

8.0 GLOSSARY

affected environment: The physical, biological, social, and economic environment within which human activity is proposed.

airshed: The air in a specific geographic region, in which air quality is managed.

allocation: The assignment of sets of management practices to particular land areas to achieve the goals and objectives of the alternative.

artifact: A simple object (such as a tool or ornament) showing early human workmanship or modifications.

background: The view beginning three to five miles from the observer and as far into the distance as the eye can detect the presence of objects. Also, in economics, naturally occurring; uninduced.

bedload: Suspended particles of sand, gravel, or soil carried by flowing water.

canopy: The more-or-less continuous cover of leaves and branches collectively formed by the crowns of adjacent trees in a stand or forest.

Comfortable Carrying Capacity (CCC): The Comfortable Carrying Capacity of a mountain resort is the number of skiers an entire resort can comfortably accommodate at any given time and still guarantee a pleasant recreation experience. A resort's CCC does not reflect the number of skiers on the mountain at one time. Generally, 70 to 85 percent of a mountain's total CCC would be active skiers, including those on the trails, riding lifts, and waiting in lift lines. The remaining 15 to 30 percent would be using guest service facilities or milling in areas near these facilities. Sometimes referred to as skiers-at-one-time (SAOT).

coniferous: Forest consisting entirely of or mostly of cone-bearing, usually evergreen and needle-leaved trees.

corridor: A linear strip of land identified for the present or future location of transportation or utility rights-of-way within its boundaries.

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ): An advisory council to the President established by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. It reviews federal programs for their effect on the environment, conducts environmental studies, and advises the President on environmental matters.

cover: Vegetation used by wildlife for protection from predators and weather conditions, or in which to reproduce.

cubic foot per second (cfs): Unit measure of streamflow or discharge, equivalent to 449 gallons per minute or about 2 acre-feet per day.

cumulative effects: The combined effects of all direct and indirect impacts with detrimental and beneficial effects identified within and adjacent to the SUP area.

cumulative impact: An effect that is the result of several related projects, past, present, and/or reasonable foreseeable future. Each increment from each project may not be noticeable but cumulative impacts may be noticeable when all increments are considered together.

demand: The quantity of goods or services called for, given a price or other combinations of factors.

developed recreation site: Distinctly defined area where facilities are provided for concentrated public use (e.g., ski areas, campgrounds, picnic areas, boating sites, and interpretive facilities).

direct impact: An effect that occurs as a result of an action to implement a proposal or alternative.

dispersed recreation: Outdoor recreation that occurs outside of planned and maintained recreational facilities (e.g., scenic driving, hunting, backpacking).

diversity: The distribution and abundance of different plant and animal communities and species within the area covered by a land and resource management plan.

ecology: The study of plants and animals in relation to their environment.

ecosystem: The system formed by the interaction of a group of organisms and their environment.

effects: Results expected to be achieved from implementation of the alternatives relative to physical, biological, economic, and social factors. There are direct effects, indirect effects, and cumulative effects.

endangered species: Any species listed as such in the Federal Register, which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

environmental analysis: An analysis of alternative actions and their predictable short and long-term environmental effects, which include physical, biological, economic, social and environmental design factors and their interaction.

environmental assessment (EA): A concise public document required by the regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act, that briefly provides sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or a finding of no significant impact.

environmental impact statement (EIS): A statement of the environmental effects that would be expected to result from proposed alternative management actions.

erosion: The detachment and movement of soil from the land surface by wind, water, or gravity.

erosion control: Materials and structures utilized to reduce erosion.

fisheries: Streams, lakes, and reservoirs that support fish utilized by anglers.

forage: All browse and nonwoody plants used for grazing or harvested for feeding livestock or game animals.

foreground: The portions of a view between the observer and up to ¼ or ½ mile distant.

Forest Plan: The Gallatin National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan, which was published September 1987.

Forest Supervisor: The official responsible for administering the National Forest System lands in a Forest Service administrative unit who reports to the Regional Forester.

fragmentation: The process of reducing size and connectivity of stands that compose a forest.

game species: Any species of wildlife or fish for which seasons and bag limits have been prescribed and which are normally harvested by hunters, trappers, and fisherman under State or Federal laws, codes, and regulations.

glading: The removal of trees in a more dense overstory on a site, generally to enhance tree skiing opportunities.

goods and services: The outputs produced by Forest resources, the tangible and intangible values of which are expressed in market and non-market terms.

gradient: The vertical distance water falls while traveling a horizontal distance downstream.

grazing: Consumption of herbage or artificial pasture forage by animals.

