Glossary

Assess, Inventory, and Monitor: "The objective of the Assessment, Inventory, and Monitoring (AIM) Strategy is to provide a standardized monitoring strategy for assessing natural resource condition and trend on BLM public lands. The AIM Strategy provides quantitative data and tools to guide and justify policy actions, land uses, and adaptive management decisions."

Annual/Biennial/Perennial Plants differ in the lengths of their lives, and at which ages they are able to undergo reproductive activity. **Annual** plant species both reproduce and die within their first year of life. **Biennial** plant species tend to grow for one year, and flower and die in their second. **Perennial** plant species grow for two or more years, and oftentimes reproduce multiple times along this period.

benchmark: In this context, a benchmark is an informed objective or goal which to strive towards. These tend to be quantitative, or semi-quantitative, and reflect best scientific opinion and management knowledge regarding the capacity of land.

categorical

continuous

C3/C4 Grass Two major photosynthetic pathways exist in grasses. C3 photosynthesis is the main form of photosynthesis in the plant kingdom, and aligns with the Cool-Season Grasses. C4 photosynthesis, present in the warm season grasses, is postulated to be an evolutionary adaption which makes grasses more competitive in moisture limited areas.

confidence intervals:

domain: An area in space which delimits the spatial extent of an analysis. Usually the domain we used in this study was a square box, buffer 5km from the most extremes edges of the Field Office.

Ecological Site (Description)

ensemble model:

feature engineer:

grain: The resolution of a dataset in both time and space. For example, if you had a rain gauge and checked it every hour of every day in March, you would have precipitation data at an hourly **grain**, and could also transform this to different grains like: **hourly**, **daily**, or a **monthly**. Spatial grains are analogous, and often form the most 'notable' component of a *raster*, i.e. the cell sizes.

indicator: A set of features which are known to correlate to with a more challenging to measure metric, and serve as a proxy of it. The **AIM** dataset collects data on many features, which indicate overall site health.

inference:

integrity:

invasive (species) A species which until recent history (e.g. within the holocene), has been restricted to certain major geographic areas, and was introduced to different areas by human activities, and which is **noxious** in this area.

line-point intercept: A quantitative method for measuring the cover of an object relative to a plane, e.g. the soil surface. A single line, such as a measuring tape, is unrolled and at pre-determined intervals along its length a pin, which emulates a point, is dropped. The presence of features of interest, such as plants and rock fragments, are recorded at each location the pin is dropped. This method is used for many of the AIM indicators.

noxious (species) A species which has features making it undesirable in certain contexts. These features generally pertaining to it's competitive exclusion of other species.

parametric:

panel:

peer-reviewed journals: These provide the major forum for sharing academic research and ideas. The peer-review process entails sending an article, which an author would like to publish in a journal, to independent experts on the topic who verify that the work meets the standards which the journal requires for publication of work.

population:

raster A format for transferring geographic data. A raster is, generally, a square grid where each cell depicts the value of an attribute, and is tied to a geographic location. The attributes which are usually stored in a raster are **continuous** such as *elevation*.

reproductively active:

sample frame:

sampling cycle:

target frame:

TerrAdat

weighted sample design: