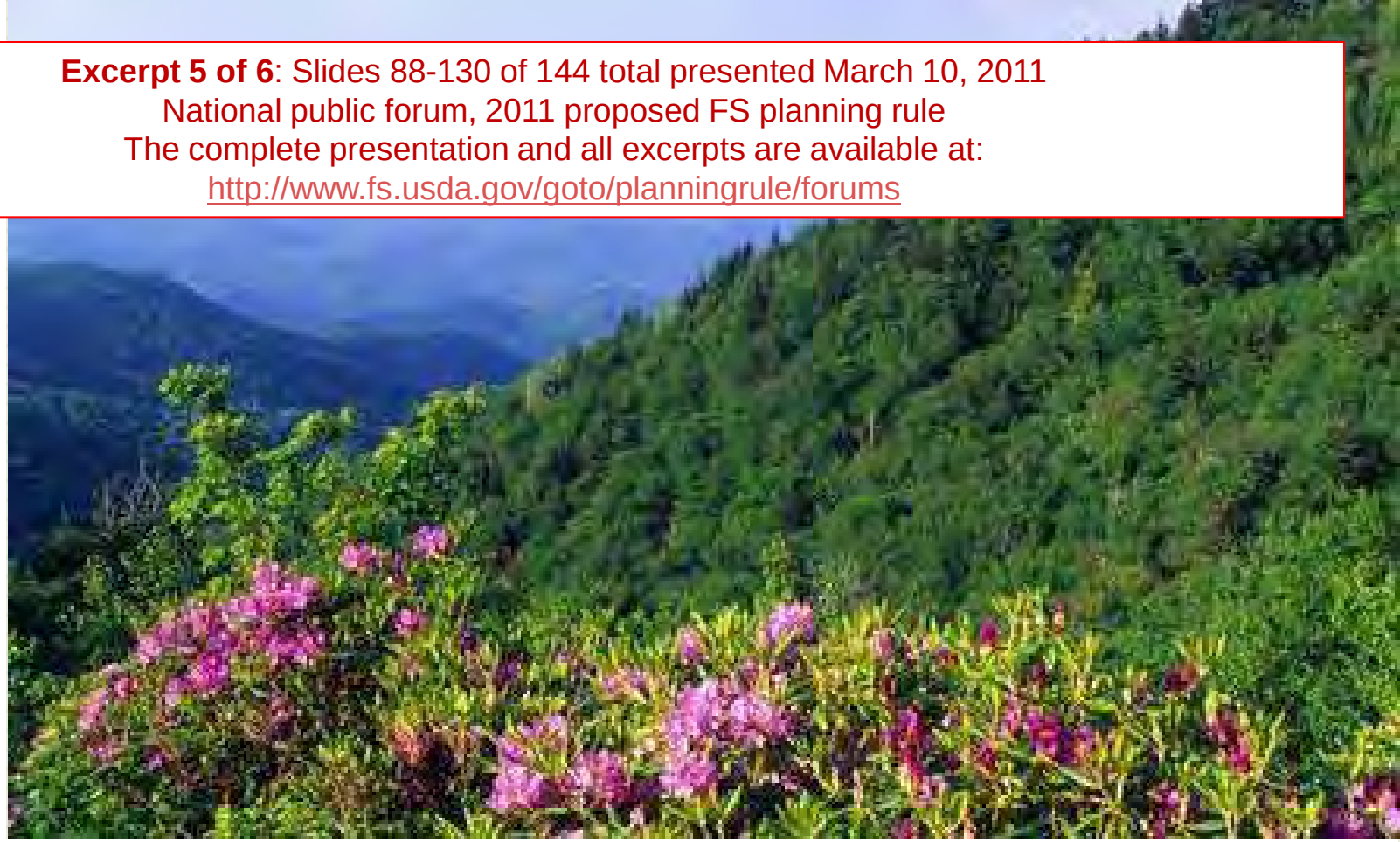
Excerpt 5 of 6: Slides 88-130 of 144 total presented March 10, 2011
National public forum, 2011 proposed FS planning rule
The complete presentation and all excerpts are available at:
http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/planningrule/forums

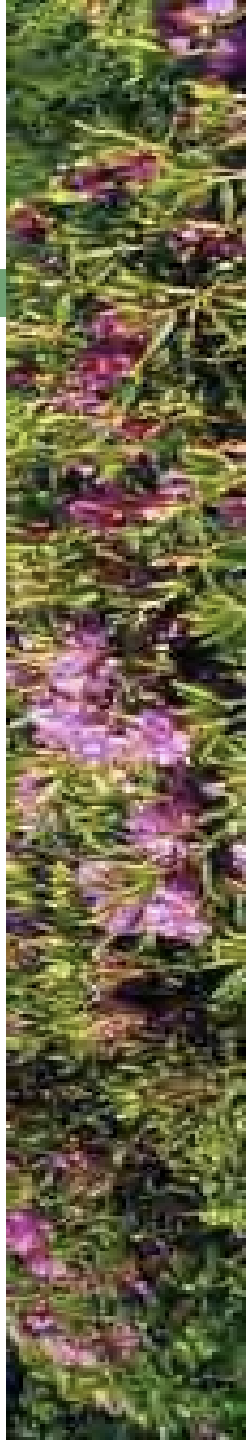


§ 219.8 Sustainability

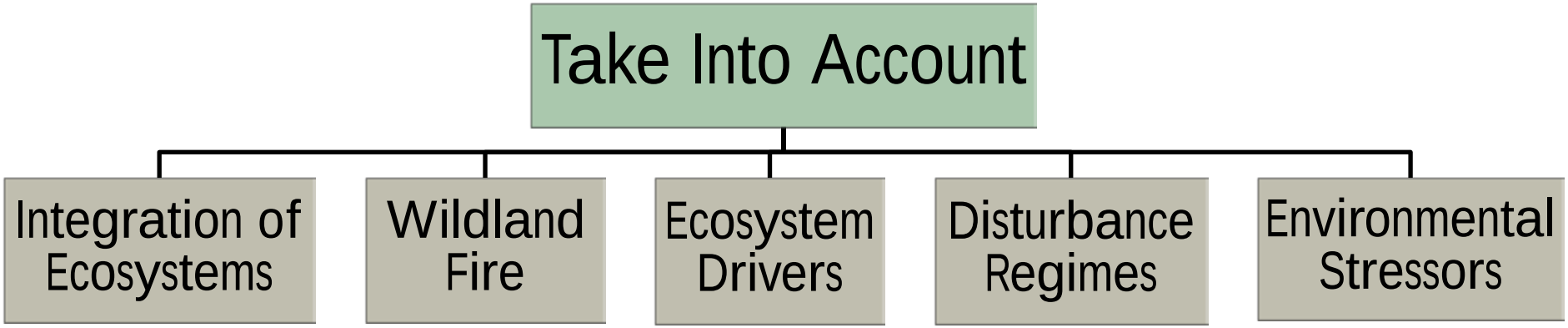
Materials were condensed for this presentation. For more details, see http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/planningrule/faqs

