B. Air Quality.
1. Classification. Under the Clean Air Act (as amended), BLM-administered lands were given Class II air quality classification, which allows moderate deterioration associated with moderate, well-controlled industrial and population growth. The BLM manages designated wilderness areas as Class II unless they are reclassified by the State as a result of the procedures prescribed in the Clean Air Act.
2. States Reclassify. According to the Clean Air Act, air quality reclassification is the prerogative of the States. The States must follow a process mandated by the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1977, involving a study of health, environmental, economic, social, and energy effects, a public hearing, and a report to the Environmental Protection Agency.
3. Compliance. Administrative actions within wilderness areas must comply with the air quality classification for that specific area.