

Wilderness Institute field observations under the five qualities used to monitor wilderness character:

Untrammeled	Natural	Undeveloped	Solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation	Other features of value
<p>From the Wilderness Act, wilderness is “...an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man...” and “...generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature”</p> <p>Wilderness is essentially free from the intentional actions of modern human control or manipulation</p> <p>Indicators are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 <p>WI Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pulling weeds by WI Crew 	<p>From the Wilderness Act, wilderness is “...protected and Managed so as to preserve its natural conditions”</p> <p>Wilderness ecological systems are substantially free from the effects of modern civilization</p> <p>Indicators are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plants • Animals • Air and water • Ecological processes <p>WI Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presence, abundance, & distribution of non-native plant species • wildlife encounters of focal species • water erosion 	<p>From the Wilderness Act, wilderness is “...an area of undeveloped Federal land...without permanent improvement or human habitation” and “...where man himself is a visitor who does not remain”</p> <p>Wilderness retains its primeval character and influence ,and is essentially without permanent improvement or modern human occupation</p> <p>Indicators are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presence of installations and developments <p>WI Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • installations & developments (presence, condition, who created) • signs (presence, condition, who created) • trail closures 	<p>From the Wilderness Act, wilderness is “...has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation”</p> <p>Wilderness provides outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation</p> <p>Indicators are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 • Use of motor vehicles, motorized equipment, or mechanical transport <p>WI Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Campsite impacts • Non-system trails • Encounters with people • Sound intrusions • Visual intrusions • Trail conditions • Evidence of mechanized/motorized use 	<p>From the Wilderness Act, wilderness is “...may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.”</p> <p>Wilderness preserves other features that are of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value</p> <p>Indicators are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deterioration or loss of integral cultural features • Deterioration or loss of other tangible and integral features of value <p>WI Measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presence and condition of cultural resources