



INSTRUCTIONS FOR CAMPSITE MONITORING

A) **Site #:** Choose a 3 letter & 3 number designator for the site. For example, the first site you monitor in Saddle Creek might be SAD001. Be consistent! If you use SADxxx for one Saddle Creek site, use the same letter designators for all sites there.

B) **Condition Class:** A scale of 1-4 with the possibility of using a midpoint between classes. Definitions are:

- 1) Obviously a place where someone has camped but minimal change except for possibly a simple rock fire ring. Ground vegetation may be flattened but not permanently injured.
- 2) Ground vegetation worn away around fireplace or central portion of the campsite—but not gone from most of the campsite.
- 3) Ground vegetation lost on most of the site, but humus and organic litter still present on most of the campsite.
- 4) Bare mineral soil exposed across most of the campsite.

Note—we assigned 1.5 when there were maybe a few square meters of impact, 2.5 when the area without vegetation was more than just at the campsite center but not over the entire campsite, and 3.5 when there was lots of bare soil but it was not present across most of the site.

C) **Fire Rings:** Record the number of fire rings.

D) **Fire Scars:** Record the number of fire scars.

E) **Used Recently:** Record whether the site has been used this season, if possible.

F) **Vegetation Loss:** Obtained by estimating (1) vegetation cover on the campsite, (2) bare soil in the campsite, (3) vegetation cover on an unused control site, and (4) bare soil on the same control site. The control site should be a close by place that seems similar to what the campsite would have been like before it was camped on (same rockiness, slope, tree cover...). *Estimate cover in the following classes: (1) 0-5%, (2) 6-25%, (3) 26-50%, (4) 51-75%, (5) 76-100%.*

G) **Campsite Area:** Area disturbed by camping in square feet (obtained by pacing off the dimensions on the campsite and treating it usually as either a circle or a rectangle.

H) **Barren Core:** Calculated the same as camp area but the barren core is the central part of the site that is virtually devegetated.

I) **Tree Mutilation:** Ratings are (1) no more damage than broken lower branches, (2) 1-8 scars on trees, no more than one of which is an obtrusive scar (a felled tree or a scar larger than about 1 square foot), (3) more than 8 scars or more than 1 obtrusive scar.

J) **Root Exposure:** Ratings are (1) none, (2) 1-4 trees with exposed roots, (3) >4 trees with exposed roots.

K) **Cleanliness:** Ratings are (1) no more than scattered charcoal from one fire site, (2) charcoal from multiple fire sites or some litter, (3) widespread litter or some human waste.

L) **Social Trails:** Ratings are (1) none, (2) 1-2 discernable trails, no more than 1 well worn (largely devegetated or incised), (3) >2 trails or more than 1 well worn.

M) **Picture Number**