Gross Fixed Assets: The total of the original undepreciated cost (note present value) of improvements and fixtures, plus the cost of equipment necessary to generate sales and other income (day buildings, lifts, equipment, investment in trails, parking, etc.) minus the cost of equipment which has been disposed of. Gross Fixed Assets are shown at original cost, including additions, i.e., prior to any allowances for depreciation and/or amortization.

groundwater: Subsurface water in the part of the ground that is wholly saturated.

guideline: An indication or outline of policy or conduct that is not a mandatory requirement (as opposed to a standard, which is mandatory).

habitat: The sum of environmental conditions of a specific place that is occupied by an organism, a population, or a community.

herbaceous: Plants whose growing stems possess little or no woody tissue.

heritage resource: Heritage resources are the tangible and intangible aspects of cultural systems, living and dead, that are valued by a given culture or contain information about the culture. Cultural resources include, but are not limited to, sites, structures, buildings, districts, and objects associated with or representative of people, cultures, and human activities and events.

historic: dating from or preserved from a past time or culture.

hydric: pertaining to wetlands.

hydrophyte: wetland plants

Impact: Any change in physical, biological, social or economic factors, which directly or indirectly results from implementation of an action. Impacts may be direct or indirect, and long-term or short-term depending upon the type of change and the resource area being discussed.

indirect impact: An effect that occurs when the environment adjusts to a direct impact.

insignificant impacts: Changes in the environment resulting from the implementation of an alternative which are considered insignificant.

interdisciplinary team (IDT): A group of individuals with different training that solves a problem or performs a task through frequent interaction so that disciplines can combine to provide new solutions.

Inventoried Roadless Areas (IRAs): Areas of National Forest System land currently inventoried for planning purposes as roadless areas. This inventory is based on individual forest plans, forest plan revisions in progress where the USFS has established an inventory, or other assessments that are completed and adopted by the USFS.

irretrievable commitments: Allocation decisions causing loss of production or use of a renewable resource.

irreversible commitments: Allocation decisions affecting nonrenewable resources causing permanent loss of those resources.

long-term effects: Action governed by the Forest Plan, generally taking place over a period longer than ten years from the present.

management concern: An issue, problem, or condition that constrains the range of management practices identified by the Forest Service in the planning process.

management direction: A statement of multiple-use and other goals and objectives, the associated management prescriptions, and standards and guidelines for attaining them.

management indicator species (MIS): A particular type of plant or animal whose presence in a certain situation or location is a fairly certain sign or symptom that particular environmental conditions are also present.

management practice: A specific activity, measure, course of action, or treatment.

management prescription: Management practices and intensity selected and scheduled for applications on a specific area to attain multiple-use benefits and other goals and objectives.

maximum modification: See visual quality objectives.

middleground (middle distance): The space between the foreground and the background in a picture or landscape. The area located from $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 - 5 miles from the viewer.

mitigation: Actions to avoid, minimize, reduce, eliminate, or rectify the adverse impacts of a management practice.

modification: See visual quality objectives

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA): A 1970 Act of Congress that is our basic national charter for protection of the environment.

National Forest Management Act (NFMA): A law passed in 1976 as an amendment to the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act that requires the preparation of regulations to guide that development.

National Forest System (NFS) land: National Forests, National Grasslands, and other related lands for which the Forest Service is assigned administrative responsibility.

National Recreation Trail: A trail designated as part of the National system of trails authorized by the National Trails System Act. National Recreation Trails provide a variety of outdoor recreation uses in or reasonably accessible to urban areas.

National Register of Historic Places: A listing maintained by the U.S. National Park Service of areas that have been designated as historically significant. The register includes places of local and State significance, as well as those of value to the Nation in general.

no action alternative: The alternative that continues current management direction.

objective: A concise, time-specific statement of measurable planned results that respond to pre-established goals. An objective forms the basis for further planning to define the precise steps to be taken and the resources to be used in achieving identified goals.

off-piste impact: Downhill terrain not associated with a specific, maintained ski trail.

off-site impact: An impact that affects the environment outside the boundaries of the project area.

on-site impact: An impact that affects the environment within the boundaries of the project area.

old growth: A stand that is past full maturity and showing signs of decadence; the last stage in forest succession. The characteristics will vary by tree age, size, height, or density timber type. Region 1 guidelines for eastern Montana and within this analysis area include: lodgepole pine type characterized with at least 12 trees per acre that are over 10" dbh or larger (diameter-at-breast-height) and 150 years or older. Douglas fir stands are characterized with at least 5 trees per acre that are 19" dbh or larger (diameter-at-breast-height) and 200 years or older. Subalpine fir stands are characterized with 10 or more trees per acre over 13" dbh and over 160 years old (Green, et al).

partial retention: See visual quality objectives.

particulates: Small particles suspended in the air and generally considered pollutants.

permanent impact: An impact that continues for an extended period of time or lasts throughout the life of the MDP.

permit area: The area of NFS lands encompassed in the SUP issued to Bridger Bowl by the GNF.

practicable: Achievable after taking into consideration cost, existing technology, and logistics in light of overall project purposes

preferred alternative: The alternative identified by the Forest Supervisor which may be selected as the final alternative in a Record of Decision.

prehistoric: of, relating to, or existing in times antedating written history.

preservation: See visual quality objectives.

project area: The area encompassed by the development proposal, including, but not limited to the Bridger Bowl Ski Area SUP.

proponent: The individual or business who is proposing to accomplish a project. In this case, the proponent is Bridger Bowl Ski Area.

