

Preliminary Summary of regional goals and objectives, mitigation desired outcomes, and potential mitigation actions for the Afton Solar Energy Zone.

Resource Impacted that May Warrant Compensatory Mitigation ¹	Regional Goals and Regional Objectives/RMP Guidance	Mitigation Desired Outcomes ²	Potential Mitigation Actions ³
<p>Vegetation (Mainly Chihuahuan stabilized coppice dune and sand flat scrub)</p>	<p>Mimbres RMP Goal: Achieve and maintain healthy ecosystems while providing for human values, products, and services.</p> <p>Mimbres RMP Objective: Maintain a desired plant community that produces the kind, proportion and amount of vegetation necessary for meeting or exceeding the land use plan goals and activity plan objectives established for each site.</p> <p>New Mexico Public Lands Health Standards: Manage public land to attain the biotic, riparian, and upland standards for public land health.</p>	<p>Land development and improvement projects will be thoroughly analyzed and modified, as appropriate, to limit the amount of new surface disturbance, reduce resource conflicts, and aid in the management of resources. Restoration and maintenance of equivalent functional acreage of the limited but highly productive riparian and arroyo habitats will be underscored.</p>	<p>Habitat enhancement and restoration using proven techniques that have demonstrated progress toward the vegetation community's reference state.</p> <p>Acquisition and preservation.</p>
<p>Ecology: Terrestrial Wildlife & Aquatic Biota</p>	<p>Mimbres RMP Goal: Achieve and maintain healthy ecosystems while providing for human values, products, and services.</p> <p>Mimbres RMP Objective: Improve, enhance and expand wildlife habitat on public land for both consumptive and non-consumptive uses as well as biological diversity.</p> <p>New Mexico Public Lands Health Standards: Manage public land to attain the biotic, riparian, and upland standards for public land health.</p>	<p>Land development and improvement projects will be thoroughly analyzed and modified, as appropriate, to limit the amount of new surface disturbance, reduce resource conflicts, and aid in the management of resources. Restoration and maintenance of equivalent functional acreage of the limited but highly productive riparian and arroyo habitats will be underscored.</p>	<p>Improve existing wildlife habitat conditions through restoration (e.g., see vegetation actions above).</p> <p>Place enclosures on arroyos or other key habitat areas such as playas.</p> <p>Note: Through an ecosystem-based approach to mitigation, mitigation actions for vegetation (above) may also mitigate impacts to terrestrial wildlife and aquatic biota.</p>

¹ Only resources for which residual impacts warranting mitigation may occur are included in this table.

² The mitigation desired outcome is a measurable objective on the scale of an SEZ that is tied explicitly to the recommended mitigation action and can be applied to achieve the regional goals and objectives of the resource.

³ A mitigation action is an activity, process, or measure that may include establishment, enhancement, restoration, and/or preservation of resources offsetting residual effects.

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<p>Ecology: Migratory Birds</p>	<p>Mimbres RMP Objective: Improve, enhance and expand wildlife habitat on public land for both consumptive and non-consumptive uses as well as biological diversity.</p> <p>New Mexico Public Lands Health Standards: Manage public land to attain the biotic, riparian, and upland standards for public land health.</p>	<p>Land development and improvement projects will be thoroughly analyzed and modified, as appropriate, to limit the amount of new surface disturbance, reduce resource conflicts, and aid in the management of resources. Restoration and maintenance of equivalent functional acreage of the limited but highly productive riparian and arroyo habitats will be underscored.</p>	<p>Habitat enhancement and restoration using proven techniques that have demonstrated benefits to migratory birds, e.g. enhancing or creating water bodies, creation of improved habitat. Emphasis will be placed on project designs and habitat enhancements that will minimize avian attraction to the solar development(s) on the SEZ.</p> <p>Note: Through an ecosystem-based approach to mitigation, mitigation actions for vegetation (above) may also mitigate impacts to migratory birds.</p>

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<p>Special Designations</p>	<p>Goal: Manage Special Designations in a manner that will preserve the values for which they were designated, including natural values of ecosystems, historic and cultural values, scenic values, feelings of naturalness and solitude, and enhanced recreational opportunities, as appropriate.</p> <p>Mimbres RMP Goals: All resource disciplines will adjust their program activities to meet the administrative intent of each Special Designation.</p>	<p>No net loss of scenic experience (day and night), as seen from visually-sensitive Special Designations. No net loss of feelings of naturalness and solitude, as seen from Wilderness Areas (WAs) and Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs).</p>	<p>For every acre/linear mile of a Special Designation with residual visual effects within the viewshed of the project, provide funds to enhance visual resources, on a sliding scale based on distance from the project.</p> <p>Identify and designate existing suitable areas as Special Designations to protect and preserve values such as ecosystems, historic and cultural values, scenic values, feelings of naturalness and solitude, and enhanced recreational opportunities.</p> <p>Remove evidence of human use from WAs and WSAs to increase naturalness and reduce visual impacts within these areas.</p>

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<p>Visual Resources</p>	<p>Mimbres RMP Goal: Identify, preserve, protect, and enhance scenic values within the region to ensure that they are available for present and future generations.</p> <p>Mimbres RMP Objective: Manage to protect scenic values. Identify areas on public land that contain important scenic quality, and manage those areas to maintain that scenic quality.</p>	<p>No net loss of inventoried scenic values and scenic experience (day and night), as seen from visually sensitive areas.</p>	<p>For every acre/linear mile of a visually sensitive area with residual visual effects within the viewshed of the project, provide funds to enhance visual resources, on a sliding scale based on distance from the project.</p> <p>Identify and designate existing suitable areas as scenic ACECs to protect and preserve existing scenic quality.</p> <p>Identify and designate existing suitable roadways as scenic byways to enhance opportunities for scenic recreation.</p> <p>Implement landscape remediation and reclamation on derelict landscapes (such as abandoned mine lands, and abandoned roads), and other landscapes that results in the reduction of visual contrast.</p> <p>Enhance opportunities for scenic viewing by construction of scenic overlooks, scenic trails, and by appropriate vegetation management to improve existing views.</p>