

Glossary

Accessibility - The relative ease or difficulty of getting to or from someplace.

Acre Foot - A water volume measurement equal to the amount of water that would be required to cover one acre to a depth of one foot.

Activity Center - As used in owl standards and guidelines refers to the "site" (nest location or roost grove) around which a protected activity center is delineated.

Adaptive Management - Refers to a process in which policy decisions are implemented within a framework of scientifically driven experiments to test predictions and assumptions inherent in management plans.

Age Class - Interval of years, commonly 20, into which trees are grouped for management. Example: 1-20 years, 21-40 years.

Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) - The quantity of timber that may be sold from the area of suitable land covered by the Forest Plan for a time period specified by the Plan. This quantity is usually expressed on an annual basis as the "average allowable sale quantity."

Alternative - One of several policies, plans, or projects proposed for decision-making.

Amenity - The pleasurable, educational, or aesthetic features of the land or resources.

Analysis Area - A delineated area of land subject to analysis of impacts of proposed management activities.

Analysis of the Management Situation (AMS) - A determination of the ability of the planning area to supply goods and services in response to society's demand for those goods and services.

Animal Unit Month (AUM) - The quantity of forage required by one mature cow (1000 lbs.), or the equivalent, for one month.

Appropriate Management Response (AMR) - Is any specific action suitable to meet Fire Management Unit (FMU) objectives. Typically, the AMR ranges across a spectrum of tactical options (from monitoring to intensive management actions). The AMR is developed by using FMU strategies and objectives identified in the Fire Management Plan. This term has been replaced by Response to Wildland Fire.

Arterial Roads - Primary travel routes that provide service to a large land area and which usually connect with public highways or other Forest Service arterial roads.

Aspect - The direction towards which a slope faces.

Aspen Forest - Forested sites in the *Abies lasiocarpa*, *Picea pungens*, *Abies concolor*, *Picea engelmannii*, *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, and *Pinus ponderosa* series where a majority of the basal area is made up of *Populus tremuloides*.

Avoidance Area - An area having one or more physical, environmental, institutional, or statutory impediment to corridor designation.

Basal Area - The area of the cross-section of a tree stem over 1 inch in diameter near its base, generally breast height and inclusive of bark.

Base Sale Schedule - A schedule in which the planned sale and harvest for any future decade is equal to or greater than planned sale and harvest for preceding decade of the planning period. The planned sale and harvest for any decade is not greater than the long-term sustained-yield capacity (this definition expresses the principle of nondeclining flow).

B/C Values - See benefit/cost ratio.

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Benchmark (BM) - A category of forest planning alternatives used to establish standards by which to compare alternatives considered in detail. Benchmark alternatives include minimum level, minimum acceptable level, maximum resource level, and maximum present net value levels.

Benefit/Cost Ratio - Total discounted benefits of an activity divided by total discounted costs.

Best Management Practices - Practices that can be used to control or prevent water pollution from nonpoint (or dispersed) sources.

Big Game - The larger species of wild animals that are hunted, such as elk, deer, bighorn sheep, and javelina.

Biological Potential - Maximum production of a selected organism that can be attained under optimum management.

BLM - Bureau of Land Management.

Board Foot - Measure of an amount of timber equivalent to a piece 12"x12"x1". The boards bought at a lumber store are a little smaller because they have been planed or made smooth.

Cable Logging - A method for transporting logs from stumps to collection points which utilizes a cable system as the main device for moving them.

Canopy - A layer of foliage, generally the uppermost layer, in a forest stand. Can be used to refer to mid or understory vegetation in multi-layered stands.

Canopy Cover - The percentage of a fixed area covered by crowns or plants delineated by a vertical projection of the outermost perimeter of the spread of their foliage.

Capable Range - Land that produces forage for animal consumption without impairing other forage values; generally considered as land that is not being cultivated.

Capability Area - An area of land delineated for the purpose of estimating responses to various management practices, resource values, output coefficients, and multi-resource or joint production functions. Capability areas may be synonymous with ecological land units, ecosystems, or land resource units. Capability areas are the single geographic delineations used to describe characteristics of land and resources in integrated forest planning.

Carrying Capacity - The maximum stocking rate possible without inducing damage to vegetation or related resources. Expressed in AUM's. May vary from year to year due to fluctuating forage production.

CEQ - Council on Environmental Quality.

CFR - Code of Federal Regulations.

Chemical Water Quality - Measurements of chemical parameters (alkalinity, dissolved oxygen, dissolved iron, etc.) used to describe the quality of water.