Proposed Action: A NEPA term that is used to describe the proposed project or activity that is under environmental analysis.

public issue: A subject or question of widespread public interest relating to management of the National Forest System.

riparian area: Land situated along the bank of a stream or other body of water and directly influenced by the presence of water (e.g., streamsides, lake shores, etc.).

scoping process: The process used to identify issues and concerns that are within Forest Service authority to resolve.

sedimentation: The deposition of soil particles and rock fragments by water. Sedimentation usually occurs in the slow moving sections of streams, like pools and glides, or when a stream enters a lake.

sensitive species: Species that have appeared in the Federal Register as proposed additions to the endangered or threatened species list; those species that are on an official State list or are recognized by the Regional Forester to need special management in order to prevent them from becoming endangered or threatened.

significant impact: A judgment based on the context and intensity of the impact; generally, a significant impact is one that exceeds a standard, guideline, law, or regulation.

skier visit: Skier visitor day. One visitor day equals one lift ticket sold.

snowmaking: A process where water is sprayed into the air in subfreezing temperatures to form fine particles of snow. These particles fall to the ground to form a condensed granular snowpack that provides an excellent and durable surface for skiing.

soil: A dynamic natural body on the surface of the earth in which plants grow, composed of mineral and organic materials and living forms.

Special Use Permit (SUP): A permit authorizing the occupancy and use of National Forest System land in the manner specified.

stand: A community of trees or other vegetation that is sufficiently uniform in composition, constitution, age, spatial arrangement, or condition to be distinguishable from adjacent communities, and to thus form a management entity.

sublimation: The process by which solids are transformed directly to the vapor state or vice versa without passing through the liquid phase.

subnivean: The space that forms between the ground and the underside of the snowpack. The structure of the habitat plays an important role in facilitating the development of the space. Small mammals are known to use this space for travel and security during the winter season.

surficial: Pertaining to the surface.

sustained yield: The achievement and maintenance in perpetuity regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the National Forest System without impairment of the productivity of the land.

talus: A loose collection of rock fragments that accumulates at the base of a cliff or steep rocky slope.

temporary impact: An impact that occurs during construction and/or for 1 – 2 growing seasons thereafter; or an impact that may occur after brief activities associated with operation and maintenance.

threatened species: Any species that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future and which has been designated in the Federal Register as a threatened species.

transpiration: The process by which plants take in water at the root tips for growth and other life-support needs, and release it as a vapor at the leaf surface, mostly during the warmest months of the year

understory: Low-growing vegetation (herbaceous, brush or reproduction) growing under a stand of trees. Also, that portion of trees in a forest stand below the overstory.

vascular plants: Plants that possess a vascular system for conducting substances from one part of plant (such as roots) to another (such as leaves); includes the flowering plants, conifers, ferns, and fern allies.

vegetation: The plants of an area or region; plant life collectively.

viewshed: The landscape seen or potentially seen from all or a logical part of a travel route, use area, or water body.

visual quality objectives (VQOs): A set of measurable maximum levels of future alteration of a characteristic landscape. These levels are as follows:

- Preservation (P) – Allows ecological change only. Management activities are prohibited except for very low visually impacting recreation facilities.
- Retention (R) – Management activities may not be visually evident. Contrast in form, line, color, and texture must be reduced during or immediately after the management activity.
- Partial Retention (PR) – Management activities must remain visually subordinate to the characteristic landscape. Associated visual impacts in form, line, color, and texture must be reduced as soon after project completion as possible but within the first year.
- Modification (M) – Management activities may visually dominate the characteristic landscape. However, landform and vegetative alterations must borrow from naturally established form, line, color, or texture so as to blend with the surrounding landscape character. The objective should be met within one year of project completion.
- Maximum Modification (MM) – Management activities including vegetative and landform alterations may dominate the characteristic landscape. However, when viewed as background they must visually appear as natural occurrences within the surrounding landscapes or character type. Reduction of contrast should be accomplished within five years.

visual resource: The composite of basic terrain, geologic features, water features, vegetative patterns, and land use effects that typify a land unit and influence the visual appeal the unit may have for visitors.

water rights: The legal right to use water.

watershed: The entire area that contributes water to a drainage system or stream.

water yield: The total amount of water coming from an area of land, commonly a watershed, over a given period of time.

wetlands: An area at least periodically wet or flooded, where water is the dominant factor determining the nature of soil development and the types of plant and animal communities living in the soil and on its surface (e.g., bogs and marshes).

wildlife: Animals living in a natural, undomesticated state.