

## Appendix G - Glossary

**Basal Area (BA)** - The area of the cross section of a tree a 4.5 feet above the ground. Generally expressed as total Basal Area per acre. Under uneven-aged management, usually 30 to 40 percent of the basal area is removed. Under even-aged management, 30 to 100 percent of the basal area is removed depending upon the needed silvicultural treatment.

**Ecological Land Type (ELT)** - An area of land with a distinct combination of natural, physical, chemical, and biological properties that cause it to respond in a predictable and relatively uniform manner to the application of given management practices. In a relatively undisturbed state, or at a given stage (sere) of plant succession, an ELT is usually occupied by a predictable and relatively uniform plant community. Typical size of an ELT area is generally several hundred acres.

**Ecological Land Type Phase** - These are subdivisions of those ELTs where vegetation management is most common. They share the same characteristics as ELTs; however, their size is smaller (10-100 acres) and the biological and physical conditions are more limited. They are locally known as Forest Habitat Types.

**Even-aged Management** - A timber management system that results in the creation of stands where trees of essentially the same age grow together. Harvest methods producing even-aged stands are clearcut, thinning shelterwood, and seed tree.

**Clearcutting** - removal in a single harvest of the entire stand to prepare the area for rapid seed germination and growth of a new even-aged stand of shade intolerant trees. Shade intolerant trees are tree species that need full or near full sunlight to regenerate and grow.

**Salvage Cut** - Trees are harvested after some natural disturbance in order to salvage potential wood products before the trees become less valuable or unmerchantable. Depending on the severity of damage, the harvest may consist of harvest of individual trees or of groups of trees. In severe cases, all trees in a stand may be removed to begin a new stand. Disturbances include but are not limited to wind, ice storms, fire, insect infestations and disease.

**Seed Tree** – A harvest that leaves five or so dominant trees per acre as a seed source for the regenerating stand. A seed tree harvest appears similar to current clearcut units in that both prescriptions leave individual trees standing per acre within a unit to meet silvicultural or other resource objectives.

**Shelterwood** - This harvest method provides a source of seed and shade protection for regeneration. The original stand is removed down to a prescribed basal area, in two or more successive harvests. The first harvest is ordinarily the seed cutting (sometimes called the regeneration cut). A second harvest often follows a number of years later once regeneration is well established, and is referred to as a final harvest or shelterwood removal harvest. An even-aged stand results.

**Thinning** - Thinning operations where the harvested material can be sold on the market as opposed to pre-commercial thinning.

**Forest Product** - Sawtimber, millwood, pulpwood, and chipwood are the raw products utilized from a tree in a minimum piece length of 8 feet.

Sawtimber minimum piece specification requires a minimum diameter outside bark of 9.0 inches for softwood and 11.0 inches for hardwood and 40 percent sound wood.

Millwood minimum piece specification requires a minimum diameter outside bark of 8.0 inches for paper birch and 50 percent sound wood.

Pulpwood minimum piece specification requires a minimum diameter outside bark of 5.0 inches and 50 percent sound and reasonably straight.

Chipwood refers to utilization of that material beyond the merchantable top, including branches and the top. Chipwood does not meet minimum piece specifications for pulpwood.

**Habitat Management Unit (HMU)** - A large unit of land with boundaries commensurate with compartment boundaries, and which includes a mix of habitat types. At least one of these types must be a pond or stream with wetland potential.

**Habitat Type** - A small unit of land from a few to over 100 acres lying within a given climatic mineralogical zone and supporting a distinct successional sequence of vegetation growing on a unique type of soil material.

**Indicator Species** - A plant or animal species adapted to a particular kind of environment. The arrangement of habitats (by tree species and age group) reflects requirements for selected wildlife species. They are designated a management indicator species. Their presence is sufficient indication that specific habitat conditions are also present. These species represent groups of other species with similar habitat requirements.

**Interdisciplinary (ID) Team** - A group of individuals with skills for management of different resources. An interdisciplinary team is assembled because no single scientific discipline is sufficient to adequately identify and resolve issues and problems. Team member interaction provides necessary insight to all stages of the process.