Clear Cut - A harvest and regeneration method where the entire stand of trees is removed in one cutting.

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Climax Species - Any species that is characteristic of a plant community that through natural processes reaches the apex of its development after sufficient time. The opposite of seral species.

Collector Roads - Roads that serve smaller land areas and are usually connected to Forest arterial roads or public highways. Collector roads collect traffic from local roads and terminal facilities and are operated for constant use.

Commercial Forest Land - See (Forest Land) Capable.

Constrained Maximum Level Alternative - Highest level of particular output that could be produced over time, subject to production of minimum acceptable levels for all other outputs.

Constraint - A quantification of the minimum or maximum amount of an output or cost that could be produced or incurred in a given time period.

Cord (cords) - A unit of gross volume measurement for stacked round or split wood. A standard cord is 4'x4'x8' or 128 cubic feet. A standard cord may contain 60 to 100 cubic feet of solid wood depending on the size of pieces and compactness of stack.

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

Cost Coefficients - Values which relate an acre of land to a particular dollar cost in a specific period of time.

Critical Habitat - That portion of a wild animal's habitat that is critical for the continued survival of the species.

Culmination of Mean Annual Increment (CMAI) - The age at which the average annual growth is greatest for a stand of trees. Mean annual increment is expressed in cubic feet measure and is based on expected growth according to the management intensities and utilization standards assumed in accordance with 36 CFR 219.16(a)(2)(i) and (ii) (Fed. Reg. 1982). Culmination of mean annual increment includes regeneration harvest yields and any additional yields from planned intermediate harvests.

Cultural Resource - Physical remains and conceptual content or context concerning potential knowledge about past human cultural systems of an area, which are useful for making land use planning decisions.

Current - The program level currently in effect.

Cutting Cycle - The planned, recurring period of time between successive cuttings or harvests in a stand of trees.

Data Base - See Resource Data Base.

DBH - Diameter at breast height, a standard measure of tree size.

DE-FORPLAN - A specific linear programming computer model designed for use in Forest Service planning.

DEIS - Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

Demand Trends - Expected future need or desire for outputs, services, and uses.

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Departure - A schedule that deviates from the principle of nondeclining flow by exhibiting a planned decrease in the timber sale and harvest schedule at any time in the future. A departure can be characterized as a temporary increase, usually in the beginning decade(s) of the planning period, over the base sale schedule that would otherwise be established, without impairing future attainment of the Forest's long-term sustained-yield capacity.

Developed Recreation - Recreation that requires facilities that result in concentrated use of an area. Examples are campgrounds and picnic areas. Facilities might include: roads, parking lots, picnic tables, toilets, drinking water, and buildings.

DIB - Diameter inside bark. The measured diameter of a tree excluding the bark.

Dispersed Recreation - In contrast to developed recreation sites, dispersed recreation areas are the lands and waters under Forest Service jurisdiction that are not developed for intensive recreation use. Dispersed areas include general undeveloped areas, roads, trails, and water areas not treated as developed sites.

Disturbance - Significant alteration of habitat structure or composition. May be due to natural (e.g. fire) or human-caused events (e.g. timber harvest).

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

Dwarfmistletoe Rating - Measure of the severity of mistletoe infection in Ponderosa pine.

Early Seral Stage - An area that is in the early stages of ecological succession.

Ecological Succession - The change of an area through time from one vegetative community to another. For example, an area may proceed from grass-forb through aspen forest to mixed-conifer forest.

Ecosystem - An interacting system of organisms and their environment.

Ecosystem Management Area - A delineated contiguous area of land with identifiable boundaries that can be located on a map. Areas would typically be 10,000 to 100,000 acres and be delineated based on human values, use patterns, and physical and biological factors such as watershed boundaries. The area would have a common desired condition and set of management prescriptions.

Endangered Species - Any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Ending Inventory (EI) - Standing timber volume at the end of the planning horizon sufficient to maintain perpetual timber harvest.

Environmental Assessment - A concise public document for which a federal agency is responsible that briefly provides sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or a finding of no significant impact.

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Environmental Impact Statement - A detailed written statement as required by Section 102(a)(c) of the Environmental Policy Act, which services as an action forcing device to ensure that the policies and goals defined in the Act are infused into the ongoing programs and actions of the Federal Government and provides full and fair discussion of significant environmental impacts and informs decision makers and the public of the reasonable alternatives which would avoid or minimize adverse impacts or enhance the quality of the human environment.

