

DROPPED INDICATORS AND MEASURES

Many indicator and measures were considered but eventually dropped for a variety of reasons. The table below summarizes these dropped indicators and measures, and reasons why they were dropped from this monitoring protocol.

DROPPED INDICATOR	REASON INDICATOR WAS DROPPED				
	Insufficient quality of data that are currently available	Insufficient data coverage across all wildernesses	Insufficient conceptual development of indicator	Important in less than 50 percent of Forest Service wildernesses	Low relevance to assessing wilderness character
Natural Quality: Air					
Ecological effects metric for AQRVs	X	X	X		X
Particulate matter under 2.5 microns					X
Carbon monoxide emissions					X
Volatile organic carbon emissions					X
Dry deposition		X			
Budget reporting	X	X	X		X
Natural Quality: Aquatic Systems					
Removal of vegetation and trampling of soils around campsite leading to site erosion and sediment deposition	X	X		X	
Water quality	X	X			
System trail crossings	X				
Introduction of human and animal waste due to campsite location	X	X		X	
Loss of riparian or lakeside vegetation or bank stability	X	X		X	
Impervious surfaces		X	X	X	
Air pollutants that degrade water quality with a measure of acres of wilderness lakes or miles of wilderness streams unaffected by air pollution	X	X		X	
Flow alteration or water chemistry changes due to other wilderness developments		X		X	

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Changes in wilderness streamflow with a measure based on existing stream gages		X		X	
Lake clarity		X	X	X	
Stream surveys		X		X	
Miles of perennial streams that go dry due to human actions		X		X	
Natural Quality: Wildlife					
Composition, distribution, and abundance of predator community	X	X			
Composition, distribution, and abundance of herbivore community	X	X			
Composition, distribution, and abundance of disturbance specialists	X	X			
Composition, distribution, and abundance of biophysical modifiers (e.g., beaver)	X	X			
Natural Quality: Vegetation					
Changes in the composition, distribution, and abundance of native plant communities due to human actions	X	X			
Changes in the composition, distribution, and abundance of plant species due to human actions	X	X			
Change in the ratio of shade-tolerant to shade-intolerant species due to human actions	X	X			

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Change in fragmentation and aggregation of vegetation (patch distribution and size) due to human actions	X	X			
Change to vertical patterns of vegetation within ecosystems due to human actions	X	X			
Anthropogenic alterations to historical disturbance regimes	X	X	X		
Effects of non-native disease and insects on native plant communities	X	X			
Change in distribution of life forms and ecotones due to altered disturbance regimes	X	X			
Resilience of plant communities and ecosystems due to human actions	X	X	X		
Changes in chlorophyll density due to air pollution	X	X			
Changes to primary productivity of vegetation due to human actions such as grazing and air pollution	X	X			
Tree mortality		X			X
G-listed species from State Heritage Programs	X	X	X		
Undeveloped Quality					
Commercial grazing infrastructure		X			
Outstanding Opportunities Quality					
Trail encounters		X			
Campers audible/visible		X			
Visitor reports of disruptions			X		

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Night sky visibility		X	X		
Proportion of wilderness outside of electronic communication with the "outside world"			X		
Dangerous situations (acres inhabited by animals that could kill or eat people)			X		
Incidence of motorized or mechanized uses		X			
Visitor reports of displacement or behavior change due to management or other visitors		X	X		
Campsite availability		X			