. Protect wilderness benefits.
4. Provide and use the minimum necessary.