Ecological Sustainability

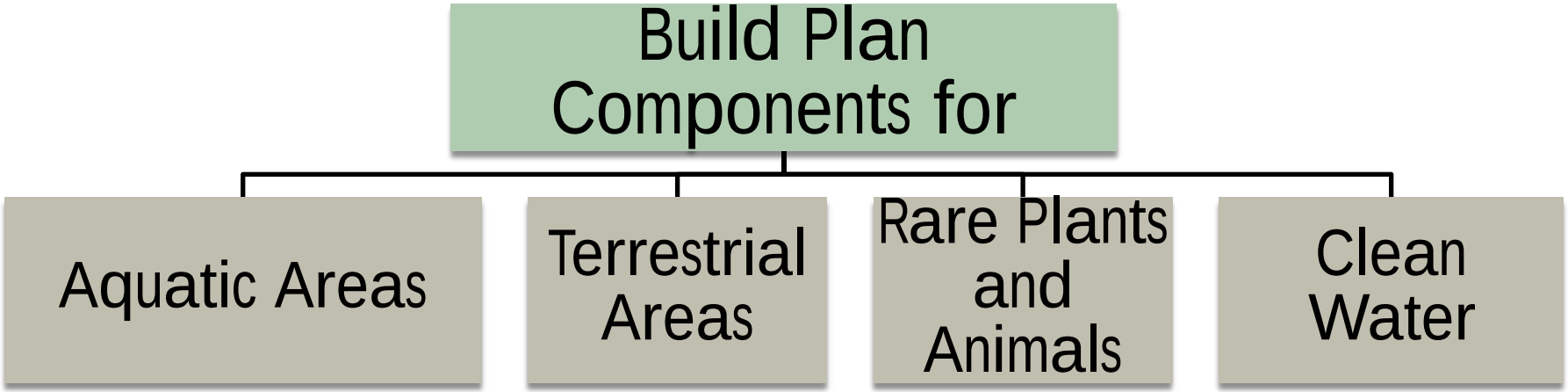
- Maintain or restore the structure, function, composition, and connectivity of systems
  - Terrestrial
  - Aquatic
  - Watersheds



Ecological Sustainability



Ecological Sustainability



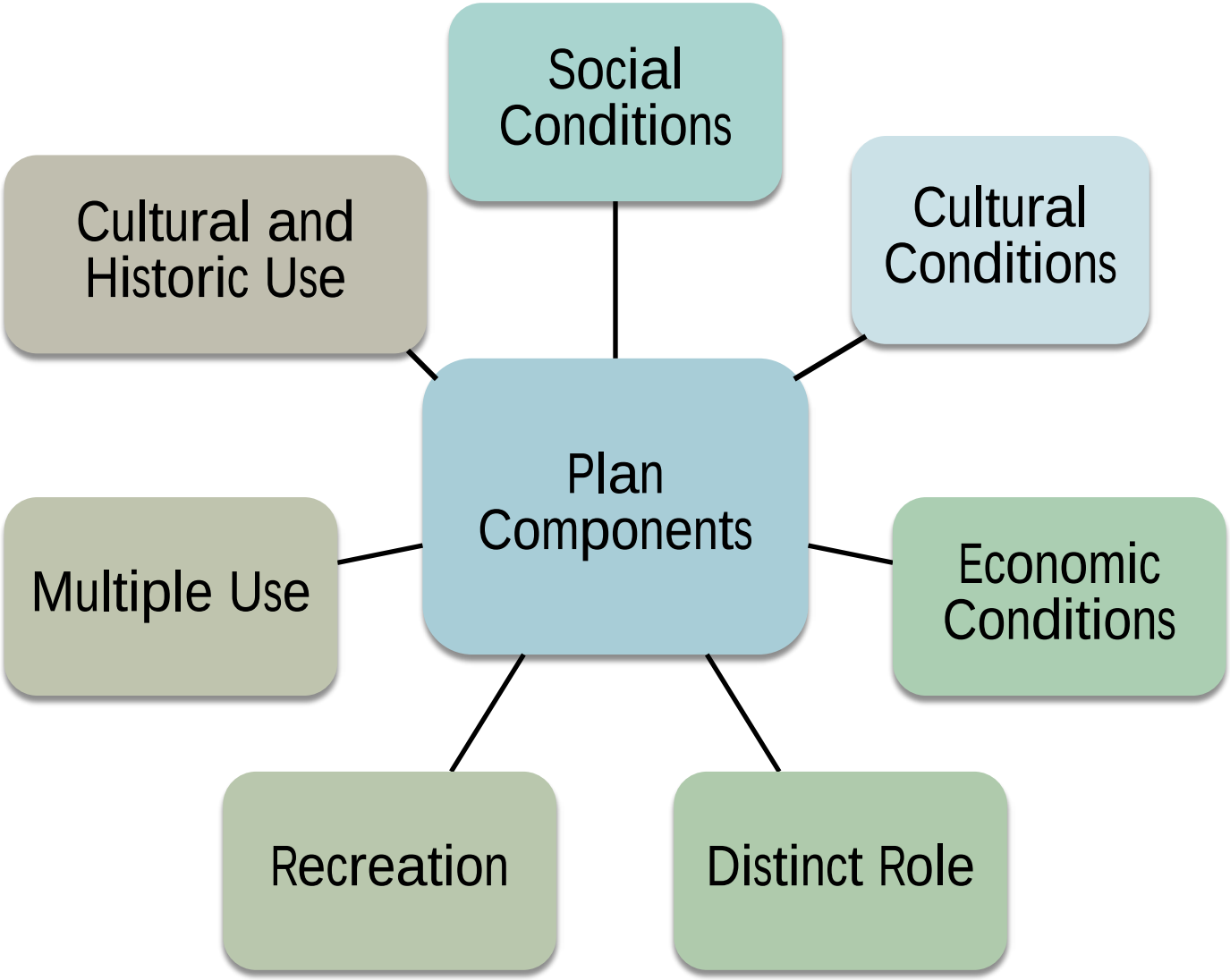
Water

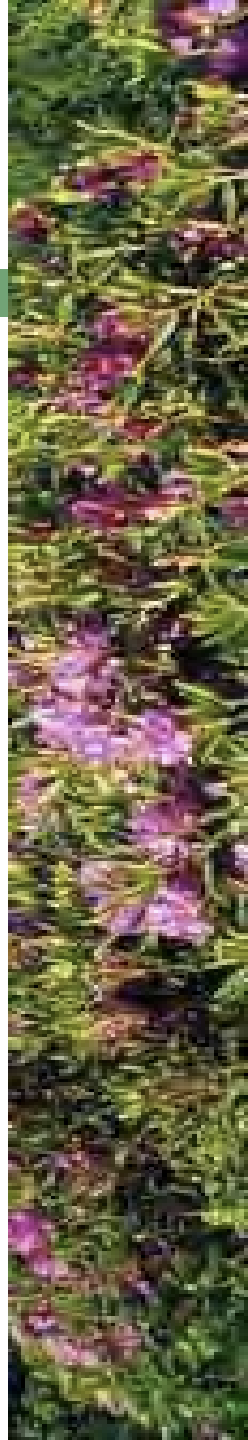
- Restore and Protect:
  - Public water supplies
  - Groundwater
  - Sole source aquifers
  - Source water protection areas

