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Glossary

Most definitions of the terms in this glossary were taken from, or adapted from, the glossaries of the following documents:

- Management Plan for the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area (USDA 1994);
- Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on Management of Habitat for Late-Successional and Old-Growth Forest Related Species Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (USDA, USDI 1994); and
- Siuslaw National Forest Road Analysis (USDA 2003).

Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) - A codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the Executive departments and agencies of the federal government.

Critical habitat - For listed species, specific parts of the geographic area occupied by a federally listed species that have physical and biological features essential to conserving the species, and that may require special management consideration or protection; also specific areas outside the geographical area occupied by a species but essential for its conservation. Designated critical habitats are described in 50 CFR 17 and 226.

Cultural resource - Remains of sites, structures or objects used by humans in the near (historical) or distant (archaeological) past.

Developed recreation - Recreation that requires facilities, resulting in concentrated use of an area, such as for a campground or staging area. Facilities might include roads, parking lots, picnic tables, toilets, drinking water, and buildings.

Designated route - Specially marked trails for OHVs to use for touring or travel in existing vegetated habitats. The routes reach the beach and other areas open to OHVs.

Designated campsites – Sites identified by a physical improvement, such as a numbered post; and occupancy is tracked through a permit system.

Dispersed recreation - Recreation use outside developed recreation sites, including activities like hunting, fishing, scenic driving, hiking, bicycling, horseback riding, and recreation in primitive environments.

Foredune – Large, continuous, stabilized sand ridge near the beach high-tide line. The foredune is formed from sand that accumulates in European beachgrass.

Heritage resource - The remains of sites, structures, or objects resulting from past human activity that have important socio-cultural value, whether historic, prehistoric, archaeological, or architectural. For this project, “heritage resource” refers only to actual physical things - places,

structures, or artifacts that are material evidence of a past way of life - rather than to traditions, customs, or modern life styles. Heritage resources are fragile and nonrenewable; their values, once destroyed, cannot be recreated.

Heritage site - Any definite place of past human activity with important socio-cultural value - historic, prehistoric, archaeological, or architectural - identifiable through field survey, historical documentation, or oral evidence

Landscape - A heterogeneous land area with interacting ecosystems repeated in similar form throughout.

Listed species - Those plant and animal species listed in the Federal Register as threatened or endangered.

Management-indicator species - Species identified in the Siuslaw National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan for special consideration because their population changes are believed to indicate the effects of management activities on the health of mature forests.

Mitigation measures - Modifications of actions to avoid adverse effects by not taking a certain action or parts of an action; minimizing adverse effects by limiting the scope or intensity of the action; rectifying adverse effects by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; reducing or eliminating adverse effects over time by preserving and maintaining operations during the life of the action; or compensating for adverse effects by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

Monitoring - A process of collecting information to evaluate whether the objective and anticipated or assumed results of a management plan or project are being realized or whether projects are being implemented as planned.

National Forest System road - A classified forest road under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service. These roads were formerly called Forest-development roads—the two terms are synonymous.

Noxious weed - A plant specified by law as being especially undesirable, troublesome, and difficult to control.

Off-highway Vehicle (OHV) - Vehicles capable of cross-country travel or travel on low-standard roads and trails such as motorbikes, all-terrain vehicles, and four-wheel drive vehicles.

People at One Time (PAOT) – A term for measuring recreation capacity that indicates the number of people who can use a facility or area at one time.

Primary Vehicle - Any licensed motorized vehicle, meeting Oregon Revised Statutes for operation on public highways.

Proposed, Endangered, Threatened or Sensitive (PETS) Species – Species with federal management status. Included are those species proposed for listing, or currently listed for protection under the Endangered Species Act as Endangered or Threatened. In addition, the Regional Forster provides a list of sensitive species to be analyzed in relation to actions proposed on federal ground.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) - Land delineations that identify a variety of recreation experience opportunities, categorized into six classes on a continuum from primitive to urban. Each class is defined in terms of the degree to which it satisfies certain recreation experience needs, based on the extent to which the natural environment has been modified, the type of facilities provided, the degree of outdoor skills needed to enjoy the area, and the relative density of recreation use. The six classes are:

- **Primitive**- Area is characterized by an essentially unmodified natural environment of fairly large size. Interaction between users is very low and evidence of other users is minimal. The area is managed to be essentially free from evidence of human-induced restrictions and controls. Motorized use within the area is not permitted.
- **Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized** - Area is characterized by a predominately natural or natural-appearing environment of moderate to large size. Interaction between users is low, but there is often evidence of other users. The area is managed in such a way that minimum on-site controls and restrictions may be present, but would be subtle. Motorized recreation use is not permitted, but local roads used for other resource management activities may be present on a limited basis. Use of such roads is restricted to minimize impacts on recreational opportunities.
- **Semi-Primitive Motorized** - Area is characterized by predominantly natural or natural-appearing environment of moderate to large size. Concentration of users is low, but there is often evidence of other users. The area is managed in such a way that minimum on-site controls and restrictions may be present, but would be subtle. Use of local primitive or collector roads, with predominantly natural surfaces and trails suitable for motorbikes, is permitted.
- **Roaded Natural** - Area is characterized by a natural-appearing environments with moderated evidence of the sights and sounds of man. Such evidence usually harmonizes with the natural environment. Interaction between users may be moderate to high, with evidence of other users prevalent. Resource modification and utilization practices are evident, but harmonize with the natural environment. Conventional motorized use is allowed and incorporated into construction standards and design of facilities.
- **Rural** - Area is characterized by natural environment that has been substantially modified by development of structures, vegetation manipulation or pastoral agricultural development. Resource modification and utilization practices may be used to enhance specific recreation activities and maintain vegetative cover and soil. Sights and sounds of humans are readily evident, and the interaction between users is often moderate to high. A considerable number of facilities are designed for use by a large number of people.

Facilities are often provided for special activities. Moderate user densities are present away from developed sites. Facilities for intensified motorized use and parking are available.

- **Urban** – Area is characterized by a substantially urbanized environment, although the background may have natural-appearing elements. Renewable resource modification and utilization practices are often used to enhance specific recreation activities. Vegetative cover is often exotic and manicured. Sights and sounds of humans are predominant on site. Large numbers of users can be expected both on site and in nearby areas. Facilities for highly intensified motor use and parking are available with forms of mass transit often available to people throughout the site.

Recreation Setting – Combination of physical and social environmental factors that determines what activities people engage in and the nature of their recreation experience.

Road analysis - An integrated ecological, social, and economic science-based approach to transportation planning that addresses existing and future road management options.

Road maintenance - The ongoing upkeep of a road necessary to retain or restore the road to its approved road management objective.

Riparian area - A geographic area containing an aquatic ecosystem and adjacent upland areas that directly affect it; it includes floodplain, woodlands, and all areas within a horizontal distance of about 100 feet from the stream channel's normal high-water line or from the shoreline of a standing body of water.

Scoping – Process by which the Forest Service determines how inclusive and detailed an analysis is necessary to make an informed decision on a proposed action.

Sensitive species - Species mentioned in the Federal Register as proposed for classification or under consideration for official listing as endangered or threatened species, on an official state list, or recognized by the Forest Service or other management agencies as needing special management to prevent their being placed on federal or state lists.

Soil compaction--An increase in bulk density (weight per unit volume) and a decrease in soil porosity resulting from applied loads, vibration, or pressure. The actual physical change is primarily reduction of non-capillary pore space, which in turn reduces infiltration, permeability, and gaseous exchange.

Soil displacement--The removal and horizontal movement of soil from one place to another by mechanical forces such as a bulldozer blade.

Stand (tree stand) - An aggregation of trees occupying a specific area and sufficiently uniform in composition, age, arrangement, and condition to be distinguishable from the forest in adjoining areas.

Standards and guides - The primary instructions for public land managers. Standards address mandatory actions, and guides are recommended actions necessary to a land management decision.

Structure - The various horizontal and vertical physical elements of the forest including trees, canopy layers, snags, and coarse woody debris.

Survey-and-manage species - Species that are closely associated with late-successional or old-growth forests whose long-term persistence is a concern; in this document. Species are listed in the record of decision (table C-3) for the Northwest Forest Plan. Mitigation measures and standards and guidelines for managing survey-and-manage species are amended by the Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and Other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines (USDI, USDA 2001).

System road - A classified road in the National Forest necessary to protect, administer, or use the Forest or its resources.

Threatened species - Those plant or animal species likely to become endangered throughout all or a significant portion of their range in the near future. A plant or animal identified and defined in accordance with the 1973 Endangered Species Act and published in the Federal Register.

Understory - Trees and other woody species growing under the canopies of larger adjacent trees and other woody growth.

Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs) – Categories of acceptable landscape alteration measured in degrees of deviation from the natural-appearing landscape.

- **Preservation** – Human activities do not change the natural appearance.
- **Retention** – Human activities are not evident to the casual forest visitor.
- **Partial Retention** – Human activity may be evident, but must remain subordinate to the characteristic.
- **Modification** – Human activity may dominate the characteristic landscape, but must, at the same time, follow naturally established form, line, color, and texture. It should appear as a natural occurrence when viewed in foreground or middleground.
- **Maximum Modification** – Human activity may dominate the characteristic landscape, but should appear as natural occurrence when viewed as background.
- **Enhancement** – A short-term management alternative which is done with the express purpose of increasing positive visual variety where little variety now exists.

Watershed - The drainage basin contributing water, organic matter, dissolved nutrients, and sediments to a stream or lake.

Watershed analysis - A systematic procedure for characterizing watershed and ecological processes to meet specific management and social objectives. Watershed analysis provides a basis for ecosystem management planning to be applied to watersheds of about 20 to 200 square miles.

Wetland – Area that is inundated by surface water or groundwater with a frequency sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances does or would support, a prevalence of vegetative or aquatic life that requires saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas.