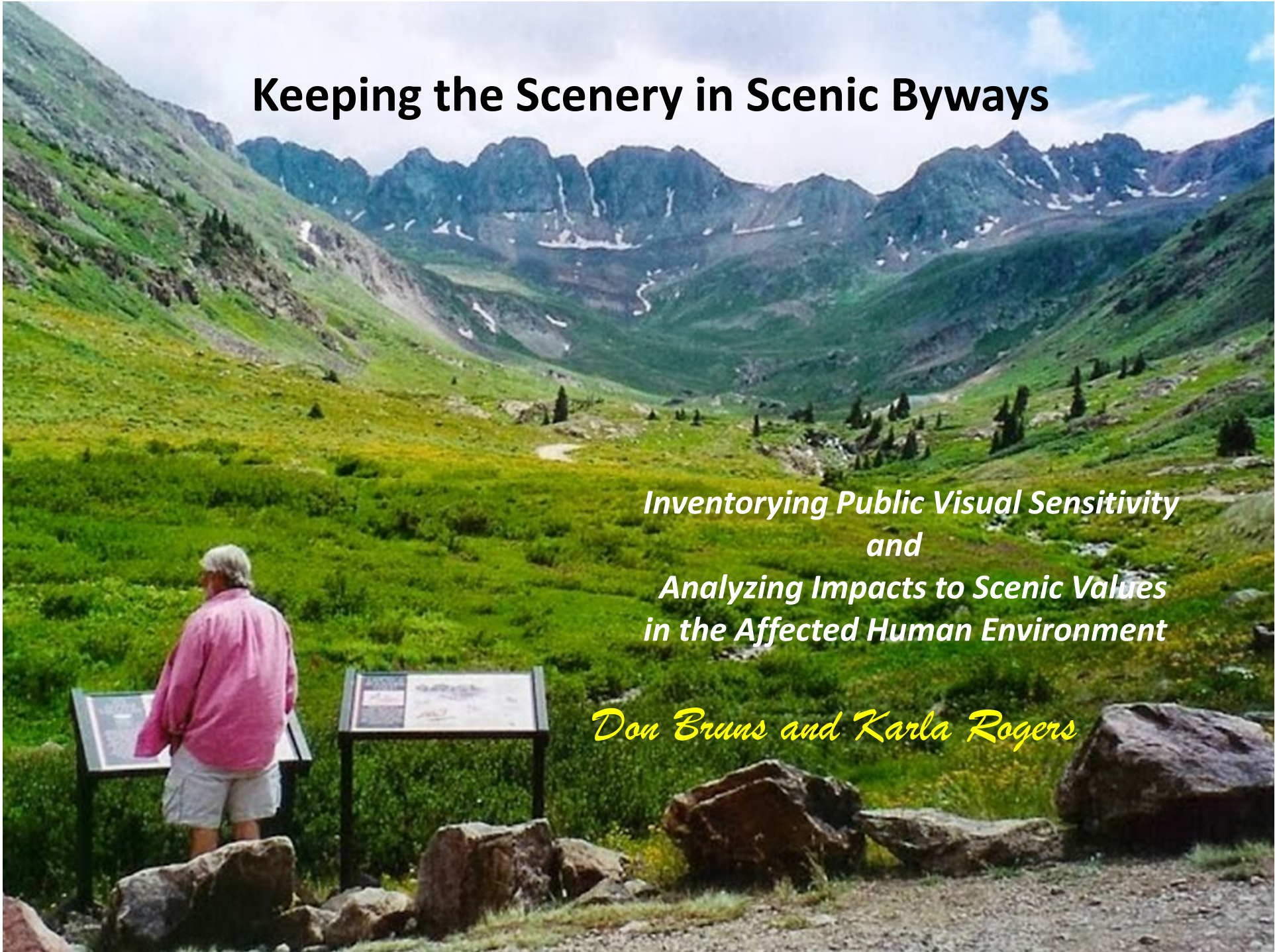


# Keeping the Scenery in Scenic Byways

*Inventoring Public Visual Sensitivity  
and  
Analyzing Impacts to Scenic Values  
in the Affected Human Environment*

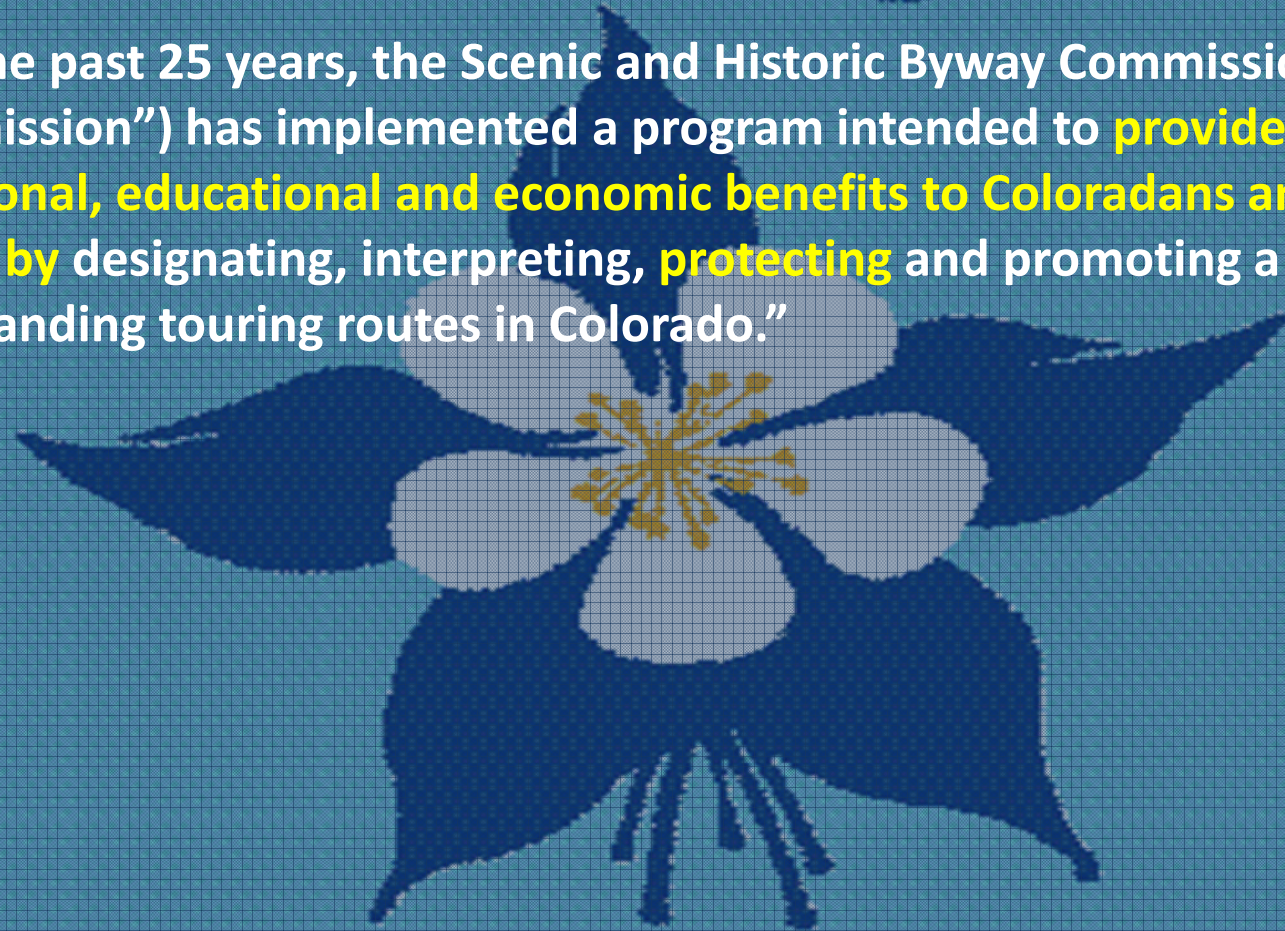
*Don Bruuns and Karla Rogers*



# From the Governor's Executive Order 2014-002 Continuing the Scenic and Historic Byways Commission

*March 2014*

“Over the past 25 years, the Scenic and Historic Byway Commission (“Commission”) has implemented a program intended to **provide recreational, educational and economic benefits to Coloradans and visitors, by** designating, interpreting, **protecting** and promoting a system of outstanding touring routes in Colorado.”



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March 2014

“Over the past 25 years, the Scenic and Historic Byway Commission (“Commission”) has implemented a program intended to provide recreational, educational and economic benefits to Coloradans and visitors, by designating, interpreting, protecting and promoting a system of outstanding touring routes in Colorado.”

“The Program is conducted in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and **Bureau of Land Management**, and those institutions have agreed to **participate in and abide by the rules and regulation of the program.**”

-- from “Background and Need”

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March 2014

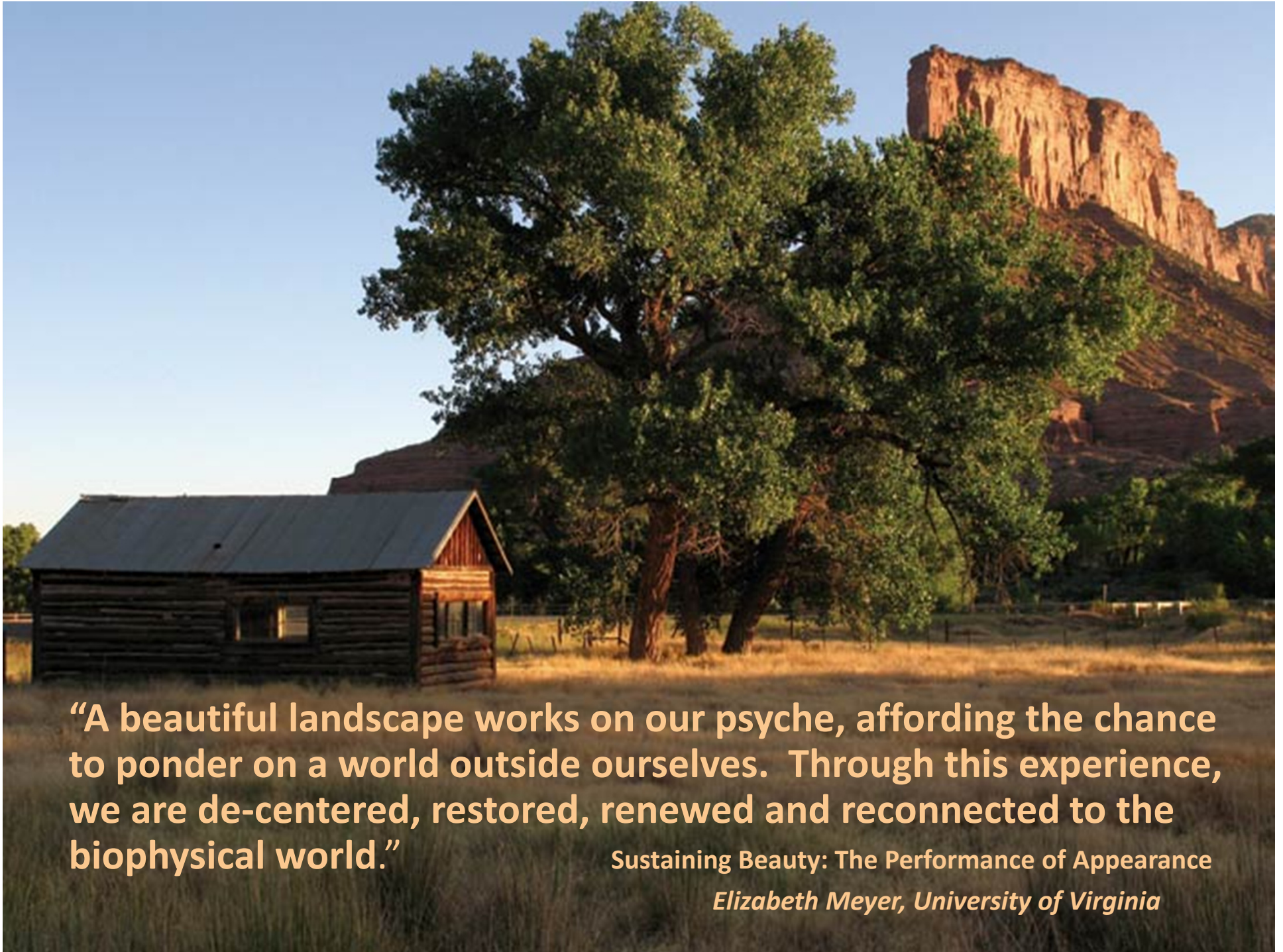
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“The Program is conducted in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, and those institutions have agreed to participate in and abide by the rules and regulation of the program.”

-- from “Background and Need”

“The Commission shall work with state agencies, the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, local byways organizations, and public and private resources to assist in the development of byways management plans including interpretation, promotion and **protection of distinctive byways characteristics**”

-- from “Mission and Scope”



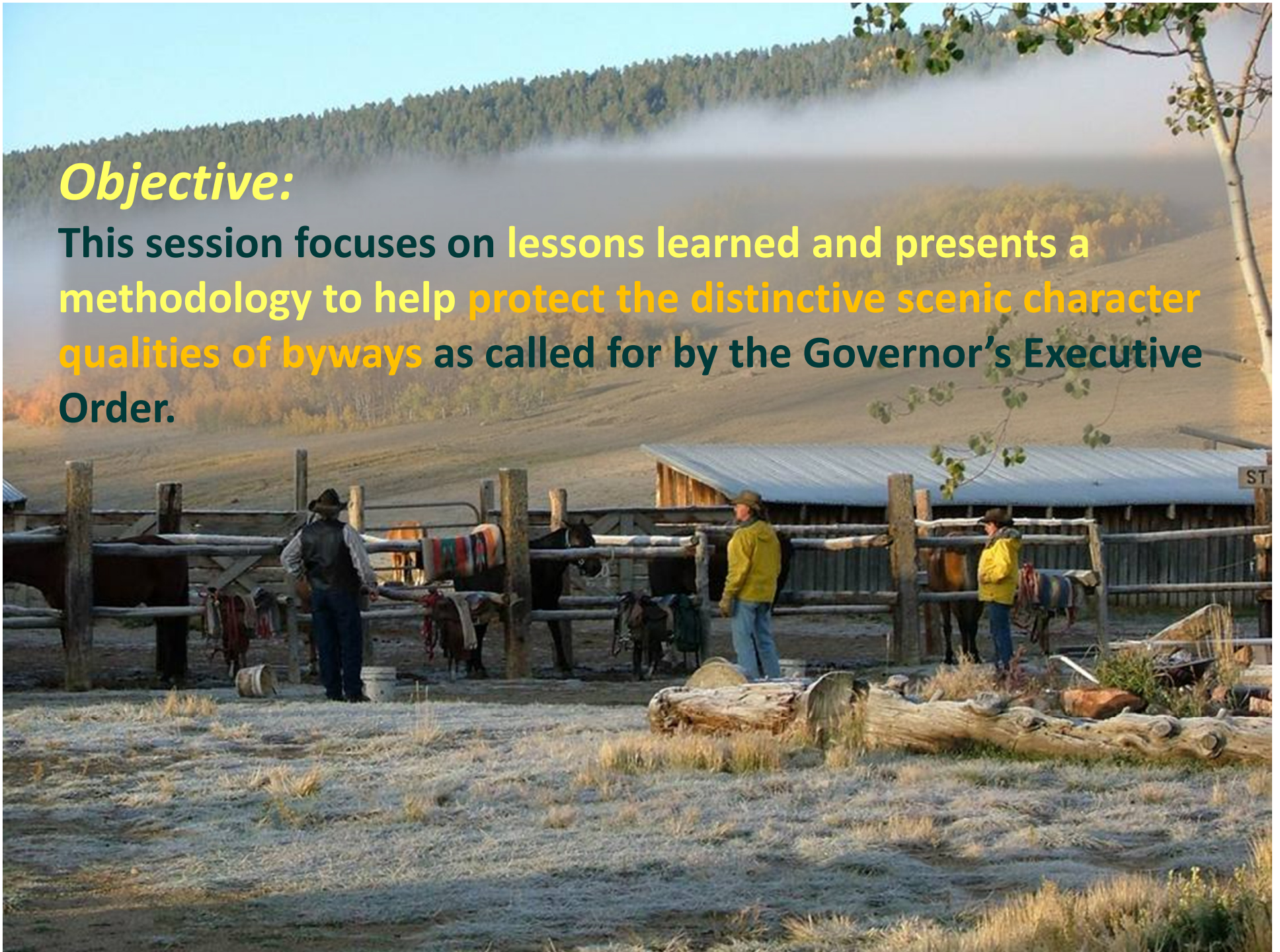
**“A beautiful landscape works on our psyche, affording the chance to ponder on a world outside ourselves. Through this experience, we are de-centered, restored, renewed and reconnected to the biophysical world.”**

**Sustaining Beauty: The Performance of Appearance**

***Elizabeth Meyer, University of Virginia***

***Objective:***

This session focuses on lessons learned and presents a methodology to help protect the distinctive scenic character qualities of byways as called for by the Governor's Executive Order.





**Not everyone works within a federal environment. Yet we still need to maintain byways' scenic values.**

**We will therefore share how we progressed from using visual resource management principles that do not work very well to begin addressing what really matters to the visitors and communities we jointly serve.**



**We learned that knowing relative degrees of visual sensitivity—from BLM's own internal perspective—are not particularly useful information.**

**Instead, what we need to know is *who* visually sensitive publics are, *what* scenery concerns them and *how*, and finally *why* it matters to the visitors and communities that we jointly serve.**

**To Protect Distinctive Byway Scenery  
We Have Two Points of Control or Influence:  
Land Use Plans & Environmental Assessments**  
Here are the elements of these dimensions:

<b>Arena</b>	<b>Land Use Plan Compliance</b>	<b>Environmental Assessments</b>
<b>Focus</b>	<b>How we Manage Scenic Values</b>	<b>How we Protect the Environment</b>
<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Administrative</b> <i>(Resource Management Plans)</i>	<b>Existing Conditions</b> <i>(Inventory of Scenic Values)</i>
<b>Process</b>	<b>Rate Visual Contrast</b> Analyze: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Form</li> <li>● Line</li> <li>● Color</li> <li>● Texture</li> </ul> <i>(Ensure Project Fit)</i>	<b>Analyze Effects on the Human Environment</b> Change to Scenic Values <i>(Identify Impacts &amp; Recommends Mitigations)</i>
<b>Skills</b>	<b>The Design Arts</b>	<b>Landscape Architecture, Social, Economic, and Behavioral Science</b>



## At what point in the process is the breakdown?

In response to interagency concerns, field staff questions, and requests for clarification from environmental contractors, questions were raised...

- *Was there adequate legal support?*
- *Was there adequate technical guidance?*





## Laws Concerning Scenic Values on BLM public lands...

*Two congressional legislative authorities direct the management and protection of scenic values in conjunction with other national resources and values....*

- ***The Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) of 1976***— mandates that scenic values be inventoried, that inventories be maintained, that inventory information be taken into account during land-use planning and the setting of goals & objectives for desired outcomes, that goals and objectives be measurable to confirm plans are upheld, and that reasonable efforts are made to protect scenic values.
- ***The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)*** - mandates analyses to identify and disclose effects caused by a proposed action to the quality of the human environment which includes scenic values. Alternatives are to be developed to avoid or reduce negative consequences to scenic values.



## ***Was there adequate legal support?***

**YES.**

Two Federal statutory authorities recognize that scenic values govern how scenic values are addressed on BLM public lands. **They mandate that Federal agencies identify and work to protect scenic values** that really matter to American people—to visitors, communities and local residents.

## ***Was there adequate agency guidance?***

*From the perspective of BLM's guidance only.....*

*BLM's scenery management system is called the Visual Resource Management system.*

*Its structure is straightforward...*



# BLM's Visual Resource Management System (VRM)

## Identify What Exists (Inventory)

### Describe the **Landscape Character**

BLM term is "Scenic Quality Evaluation"  
and rates as A,B,C with 'A' having higher scenic quality to 'C'

### Describe what is of **Public Concern**

BLM term is "Sensitivity Level Assessment"  
and rates sensitivity of areas as being High, Moderate, Low

### Describe what is **In the Public Eye**

BLM term is "Distance Zones"  
and rates as being in the Foreground/Midground, Background or Seldom Seen

## Decide How "What Exists" will be Managed (LU Plan)

### Set **Scenic (visual) Objectives** to achieve the desired outcomes identified in the land-use plan

BLM terminology is "VRM Class Objectives I through IV".

Ranging from VRM Class I, the most restrictive, allowing low levels of change to the characteristic landscape and activities that don't attract public attention, to VRM Class IV which is poses the least restrictions.

## Evaluate Proposed Land Modifying Activities:

- ✓ **For Conformance with LU Plan objectives**
- ✓ **For Impacts to the Human Environment**





## ***Was there adequate agency guidance?***

### **YES and NO.**

Available agency guidance explains what needs to be done, across all program areas – Inventory, Plan, Conduct Environmental Analyses, Implement plans, Evaluate Proposals, Complete Supplemental Site/Area Environmental Analyses, Monitor, and Evaluate.

At the two important points of control—Land Use Planning and Environmental Analysis— there was inadequate clarity on how to incorporate the human dimension of scenic value (visitors, communities, residents, and their quality of life) into business questions.

# Deciding How To Manage for Scenic Values

*Visual Objectives for Land Use Plans are Written Using Inventory Information...*

## A. Visual Resource Inventory (VRI) info that gets incorporated...

**Basis for Determining  
Visual Resource **Inventory** Classes**

		Visual Sensitivity Levels						
		High			Medium			Low
Special Areas	A	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
	B	II	II	II	II	II	II	II
Scenic Quality	B	II	III	III <sup>*</sup> IV	III	IV	IV	IV
	C	III	IV	IV	IV	IV	IV	IV
		f/m	b	s/s	f/m	b	s/s	s/s
		Distance Zones						

\* if adjacent area is Class III or lower, (ie - Class II) assign Class III, if higher, (ie. Class IV) Class IV

## B. Visual Resource Management (VRM) Class Objectives

Class	Degree of Departure from the Characteristic Landscape	Noticeability
1	Class criteria	Class criteria
2	Class criteria	Class criteria
3	Class criteria	Class criteria
4	Class criteria	Class criteria

## ***Is there adequate agency guidance?***

During Environmental Assessment (2<sup>nd</sup> control point)

- Visual analysis sections of EAs and EISs tended to focus on describing how proposals alter the forms, lines, colors and textures of the landscape.
  - Often to the exclusion of analyzing how changes to scenery alter scenic values Americans hold for and about places and affect the human environment
- Analyses also tended to rely on internal agency ratings required by current guidance.
  - Those ratings, once removed from affected publics, neutralize detail and mask understanding of real effects to the quality of the human environment.
- Analyses that cross management jurisdictions are influenced by existing system criteria
  - Developing an approach to assess effects to scenic values across jurisdictions are challenged by nuances of agency system criteria and available data.