Water

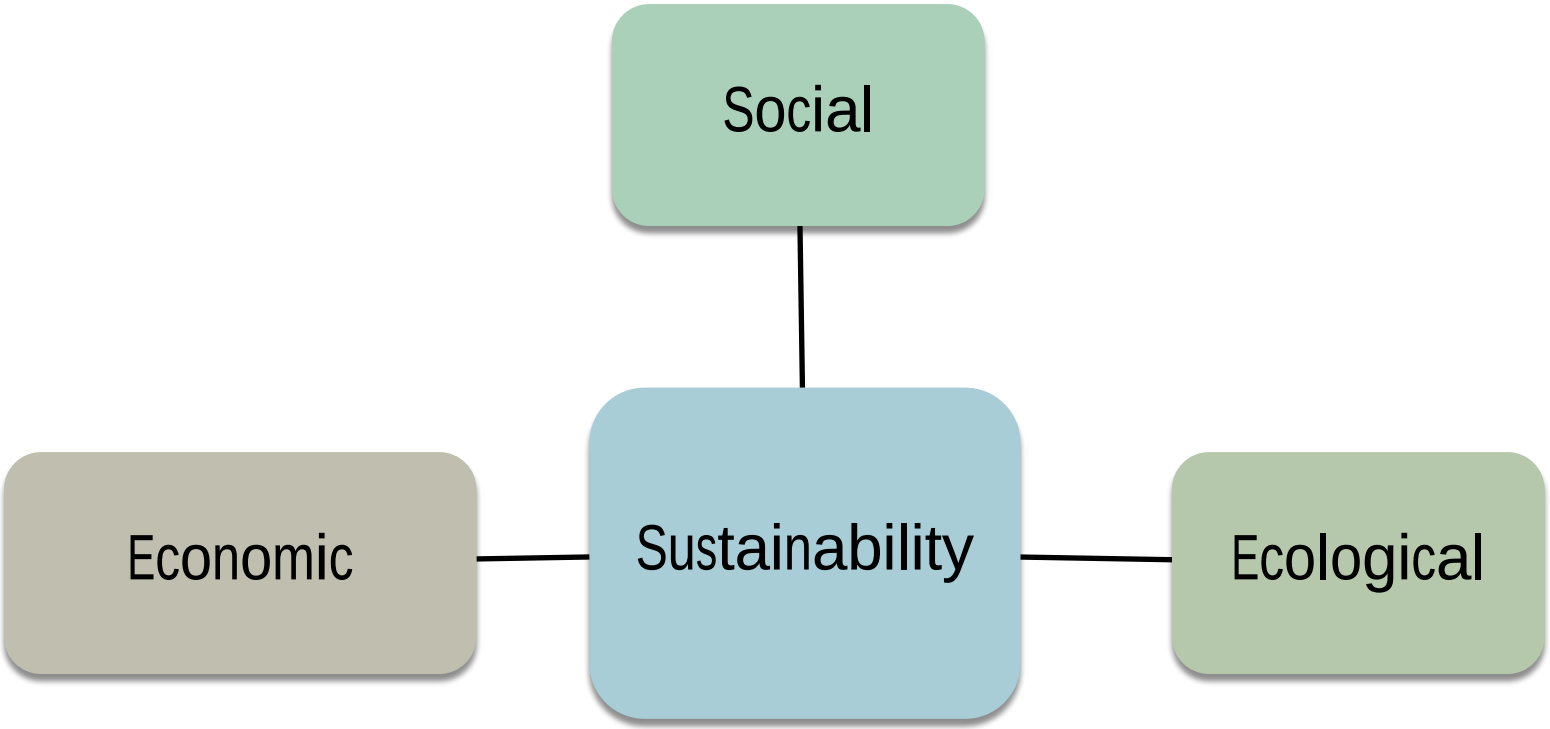
- Maintain, protect or restore riparian areas
  - Components to guide management
  - Default width of riparian areas
  - Riparian zones verified on-site

Social and Economic Sustainability





Social and Economic Sustainability



§ 219.10 Multiple Uses

Materials were condensed for this presentation. For more details, see http://www.fs.usda.gov/goto/planningrule/faqs

Multiple-Use Sustained Yield Act

- "Management of all the various renewable surface resources of the national forests so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the needs of the American people."
- Plans would provide for multiple uses, including ecosystem services
  - Outdoor recreation
  - Range
  - Timber
  - Watershed
  - Wildlife and fish

Integrated Resource Management

Process Requirements

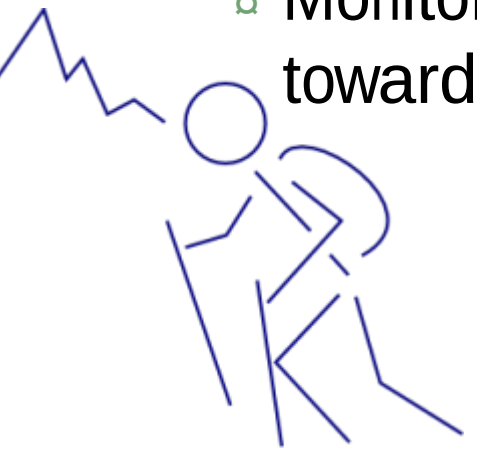
- Responsible official will consider:
  - Wide range of natural resources, renewable and nonrenewable energy, and infrastructure
  - Opportunities to work with neighboring landowners and partners
  - Habitat conditions of species for public use and enjoyment
  - Potential impacts of climate change and other stressors
  - Foreseeable risks to sustainability

Specific Plan Components

- Protection of cultural and historic resources
- Management of areas of tribal importance
- Protection of wilderness areas and wild and scenic rivers
- Protection and management of other designated or recommended areas
- Other plan components for management to provide multiple uses

Specific Plan Components

- Sustainable recreation opportunities and access on land, water, and air
- Sustainable recreation is built in throughout the rule
  - During assessments, plan components are required for multiple uses, including sustainable recreation
  - Supports social and economic sustainability
  - Monitoring requirements for visitor use and progress toward meeting recreational objectives



Timber Requirements

Timber Requirements Based on NFMA

- Lands suitable for timber production
- Harvest of trees on land not suitable for timber requirements
- Harvest for salvage, sanitation, or public health or safety
- Limits on timber harvest on suitable and non-suitable lands

Examples

- Sustainability
- Sustainable Recreation
- Climate Change

Riparian Vegetation Monitoring Technical guide, Western US – Riparian Technical Team. Draft 2011

Lead :David Merritt (Stream Systems Technology Center – Ft. Collins, CO)

