BLM Regulations (43 CFR 6300) and Policy Manual 8560

The following selections are those from BLM Regulations (43 CFR 6300) or Policy Manual 8560 which refer specifically to the minimum requirements decision process. There are other references to this requirement in both policy and manual sections pertaining to specific activities.

In analyzing a specific proposed action, be sure to consult all relevant sections of both policy and the BLM Manual.

Subpart 6303 — Administrative and Emergency Functions.

§ 6303.1 How does BLM carry out administrative and emergency functions?

As necessary to meet minimum requirements for the administration of the wilderness area, BLM may:

(a) Use, build, or install temporary roads, motor vehicles, motorized equipment, mechanical transport, structures or installations, and land aircraft, in designated wilderness;

(b) Prescribe conditions under which other Federal, State, or local agencies or their agents may use, build, or install such items to meet the minimum requirements for protection and administration of the wilderness area, its resources and users;

(c) Authorize officers, employees, agencies, or agents of the Federal, State, and local governments to occupy and use wilderness areas to carry out the purposes of the Wilderness Act or other Federal statutes; and

(d) Prescribe measures that may be used in emergencies involving the health and safety of persons in the area, including, but not limited to, the conditions for use of motorized equipment, mechanical transport, aircraft, installations, structures, rock drills, and fixed anchors. BLM will require any restoration activities that we find necessary to be undertaken concurrently with the emergency activities or as soon as practicable when the emergency ends.
.12 Prohibition of Certain Uses. Except where subject to existing private rights, where necessary to meet minimum requirements for the administration of the wilderness area for the purposes of the Act, or as specifically provided for elsewhere in this Manual Section, there may be no temporary road, no use of motor vehicles, motorized equipment, or motor boats, no landing of aircraft, no other form of mechanical transport, and no structure or installation within wilderness areas. There may be no commercial enterprise or permanent road, except where subject to existing private rights or as specifically provided for in this Manual Section.

.13 Minimum Tool. Tools, equipment, or structures may be used for management when they are the minimum necessary for protection of the wilderness resource or when necessary in emergency situations for the health and safety of the visitor. Management must use the *minimum* tool, equipment, or structure necessary to successfully, safely, and economically accomplish the objective. The chosen tool, equipment, or structure should be the one that least degrades wilderness values temporarily or permanently.

A. Acceptable tools. Acceptable tools, equipment, and structures may include but are not limited to: fire towers, patrol cabins, pit toilets, temporary roads, spraying equipment, hand tools, fire-fighting equipment caches, fencing, and controlled burning. In special or emergency cases involving the health and safety of wilderness visitors, or the protection of wilderness values, aircraft, motorboats, and motorized vehicles may be used.