

MANAGEMENT TO CURRENT CONDITIONS

1. "Management to current conditions" is an inappropriate objective for trails in the National Wilderness Preservation System as such an objective fails to appropriately address ecological, sociological, and historical use, including saddle and pack stock use, preservation concerns.
2. An appropriate approach to establishment of objectives for the trails in the National Wilderness Preservation System should be guided by:
 - a. The intent and purposes of the Wilderness Act of 1964, administrative rules pursuant to the Act, and subsequent legislation.
 - b. Scientifically sound data that establish ecosystem capacities to withstand various types and intensities of use, including saddle and pack stock use, without degradation of aesthetic qualities and the integrity of the ecosystem dynamics.
 - c. The need to preserve opportunities for primitive travel experience, including the experience of the traditional use of saddle and pack stock for transport, and solitude.
3. "Desired condition" of the trails of the Wilderness Preservation System should be a statement of maximal availability of opportunities for primitive travel and camping (including the use of saddle and pack stock), solitude, and aesthetic experiences unique to the wilderness environment.
4. "Current condition" of the trails of the National Wilderness Preservation System should be a statement of either:
 - a. the desired condition has been attained and is being maintained; or
 - b. the desired condition has not been attained due to fiscal constraints, but the current condition is being maintained; or
 - c. current condition is being improved towards desired condition;
 - d. the departure from the desired condition is worsening to fiscal constraints on adequate maintenance.

Adopted 4/2003