Common Methods for Determining Riparian Width

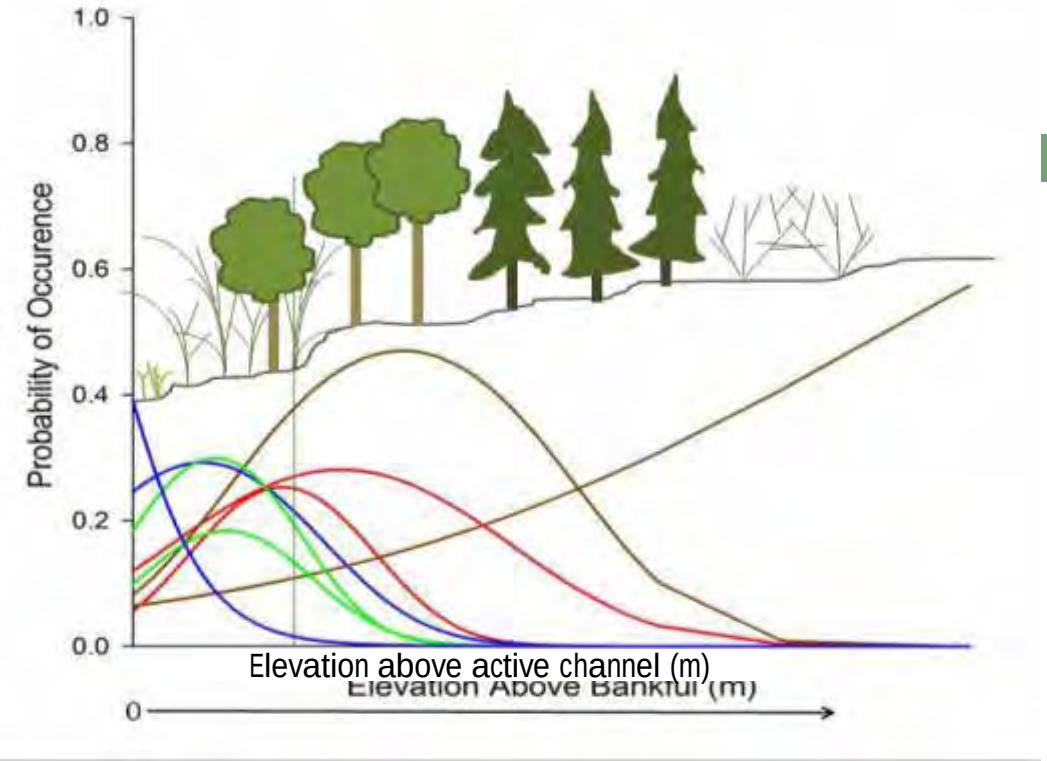
- Set buffer distance from stream channel (e.g., 100 feet)
- **Riparian width based upon some multiple of channel width (e.g., three times active channel width on either side of the stream)**
- Height (or some multiple of height) of vegetation adjacent to stream (e.g., two times tree height)
- GIS exercise of setting buffer width around hydrography layer of stream channels

Common Methods for Determining Riparian Width (Contd)

- GIS exercise of setting different buffer widths around stream channels of different stream order (size): larger buffer for larger channels; smaller buffer for smaller

- **GIS exercise of using valley form from DEMs and/or hydrology to determine valley width and potential riparian width**

- **Riparian margin determination based upon characteristics measured in the field**

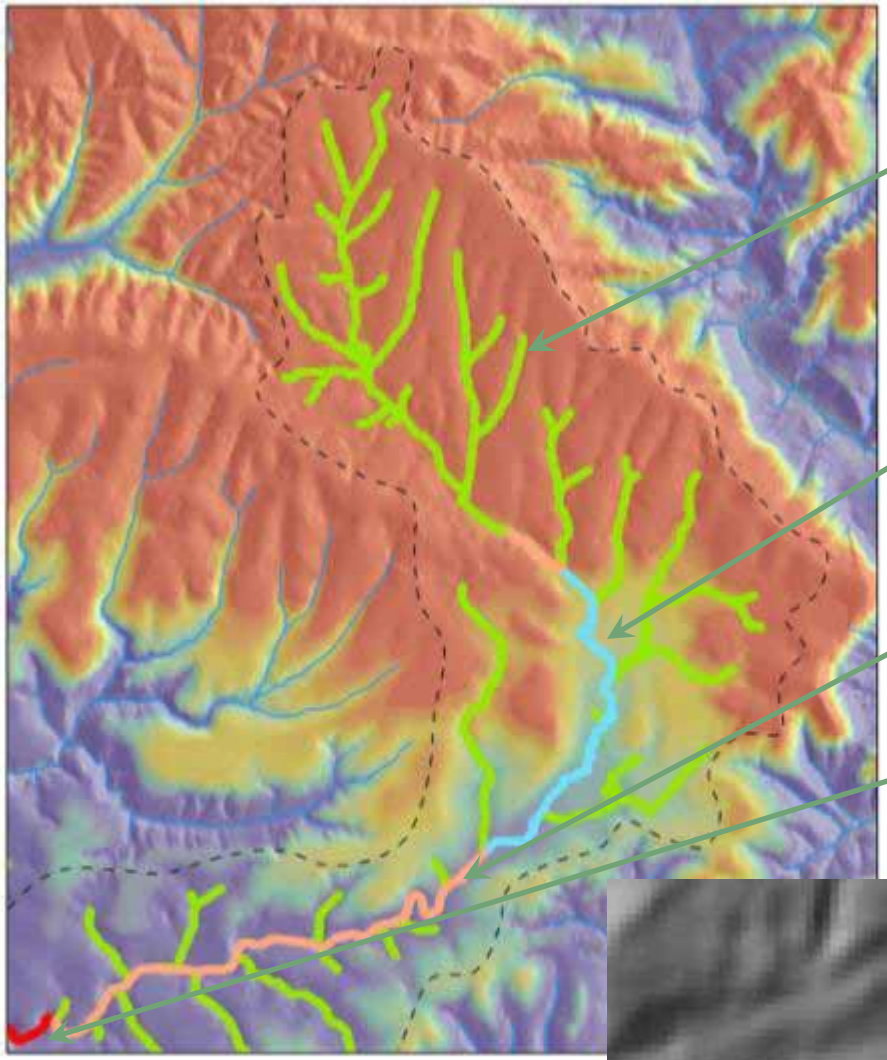


Riparian areas represent a gradient, not often a distinct boundary. Plant species distributions (colored lines) occur along the gradient of water availability, fluvial influence, and associated factors. The transition from true riparian to upland must be based upon multiple indicators:

1) vegetation characteristic of riparian areas in the region, 2) signs of active fluvial processes, and 3) hydrology associated with the stream or river.

Geomorphic Valley Classification and delineation based upon:
1) system energy, 2) valley confinement, and 3) hillslope coupling – provides a conservative estimate of potential riparian width, *often overestimating it*.

