

## **Programmatic Design Features for Public Access and Recreation Impacts**

The following design features have been identified to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate potential impacts on public access and recreation from solar energy development identified and discussed in Sections 5.5.1 and 5.5.2 of the Draft and Final Solar PEIS.

### ***General***

- R1-1** Project developers shall consult with the BLM in the early phases of project planning to identify public access and recreation use areas in and adjacent to a project site.
- (a) Identifying public access and recreation in and adjacent to a project shall include, but is not limited to, the following:
- Considering existing public access through or around proposed solar facilities that allows for access to and use of BLM-administered public lands and non-BLM administered lands. Developers shall conduct this assessment in coordination with the BLM and consult existing land use plans, recreation management plans, etc.
  - Identifying legal access to private, state, and Federal lands surrounding the solar facilities to avoid creating areas that are inaccessible to the public.
  - Evaluating impacts on public access and recreation as part of the environmental impact analysis for the project and considering options to avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate adverse impacts in coordination with the BLM.
- (b) Methods to minimize access and recreation conflicts may include, but are not limited to, the following:
- Considering replacement of acreage lost for identified recreation opportunities, such as off-highway vehicle use.
  - Considering, to the extent practicable, providing access through or around a solar energy facility to provide for adequate public access and/or recreation.
  - Incorporating environmental inspection and monitoring measures into the POD and other applicable plans to monitor and respond to impacts on recreation during construction, operations, and decommissioning of a solar energy development, including adaptive management protocols.

## BLM Solar Energy Program Design Features

### *Site Characterization, Siting and Design, Construction*

- R2-1** Solar facilities shall not be sited in areas designated as unique or important recreation resources (such as Special Recreation Management Areas), where it has been determined that a solar facility or other such development of the land would be in direct conflict with the objectives of the relevant management plan.