**Projected Existing Condition of Habitat Management Unit** - The existing acres of the community type by age class would change over time. The expected changes are projected to a future year that becomes the existing condition for that community type by age class.

**Riparian Management Zone** - A term used by the Forest Service which includes stream channels, lakes, adjacent riparian ecosystems, flood plains, and wetlands.

**Road reconstruction** - rebuilding a road to the standard originally constructed. For example, replacing temporary drainage structures, temporary removal of waterbars or other drainage features to allow for traffic, clearing vegetation that obstructs visibility and smoothing and grading road surfaces.

**Road construction** – building new road.

**Temporary road** – a low standard road constructed for a single entry with a minimum of disturbance and that is waterbarred and closed following use.

**Silviculture** - A combination of actions whereby Forests are tended, harvested, and replaced.

**Stand (Forest)** - A community of naturally or artificially established trees of any age sufficiently uniform in composition, constitution, age, spatial arrangement, or condition to be distinguishable from adjacent communities, thereby forming a silvicultural or management entity. A Hardwood Stand is defined as a stand which at least 75 percent of the overstory and understory are hardwood trees. A Softwood Stand is defined as a stand which at least 65 percent of the overstory and understory is softwood (conifer) trees. A Mixed wood Stand is defined as a stand with hardwoods trees mixed with softwoods trees. The 25 to 65 percent of this stand consists of red spruce, balsam fir, and eastern hemlock.

**Streams** - Non-perennial and perennial are two types of stream that the quantity of water can be measured.

**Intermittent Streams** - Streams with a defined channel that the quantity of flowing water can be measured except during the dry summer months.

**Perennial Streams** - Streams with a defined channel that the quantity of flowing water can be measured year round.

**Uneven-aged management** - The application of a combination of actions needed to maintain continuous high-forest cover, recurring regeneration of desirable species, and the orderly growth and development of trees through a range of diameter or age classes to provide a sustained yield of forest products. Harvesting is usually regulated by specifying the number or proportion of trees of particular sizes to retain within each area, thereby maintaining a planned distribution of size classes. Harvest methods that develop and maintain uneven-aged stands are individual selection, improvement, and group selection, and salvage.

**Individual Tree Selection** - A method where individual trees are selected and harvested in a stand while maintaining a prescribed number of trees in each diameter class ("Q" Factor).

**Improvement Cut** - An interim step to developing an uneven-aged stand structure by removing lower quality stems, leaving a residual basal area of about 65-70 sq.ft. (hardwood) or 80 to 100 sq.ft. (mixed wood) per acre.

**Group Selection** - A harvest method that describes the silvicultural system in which trees are removed periodically in small groups, resulting in openings that do not exceed an acre or two in size. This leads to the formation of an uneven-aged stand, in the form of a mosaic of age-class groups in the same forest stand.

**Overstory Removal** – Mature trees are removed to release regeneration once it has become established, for example in a shelterwood final harvest.

**"Q" Factor** - A method used in uneven-aged management to express the desired number of trees by diameter class. A "Q" factor of 1.5 means that each diameter class would have 1.5 times the number of trees than the next highest diameter class.

**Visual Quality Objectives** - A desired level of scenic quality. Refers to the acceptable degree of alteration of the characteristic landscape:

**Preservation** - A visual quality objective that provides for ecological change only.

**Retention** - A visual quality objective that means that management activities are not evident to the casual Forest Visitor.

**Partial Retention** - A visual quality objective that means that management activities may be evident but must remain subordinate to the characteristic landscape.

**Modification** - A visual quality objective that means that management activities may dominate the characteristic landscape but must, at the same time, utilize naturally established form, line, color, and texture.

**Volume** - The measure of quantity forest products (sawtimber, pulpwood, and chipwood).

**Board Foot** - A measure of lumber volume for sawtimber. The cubic equivalent of a piece of lumber 12 inches wide, 12 inches long, and 1 inch thick. MBF is the measure for 1000 board feet.

**Cord** - A measure of volume for pulpwood and millwood. One cord equals one stack of wood measuring 4 by 4 by 8 feet or the equivalent of 500 board feet.

**Ton** - A measure of volume for chipwood.