## **...those efforts, missing the mark, were symptomatic**

*For NEPA analyses to actually facilitate **protecting distinctive scenic byway characteristics**, we needed to move beyond baseline ratings that describe only relative degrees of public sensitivity.*

*We needed to generate real inventory data identifying particular scenic values in the human environment that would be affected:*

- Home/Workplace Value
- Cultural/Heritage Landscape Identity
- Economic Significance
- Existence and Bequest Value

**Objective content about Public Sensitivity needed to be generated:**

- in baseline inventories for Land Use Plans and
- in supplemental site/area analyses for subsequent proposals and projects.



# Inventorying and Protecting Scenic Values

## Think About it...



- ✓ Landscape alterations can more than alter visual character—including people’s sense of a place, heritage, their communities, businesses, and quality of life—some of the reasons why scenic byways are designated
- ✓ The scenic value of Public Lands are not simply tied to naturally occurring physical qualities of form, line, color and texture.
- ✓ Public concern for scenic value of Public Lands can be analyzed IF ONLY we have meaningful information about:
  - Who and Where they are*
  - What landscapes and features are their concern and Where*
  - How their sensitivities are aroused*
  - Why they matter*
- ✓ Assessments of environmental affects require authentic inventories of all scenic values, including public visual sensitivity



# Authentic Inventory Content

- ❑ **Inventory Visual Sensitivity** by interviewing people who are connected to their communities—an illustrative, not exhaustive list:
  - ✓ Municipal Officials
  - ✓ Business and Industry Representatives
  - ✓ Heritage and Tourism Directors
  - ✓ Parks and Recreation Managers
  - ✓ District Wildlife Managers
  - ✓ Commissioners
  - ✓ Ranchers and Local Residents
  - ✓ Native American Tribal Leaders
  - ✓ Etc.
  
- ❑ **Identify:**
  - ✓ **Who** the visually sensitive publics are and **Where**
  - ✓ **What** landscapes, features and views of concern and **Where**
  - ✓ **How** public concern is actuated
  - ✓ **Why** it matters
  
- ❑ **Record Usable Results** using checklists, narrative and georeferenced map output that can be easily accessed when considering plan alternatives and proposed actions.

## **Authentic Public Visual Sensitivity Inventories**

- Are structured to identify the dimensions of scenic value of greatest concern to visually sensitive publics – for the purpose of supplementing, not replacing, qualitative ratings (i.e., high, moderate and low) with more functional data
- Work best when conducted as one-on-one iterative interviews to help people think through what scenic values matter most to their community
- These are not surveys but focused interviews:
  - ✓ They:
    - Rely on informal discussion prompts
    - Prompt those interviewed not to speak for themselves but for the actual community and communities of interest to which they are connected
    - “Tease out” most relevant dimensions of sensitivity held by concerned publics
    - Generate both narrative and geo-referenced inventory results
  - ✓ They are not:
    - Based on a standardized list of questions, as in surveys – because the most relevant visual sensitivity parameters for each community are not yet known
    - To be characterized as samples
    - Statistically generalizable but add to a dynamic inventory database
- They begin to quantify the specific concerns of visually sensitive publics not only for scenery itself but for elements of the human environment that depend on it

# D. Assessing Affects to Scenic Values in the Human Environment

These are the Linkages



## Visually Sensitive Publics

- 1. Who** *Concerned Publics (& Where)*
  - Town/Urban Communities*
  - Business and Industries*
  - Commuters and Travelers*
  - Rural Residences & Ranches*
  - Recreation-Tourism and Leisure*

And these are the Effects



## Factors that Create Public Concern

- 3. How** *The concern occurs*
  - Numbers*
  - Relative Visibility (view angle, relative scale)*
  - Viewing Distance*
  - Duration of View*
  - Noticeability (Integrity or wholeness, color, light, motion, spatial arrangement)*

## Scenery that Concerns Them

- 2. What** *Landscapes and Features Concern Them (& Where)*
  - Publicly Valued Scenery*
  - Prominent Viewpoints, Landmarks & Icons*
  - Special Areas*
  - Adjoining Lands*

## Factors that Explain Public Visual Sensitivity

- 4. Why** *Concerned publics hold scenic value*
  - Home/Workplace*
  - Cultural/Heritage Landscape*
  - Economic Significance*
  - Existence and Bequest (that they remain)*

*Scenic Values are Multidimensional*

## Scenic Values are Multidimensional

- ❑ Scenic quality is the attempt to describe the character of scenery's elements: landform, vegetation and structures
- ❑ Concerned, visually sensitive publics ascribe scenic value not only to scenery but also to elements of the human environment integral to and inextricably connected with that valued scenery
- ❑ Responsible analyses of environmental effects to scenic values—that helps ensure their protection (a FLPMA requirement)—must therefore look beyond the mere alteration of scenery
- ❑ These analyses should also address the effects of altered scenery, landscapes and views on specific scenic values, including:
  - ✓ Those ascribed to the scenery itself
  - ✓ Plus elements of the human environment integrally connected to the scenery to which concerned publics are to visually sensitive:
    - Home/Workplace
    - Cultural/Heritage Landscape
    - Economic Significance
    - Existence and Bequest

## Identify *Visually Sensitive Publics*

### 1. **Who** *Concerned Publics (& Where)*

***Town/Urban Communities:*** Includes residents who live in town and municipal officials responsible for a community's social well-being, economic sustainability, and maintenance of desired environmental character.

***Businesses and Industry:*** Includes retailers, main street hospitality service providers and corporate interests which are to varying degrees dependent upon the character of their community and/or the surrounding environment—including its setting character, amenities and aesthetics.

***Commuters and Travelers:*** Publics on the move, including those traveling to and from work, commercial carriers, extraction and construction workers, and commuters who live in one town but work in another.

***Rural Residences & Ranches:*** People who live in the country, on ranches or in rural subdivisions—who generally place a higher value on natural resource amenities, personal independence and isolation that country living affords.

***Recreation-Tourism and Leisure:*** All recreation, tourism and leisure time travelers enroute to or traveling within destination recreation areas, resorts or other attractions—including multiple means of personal conveyance.

## Identify *Scenery that Concerns Them*

### 2. **What** *Landscapes and Features Concern Them (& Where)*

***Publicly Valued Scenery:*** Scenery as entire landscape vistas: natural terrain, pastoral ranchlands, culturally modified landscapes (e.g., mountain subdivisions), and industrial terrain (e.g., highway, bridge and ski area aesthetics).

***Prominent View-points, Landmarks & Icons:*** These are eye-catching scenic features that draw one's attention including outstanding panoramas, peaks, escarpments, rivers, and even manmade structures.

***Special Areas:*** Areas made special by administrative designations that recognize special character qualities which may or may not themselves be focused on scenic values (e.g., Wilderness, wildlife, conservation, etc.).

***Adjoining Lands:*** This is two-dimensional, including both non-federal lands that adjoin landscapes and scenic features potentially affected by federal actions as well as federal lands affected by potential alterations of adjoining non-federal landscapes and features. Adjoining communities may also be affected in either sense.



## Identify *Factors that Create Concern for Scenic Values*

### 3. How *The concern occurs*

**Numbers:** How absolute numbers of viewers and/or the same number viewing multiple times actuate public visual sensitivity and elevate public concern.

**Relative Visibility:** The relative ease with which potential alterations of scenery and features may be viewed—affected by whether the landscape or feature is viewed straight ahead, sideways at an angle, skylined above, or looking downwards from a birds-eye perspective.

**Viewing Distance:** Distance influences both how landscape scale and appearance activate sensitivity—so that, for example, at foreground distances texture is comprised of actual tree branches, at middleground distances texture is comprised of entire trees and in the background, texture is comprised of overall vegetation or landform patterns.

**Duration of View:** This is simply time in view—seconds, minutes, hours, day-long, or 24/7—the longer in view, the greater the concern; both a plus for valued features and a minus for undesirable alterations.

**Noticeability:** This multidimensional actuator of visual sensitivity considers a landscape's spatial arrangement and the degree to which its integrity remains whole or unbroken, but it is also influenced by light, color and motion.

## Identify *Factors that Explain Public Visual Sensitivity*

### 4. **Why** *The concerned publics hold scenic value*

***Home/Workplace:*** This explains why in terms of the scenic value people ascribe to places they call home—be it where they enjoy living, working or spending their leisure time, this has much to do with place identity.

***Cultural/Heritage Landscape:*** This explains why in terms of the scenic value ascribed to existing landscape character, cultural land use norms, and historic and prehistoric features—all of which provide sense of place identity.

***Economic Significance:*** This explains why in terms of economic significance of or dependence on scenic values ascribed to particular landscapes and scenic features.

***Existence and Bequest:*** This explains why in terms of the scenic value ascribed to the maintenance of particular landscape characteristics and features for one's descendants or for future generations.

**Interviewee Information:** Background <e.g. govt. official, tourism, citizen, etc.> ZipCode \_\_\_\_\_

1. **Who:** Check only one of the five options below to identify a specific concerned public; on the map show their location:

- Town/Urban Communities*
- Business and Industries*
- Commuters and Travelers*
- Rural Residences & Ranches*
- Recreation-Tourism and Leisure*

Specifics:

2. **What:** Check only one of the four options beneath the same column selected above to identify the landscape/feature of concern; on the map draw a line around it:

<u><i>Town/Urban Communities</i></u>	<u><i>Business and Industries</i></u>	<u><i>Commuters and Travelers</i></u>	<u><i>Rural Residences and Ranches</i></u>	<u><i>Recreation-Tourism and Leisure</i></u>
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Publicly Valued Scenery</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Publicly Valued Scenery</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Publicly Valued Scenery</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Publicly Valued Scenery</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Publicly Valued Scenery</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Prominent View-points, Landmarks &amp; Icons</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Prominent View-points, Landmarks &amp; Icons</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Prominent View-points, Landmarks &amp; Icons</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Prominent View-points, Landmarks &amp; Icons</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Prominent View-points, Landmarks &amp; Icons</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Special Areas</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Special Areas</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Special Areas</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Special Areas</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Special Areas</i>
<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Adjoining Lands</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Adjoining Lands</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Adjoining Lands</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Adjoining Lands</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> <i>Adjoining Lands</i>

Specifics:

3. **How:** Check each option that identifies how the concerns occur for the items checked above:

- Numbers*
- Relative Visibility*
- Viewing Distance*
- Duration of View*
- Noticeability*

Specifics:

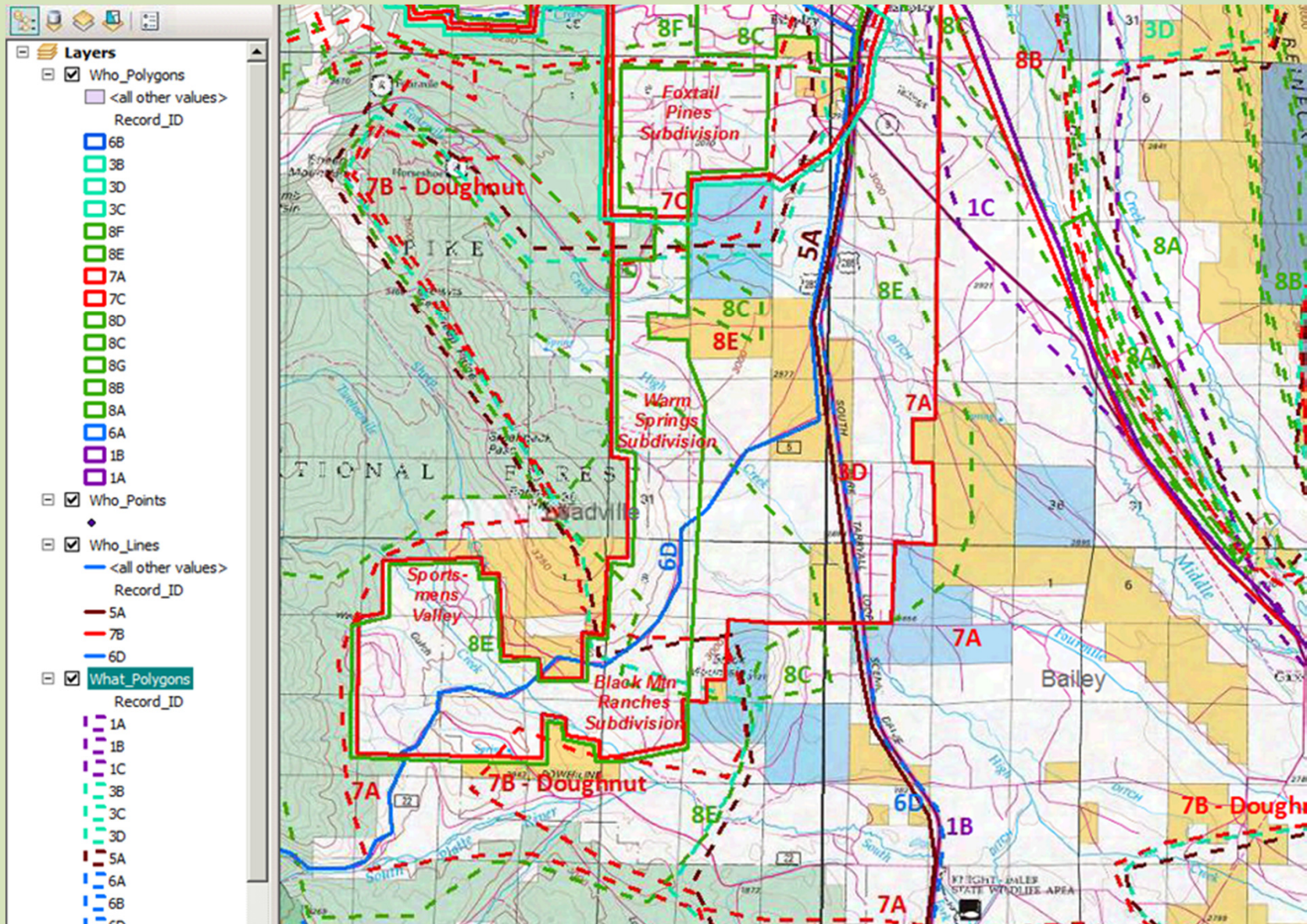
4. **Why?** Check each option that identifies why potential scenery alterations affect the concerns of identified visually sensitive publics:

- Home/Workplace*
- Cultural/Heritage Landscape*
- Economic Significance*
- Existence and Bequest*

Specifics:

## ArcGIS Data

This is an example of mapped worksheet data. The lines are mapped locations of the “Whats” (dashed lines) and “Whos” (solid lines) that were identified from the inventory sheet.



## Results Applied to Land Use Planning

- **Understanding Who are concerned publics sensitive to What potential scenery alterations—*including landscapes, features and views:***

- a) **For Resource Management Plans – Helps managers plan to protect scenic values—mandated in the *Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976***
- b) **For NEPA Compliance – Provides an adequate basis for both:**
  - ✓ Analyzing the effects of proposed plans on scenic values in the human environment, and
  - ✓ Adjusting plans accordingly
- c) **For Plan Compliance – BLM’s VRM guidance does not explicitly reflect public visual sensitivities; it’s based largely on scenic quality**

# Results Applied to the Assessment of Effects to Scenic Values in the Human Environment

- ❑ The four dimensions of visually sensitive public concern provide a useful framework for objectively assessing environmental effects
- ❑ Environmental effects may be assessed by examining linkages among identified:
  - a. Visually sensitive concerned publics (**WHO** they are and where) and
  - b. Proposed scenery alterations (**WHAT** scenery concerns them and where).
- ❑ These effects may be described at those identified locations in terms of both:
  - a. **HOW** proposed scenery alterations expose concerned publics and
  - b. Significance of their exposed scenic values, **WHY** it matters),
  - c. Indicating both:
    - ✓ *Degree of effect*
    - ✓ *Whether the effect is positive or negative*

# Scenic Values Site/Area Analysis Worksheet for Proposals

- *Here is an outline of a logical step-wise process for the assessment of both that avoids confusing:*
  - a) *The administrative baseline against which Land Use Plan Compliance is done*
  - b) *The affected environment baseline against which NEPA analyses must be done*

## Part I: SITE DESCRIPTION AND CONTEXT

## Part II. OBSERVATION LOCATION DESCRIPTION AND CONTEXT

- A. Project/Proposal Information at this Observation Location
- B. Characteristic Landscape Description
- C. Proposal/Project Description
- D. Contrast Rating
- E. Human Environmental Exposure
- F. Determine RMP VRM Class Conformance
- G. Assess Why Proposed Alterations of Scenery, Features and Views Affect Scenic Values of Visually Concerned Publics
- H. Document Effects to the Human Environment & Recommend Mitigating Measures

## Part III. ADJUST VISUAL RESOURCE INVENTORY COMPONENT RATINGS

# The Challenge: Integrated Analysis of the Whos, What's, Hows, and Whys

## a. WHO and WHERE

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Town/Urban Communities  | <input type="checkbox"/> Commuters and Travelers     | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation-Tourism and Leisure |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business and Industries | <input type="checkbox"/> Rural Residents and Ranches | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                   |

## b. WHAT and WHERE

Publicly Valued Scenery  
*(Scenic Areas)*

Prominent Viewpoints, Landmarks & Icons  
*(Scenic Features)*

Special Areas

Adjoining Lands

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

?

**The challenge was getting all of this on one page so that analysts could get their heads around it**

## d. WHY

Why it matters for:

Home/Workplace Desirability

Cultural/Landscape Heritage

Economic Significance

Existence and Bequest

## c. HOW

Public Exposure:

Numbers

Relative Visibility

Viewing Distance & Duration

Noticeability



# Assessing Affects to Scenic Values in the Human Environment — *Worksheet*

## a. WHO and WHERE

**Project-Specific Analyses:** *requires a separate worksheet for each different “Who” and “Where” pair.*

<input type="checkbox"/> Town/Urban Communities	<input type="checkbox"/> Commuters and Travelers	<input type="checkbox"/> Recreation-Tourism and Leisure
<input type="checkbox"/> Business and Industries	<input type="checkbox"/> Rural Residents and Ranches	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

<b>b. WHAT and WHERE</b>	<b>c. HOW</b> Describe public exposure—how identified visually sensitive, concerned and proximate publics would be affected by sensitivity factors that concern them		<b>d. WHY</b> It matters		
	Check ↓	Narrative ↓	N - [None] W - [Weak] M - [Moderate] S - [Strong] ↓	[Adverse] - A [Beneficial] - B ↓	Narrative ↓
<b>Publicly Valued Scenery</b> (Scenic Areas)	Numbers			Home/Workplace Desirability	
	Relative Visibility			Cultural/Landscape Heritage	
	View. Dist & Duration			Economic Significance	
	Noticeability			Existence and Bequest	
<b>Prominent Viewpoints, Landmarks &amp; Icons</b> (Scenic Features)	Numbers			Home/Workplace Desirability	
	Relative Visibility			Cultural/Landscape Heritage	
	View. Dist & Duration			Economic Significance	
	Noticeability			Existence and Bequest	
<b>Special Areas</b>	Numbers			Home/Workplace Desirability	
	Relative Visibility			Cultural/Landscape Heritage	
	View. Dist & Duration			Economic Significance	
	Noticeability			Existence and Bequest	
<b>Adjoining Lands</b>	Numbers			Home/Workplace Desirability	
	Relative Visibility			Cultural/Landscape Heritage	
	View. Dist & Duration			Economic Significance	
	Noticeability			Existence and Bequest	
<b>Other:</b>	List: _____			List: _____	

## Environmental Effects Worksheet

All column 2 indicators of impact to scenic values (**HOW** and **WHY**) are not everywhere relevant to affected Column 1 and Column 3 elements of the human environment (**WHAT** and **WHO**). Identify in the appropriate cells of Column 3 (for each row of the affected landscape features in Column 1), environmental effects of the proposed action (key these effects to Column 2 indicators).

WHAT – Landscapes and Features with Assigned Public Scenic Values	HOW & WHY – Scenic Values & Public Exposure		WHO – in the Affected Human Environment; Publics Sensitive to Scenic Values				
			WHERE – are the Publicly Sensitive Viewing Locations				
	Indicators of Effects to Scenic Values		Town/Urban Communities	Business/ Industry	Commuters and Travelers	Rural Residents and Ranches	Recreation- Tourism & Leisure
WHERE							
Publicly Valued Scenery	How – Public Expo-sure	1) Numbers					
		2) Relative Visibility					
		3) Noticeability					
	Why – Effects to Scenic Values	1) Home/Workplace Desirability					
2) Cultural/Landscape Heritage							
3) Economic Significance							
Prominent Viewpoints and Icons	How – Public Expo-sure	1) Numbers					
		2) Relative Visibility					
		3) Noticeability					
	Why – Effects to Scenic Values	1) Home/Workplace Desirability					
2) Cultural/Landscape Heritage							
3) Economic Significance							
Special Areas	How – Public Expo-sure	1) Numbers					
		2) Relative Visibility					
		3) Noticeability					
	Why – Effects to Scenic Values	1) Home/Workplace Desirability					
2) Cultural/Landscape Heritage							
3) Economic Significance							
Adjoining Lands	How – Public Expo-sure	1) Numbers					
		2) Relative Visibility					
		3) Noticeability					
	Why – Effects to Scenic Values	1) Home/Workplace Desirability					
2) Cultural/Landscape Heritage							
3) Economic Significance							

Only three “Who-What”  
intersections  
of environmental effect  
were identified.

Not as complicated as it might first appear.  
  
This is an earlier version of the assessment  
worksheet from our case study training.

## What matters is that the “Whos, What’s, Hows, and Whys” and “Where” they occur are analyzed

- We arrived at these tables to help address and fully integrate the identification of environmental effects to scenic values across all four dimensions with a minimum of writing.
- **Although they may appear complex, they readily facilitate a concise summarization of environmental effects.**
- They are the result of multiple attempts to logically analyze and fairly integrate public concerns for the alteration scenic values and accurately identify impacts and their significance.

## So how does all of this keep the Scenery in Scenic Byways?

These inventories and impact assessments objectively inform land managers, collaborators and affected communities of environmental effects of any proposal to scenic values:

- ❑ *For any proposed action, these processes facilitate identification of both scenic values and environmental affects*
- ❑ *For public lands managers like BLM, this in turn enables managers to make appropriate changes to various management programs and recreation-tourism visitor services in various management plans*
- ❑ *For landscape altering proposals that risk generation of adverse effects to scenic values (e.g., processing of Oil and Gas Applications for Permits to Drill, Renewable Energy Development, Rights of Way), these processes enable scenic byway collaborators to identify potential mitigations.*