Valley Class	Energy / Valley Gradient
Headwaters	> 4%
High Energy Coupled	> 4%
High Energy Uncoupled	> 4%
Gorge	Variable
Canyon	Variable
Moderate Energy Confined	0.1 - 4%
Moderate Energy Unconfined	0.1 - 4%
Glacial Trough	< 4%
Low Energy Floodplain	< 0.1%

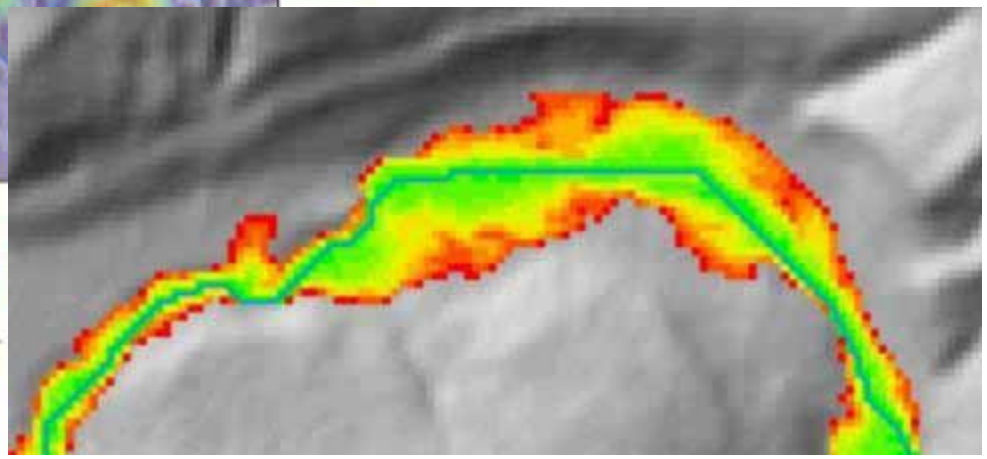


High energy coupled valley

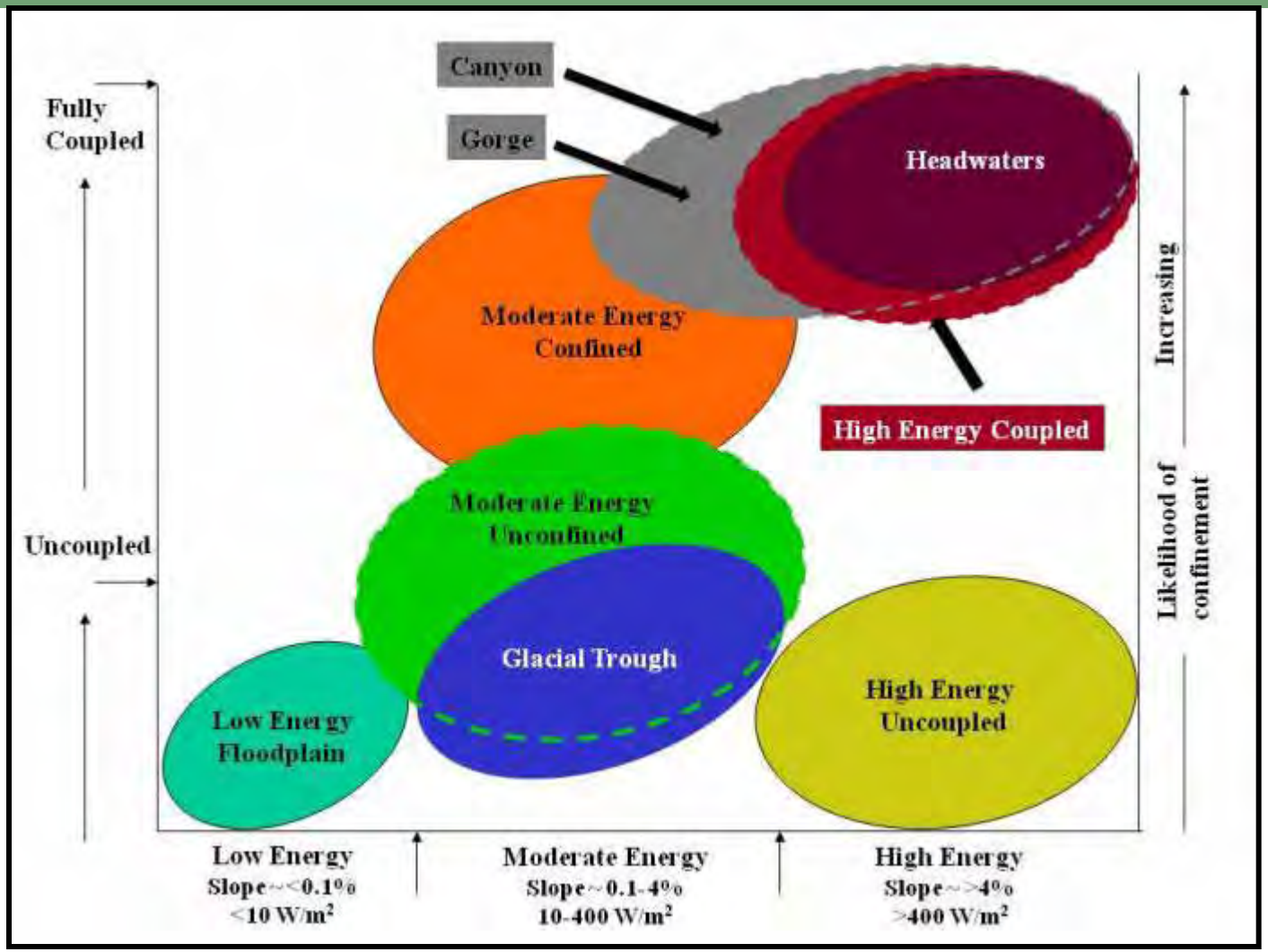
Canyon

Moderate energy unconfined valley

Low energy floodplain



Geomorphic Valley Classification provides a basis for defaulting to a riparian width based upon multiples of channel width (e.g., two times active channel width in *headwaters* and *canyons*; three times active channel width in *moderate energy coupled valleys*)



A prudent approach is to:

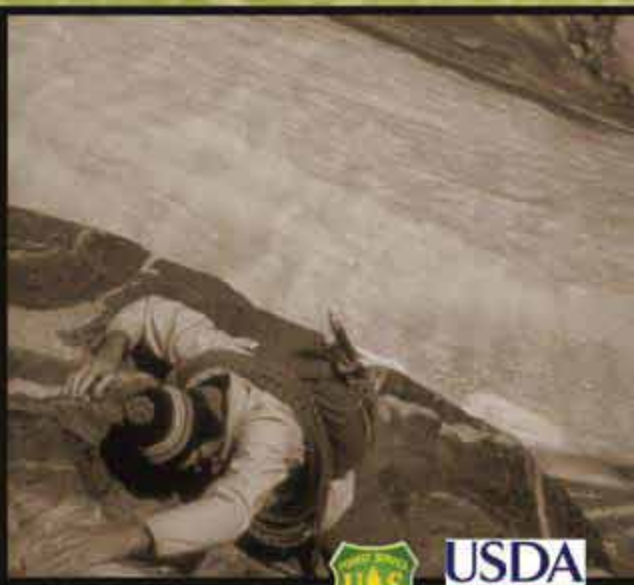
1) conduct field delineation of riparian width when possible and
2) allow width to expand beyond a default to a minimum width that scales with the channel (e.g., 3 times active channel width) and may vary by valley type as determined by *Geomorphic Valley Classification*

renewing body and spirit

inspiring passion for the land

a framework for

Sustainable Recreation



A New Approach to Forest Service Outdoor Recreation and Tourism

United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

Definition – Proposed Planning Rule

The set of recreational opportunities, uses and access that, individually and combined, are ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable, allowing the responsible official to offer recreation opportunities now and into the future.

Scale

1. Sustainability of a recreation program on a national forest or grassland.
2. Recreation's contribution to economical and social sustainability in the area influenced by the plan.

a framework for Sustainable Recreation

SUSTAINABLE RECREATION

Public Participation

- Key component of proposed planning rule and sustainable recreation
- Community engagement is essential for sustainable recreation.

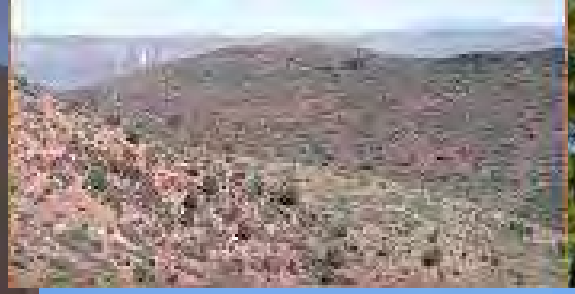
Sustainable Recreation Example

- Prescott National Forest
- Partners: community groups, providers of outdoor recreation opportunities, conservation organizations, local governments, state and federal land management agencies, and the people who live and recreate in the greater area of the Prescott National Forest.

a framework for Sustainable Recreation

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION


PRESCOTT
National
Forest
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Prescott National Forest – Where the Desert Meets the Cool Pines

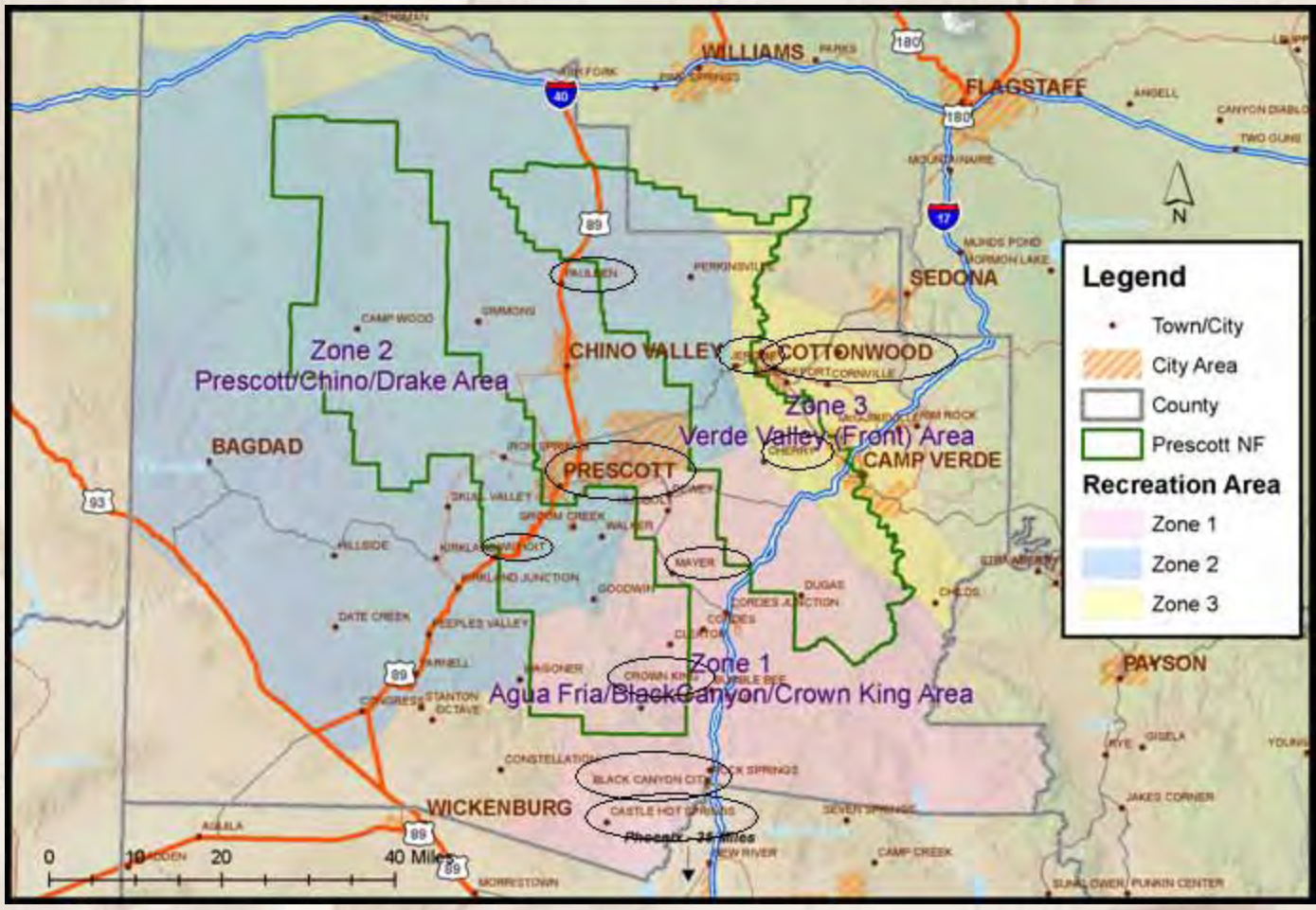
"The Prescott's unique mix of climate zones provide for (a) cool zone … in the summer and a warm zone in the winter. … short-duration, day-use recreation on trails…."

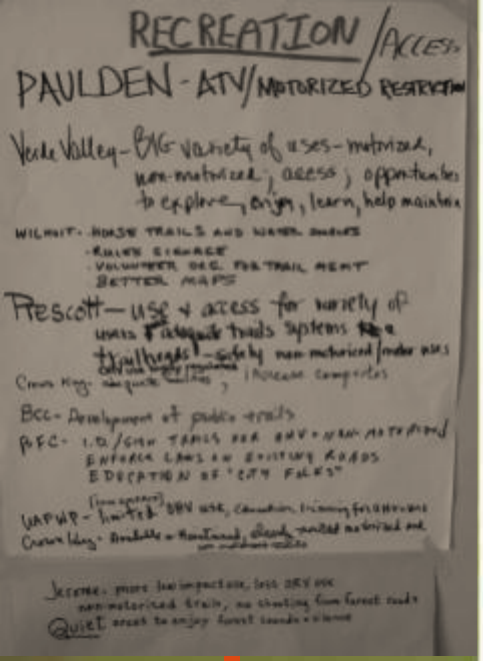
a framework for Sustainable Recreation

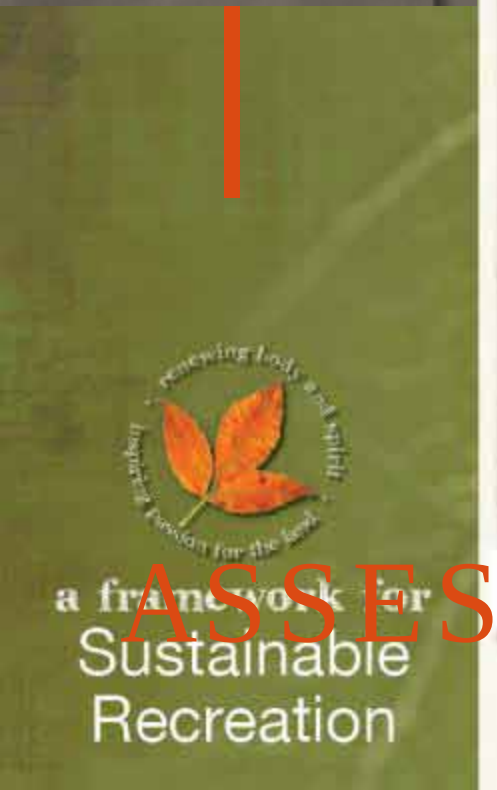
ASSESSMENT - DISTINCTIVE CONTRIBUTION

a framework for Sustainable Recreation

ASSESSMENT – COMMUNITY VISION







Crown King (Draft)

"Adequate public facilities…. Increase the number of improved campsites…. "

Verde Valley (Final)

"A system of non-motorized multi-use trails connects communities…encourages people to improve health….

Roads and selected areas are managed for responsible use of off-highway vehicles, while other areas are…managed for non-motorized uses. "

Town of Prescott (Draft)

"The Prescott National Forest (PNF) will maintain a comprehensive system of…sustainable trails…. The PNF, with user participation, will minimize user conflict…. "

ASSESSMENT - COMMUNITY VISION

Desired Conditions (Draft 4):

"The number and location of recreation facilities respond to changing demographics and demand…so that visitors enjoy the cultural and biophysical resources while protecting those resources."

Objectives (Draft 4):

"Add 2-5 developed recreation areas within 10 years of plan approval. "

There may be an opportunity to coordinate with the Verde River communities and add developed recreation sites in a location within the Verde Valley.

a framework for Sustainable Recreation

PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Monitoring Questions (Draft 4)

"How many new recreation sites or locations have been added to the system?"

"How many recreation sites or locations have been improved, relocated or decommissioned in response to known resource damage?"

a framework for Sustainable Recreation

MONITORING

a framework for Sustainable Recreation

Implementing Framework For Sustainable Recreation

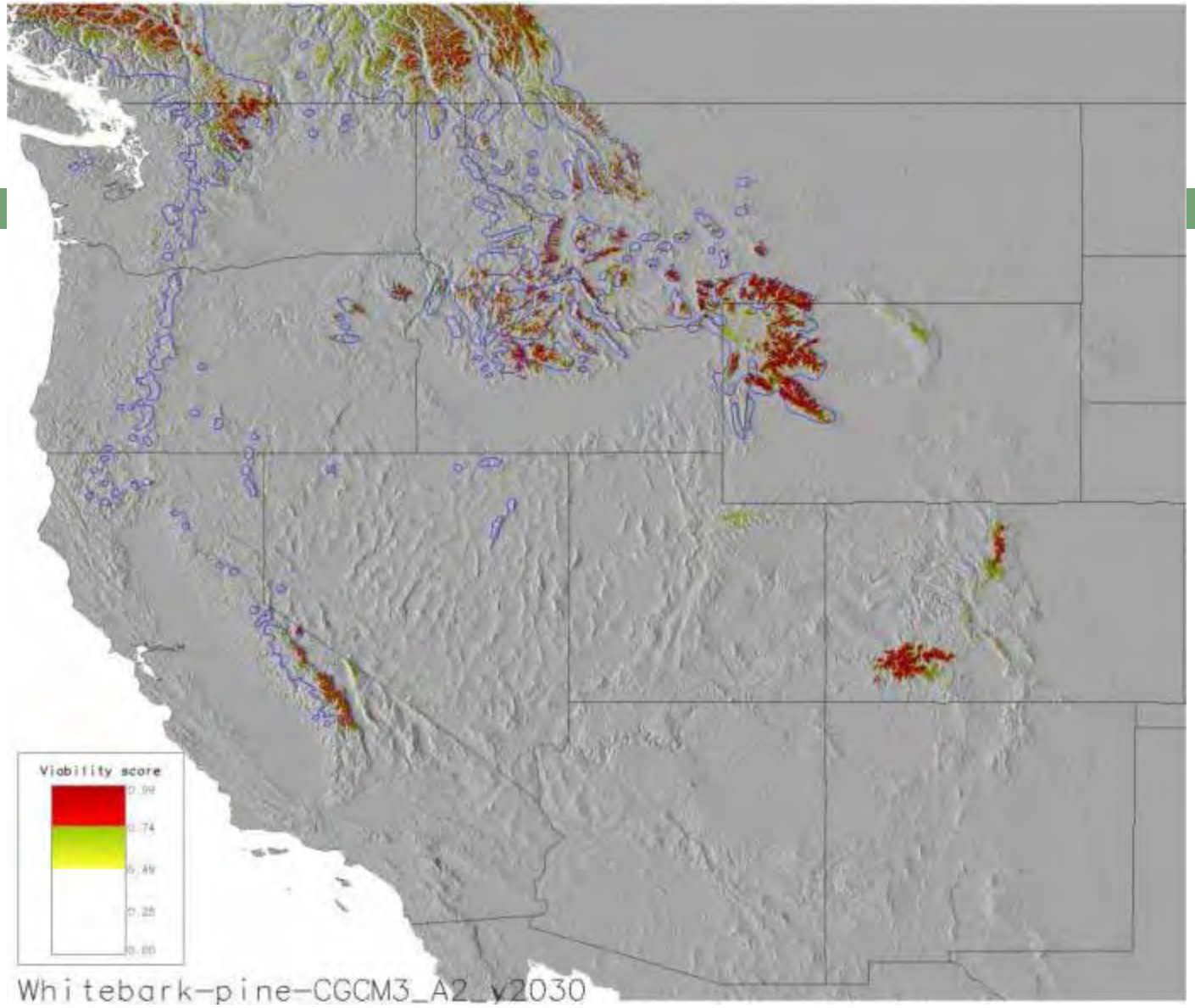
- Forest divided into 3 zones
- Identified top 6 draft recreation goals for each zone
- Identified draft strategies and actions for each goal
- Example:

Develop a multi-jurisdictional recreation facilities master plan.

BUILDING ON FOREST PLANNING

Whitebark Pine

Photo by S Arno

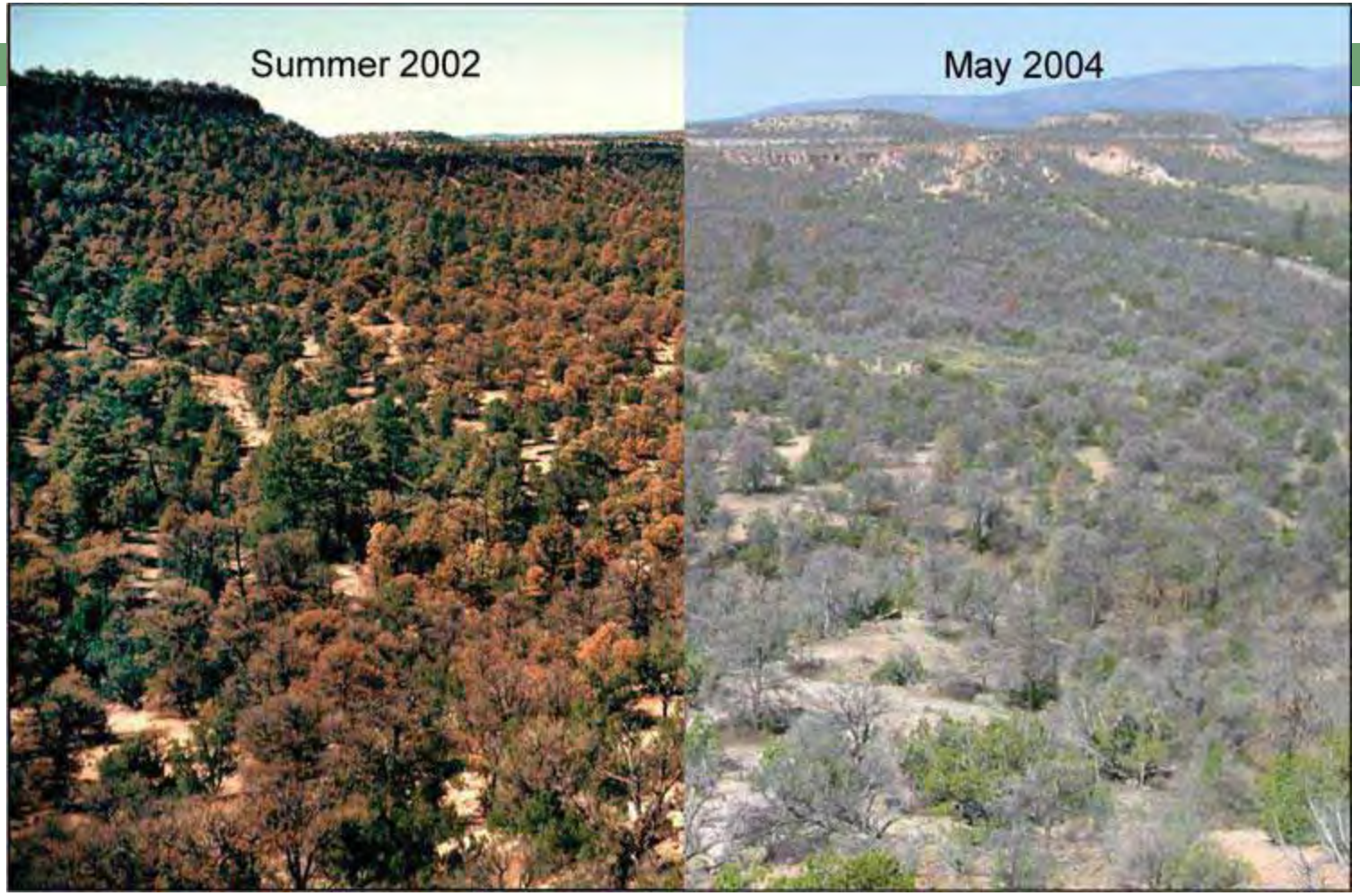


Projected decline in whitebark range over the next 50 years due to climate change

Aspen

Yellow Cedar – Southeast Alaska

Pinyon – juniper forests in the Southwest

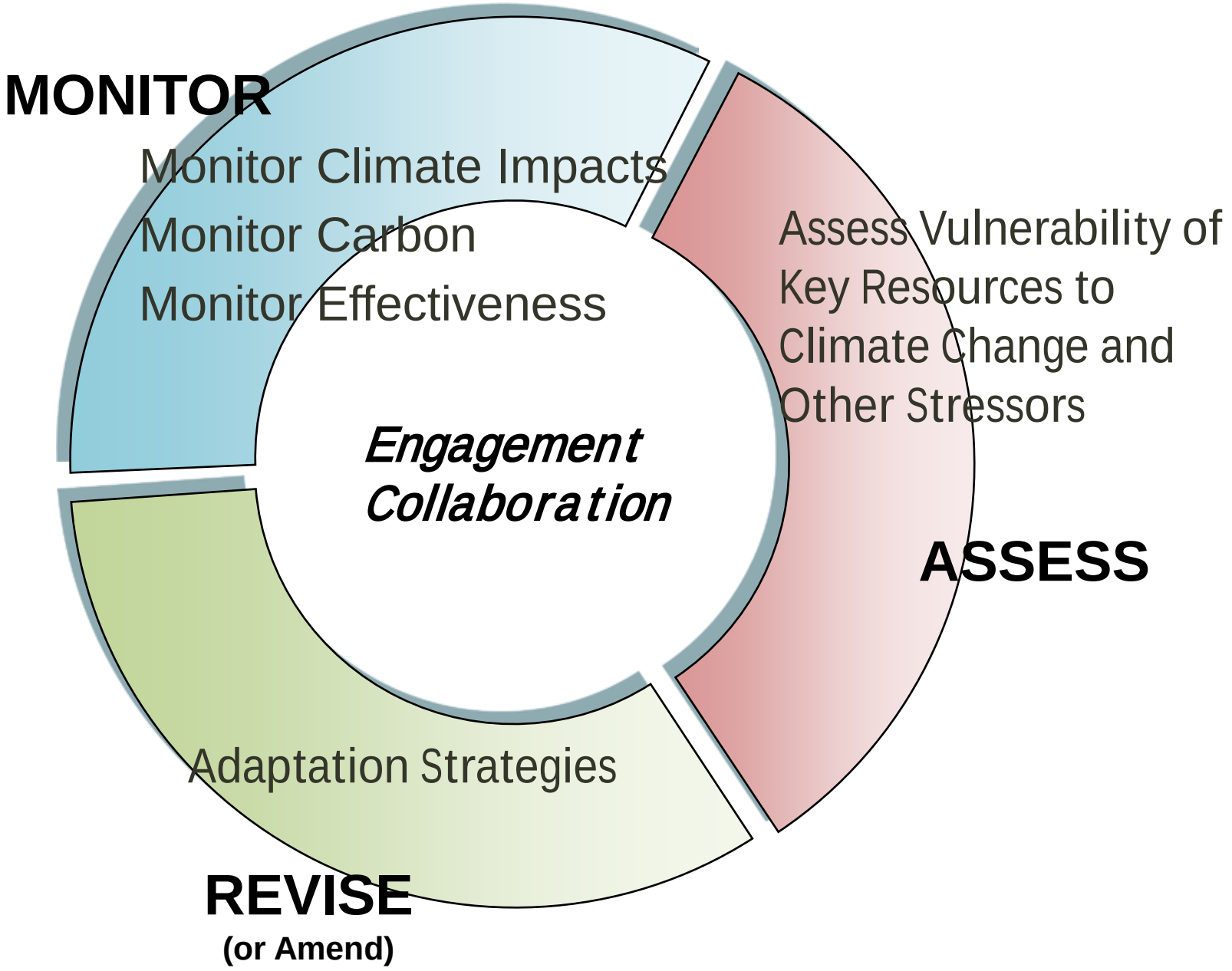


The Forest Around Los Alamos During and After Drought Stress and a Bark Beetle Outbreak

Photo courtesy Craig Allen

Lodgepole Pine - Colorado

Climate Change Scorecard Activities



Break 3:45-4:00