Erosion - The wearing away of the land surface by running water, wind, ice, or other glacial agents. Erosion includes detachment and movement of soil or rock fragments by water, wind, ice or gravity.

Escaped Prescribed Fire – A prescribed fire that has exceeded or is expected to exceed prescription parameters or otherwise meets the criteria for conversion to a wildfire. Criteria is specified in “Interagency Prescribed Fire – Planning and Implementation Procedures Reference.

Escaped Wildland Fire – A wildland fire that exceeds the size objective for the Geographic Area or Land Use Zone; appropriate management response is determined by a WFSA.

Even-Aged Management - The application of a combination of actions that results in the creation of stands in which trees of essentially the same age grow together. Managed even-aged forests are characterized by a distribution of stands of varying ages (and therefore tree sizes) throughout the forest area. The difference in age between trees forming the main canopy level of a stand usually does not exceed 20 percent of the age of the stand at harvest rotation age. Regeneration in a particular stand is obtained during a short period at or near the time that a stand has reached the desired age or size for regeneration and is harvested. Clearcut, shelterwood, or seed tree cutting methods produce even-aged stands.

Even-Flow - Continuous supply of products over a given time period.

Fire for Resource Benefit – Management of either wildfire or prescribed fire to meet resource objectives specified in Land/Resource Management Plans.

Fire Management Area – One or more parcels of land with clearly defined boundaries and with established fire management direction, which is responsive to land and resource management goals and objectives.

Fire Management Unit – Same as Fire Management Area.

Fire Regime - A description of the frequency, severity, and extent of fires that typically occur in an area or habitat.

Fire Use – The combination of wildland fire use and prescribed fire application to meet resource objectives. The Forest Service no longer uses this term for describing these actions.

Floodplain - Land adjacent to a channel which is covered with water when the stream overflows its banks.

Forage - All non-woody plants (grass, grass-like plants, and forbs) and portions of woody plants (browse) available to domestic livestock and wildlife for food. Only a portion of a plant is available for forage if the plant is to remain healthy.

Forb - A broad-leaf herbaceous plant; for example, western yarrow, mountain dandelion and milkvetch.

Forest-wide Management Requirements - A set of statements which define or indicate acceptable norms, specifications, or quality that must be met when accomplishing an activity or practice under a given set of conditions on the Forest.

Forest Land - Land at least 16 percent stocked by forest trees of any size, or having had such tree cover, and not currently developed for nonforest use.

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(Forest Land) Capable - Forest land that is producing or is capable of producing crops of industrial wood and; (a) has not been withdrawn by Congress, the Secretary, or the Chief; (b) existing technology and knowledge is available to ensure timber production without irreversible damage to soils, productivity, or watershed conditions; and (c) existing technology and knowledge, as reflected in current research and experience provides reasonable assurance that adequate restocking can be attained within 5 years after final harvesting.

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(Forest Land) Capable and Available - Capable forest land which has not been legislatively withdrawn or administratively withdrawn from timber production by the Secretary of the Chief of the Forest Service. This classification includes RARE II Further Planning Areas and administrative designation, below the Chief's level, withdrawing land from timber production.

(Forest Land) Capable But Not Available - Capable forest land which has been legislatively or administratively withdrawn from timber production by the Secretary or Chief of the Forest Service. Capable but not available forest land is classed as not suited for timber production.

(Forest Land) Capable-Reserved - Capable forest land which has been legislatively withdrawn or administratively withdrawn from timber production on a permanent basis. Examples are wilderness areas, primitive areas, research natural areas, special interest areas, or similar formal withdrawals approved by the Chief of the Forest Service or higher authority.

(Forest Land) Not Capable - Forest land not capable of growing industrial crops of wood, at least at the minimum biological growth potential of 20 cubic feet per acre annually as established in the Regional Plan. Forest land not capable is classed as land not suited for timber production.

Forest Plan - A process, required by Congress, for assessing economic, social, and environmental impacts, that describes how land and resources will provide for multiple use and sustained yield of goods and services.

Forest Plan Revision - A legally scheduled change in a Forest Plan which must occur at least every 15 years.

Forest Service Directives System - The set of manuals and handbooks that codifies the agency's policy, practice, and procedure. The directives system is for directing the work of Forest Service employees. It is the primary basis for the management and control of all internal programs and the primary source of administrative direction to Forest Service employees.

Forest Service Handbook - The portion of the Forest Service Directives system that provides guidance and instructions on how to proceed with a specialized phase of a program or activity. Handbooks are based on part of the manual or incorporate external directives.

Forest Service Manual - The portion of the Forest Service Directives system that contains legal authorities, objectives, policies, responsibilities, instructions, and guidance needed on a continuing basis by Forest Service line officers and primary staff in more than one administrative unit to plan and execute assigned programs.

Formal Consultation - A process between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Forest Service that commences with the Forest Service's written request for consultation under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act and concludes with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's issuance of a biological opinion under Section 7(b)(3) of the Endangered Species Act.

Fragmentation - The process of reducing the size and continuity of habitat.

FSM - Forest Service Manual

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Fuel Ladder - Dead or living fuels that connect fuels on the forest floor to the canopy, and promote the spread of surface fires to tree crowns.

Fuel Loads - The amount of combustible material present per unit area.

Fuels - Combustible materials.

Fuel Treatment - A re-arrangement or disposal of natural or activity fuels to reduce fire hazard. Fuels are defined as both living and dead vegetative materials consumable by fire.

Fuelwood - Wood, either green or dead, harvested for purposes of cooking or space heating, and usually measured in cords. (1 cord = volume of cut and stacked wood, 4 x 4 x 8 feet in dimension).

Full Service Level - Management of developed recreational facilities to provide optimum maintenance.

Grazing Capacity - The maximum number of animals that can graze an area without damage to the vegetation or related resources.

Grazing Permittee - An individual who has been granted a permit to graze livestock for a specific period on a range allotment.

Group (Clump) - A group of trees within a patch having interlocking or nearly interlocking crowns. A group contains 2 trees up to many trees. A group could be the same size as a patch if all trees within the patch were uniformly spaced with interlocking, or nearly interlocking crowns.

Group Selection - Annual or periodic removal of trees in small groups from an uneven-aged forest. Group size is less than or equal to two times the height of the dominant trees.

Group Shelterwood - A shelterwood system in which the canopy is opened by group cutting to create fairly evenly distributed gaps that are enlarged by subsequent cuttings as the groups of regeneration develop.

Growing Stock Level (GSL) - The stand density level, usually expressed as number of trees per acre or area per acre in square feet, required to maintain an optimum growth through life of a stand. Trees per acre at 10 inch dbh and above equals the square basal area per acre.

Habitat - Suite of existing environmental conditions required by a species for survival and reproduction. The place where an organism typically lives.

Habitat Fragmentation - (See Fragmentation)

Habitat Mosaic - The mixture of habitat conditions across a landscape.

Herbicide - A chemical compound used to kill or control growth of undesirable plant species.

High Elevation Forest - Forested sites in the *Pinus aristata*, *Picea engelmannii*, or *Abies lasiocarpa* series having a plurality of the basal area made up a combination of these species. Also any other series and habitat types where 80 percent or more of the dominant and co-dominant trees are *Pinus aristata*, *Picea engelmannii*, and *Abies lasiocarpa*.

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Home Range - The area used by an animal in its day-to-day activities.

Improvements - Man-made developments such as roads, trails, fences, stock tanks, pipelines, power and telephones lines, survey monuments, and ditches.

Informal Consultation - An optional process that includes all discussions and correspondence between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Forest Service prior to formal consultation, if required.

Initial Action – The actions taken by the first resources to arrive at a wildfire.

Initial Attack - An aggressive suppression action consistent with firefighter and public safety and values to be protected.

Input-Output Analysis (IO) Model - A quantitative study of the interdependence of a group of activities based on relationship between inputs and outputs of the activities. The basic tool of analysis is a square input-output table, interaction model for a given period that shows simultaneously for each activity the value of inputs and outputs, as well as the value of transactions within each activity itself. It has especially been applied to the economy and industries into which the economy can be divided.

Integrated Pest Management - A management strategy for suppression of forest pests which integrates silvicultural, mechanical, biological, and chemical suppression strategies which achieve greater efficiency and safety than the same strategies used alone.

Integrated Resource Management (IRM) - The Southwestern Region's process to implement ecosystem management which incorporates guidance on ecosystem management, Forest plan-to-project analysis, project analysis, and monitoring.

Interdisciplinary Team (ID) - A group of individuals with skills from different resources. An ID 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.

Interim Directive - An internal directive in the Forest Service Directives system which modifies previous directives or establishes new direction, which must be issued promptly to ensure compliance or program accomplishment and which expires 18 months from issuance.

Interpretive Sites - A developed site at which a broad range of natural or cultural history is interpreted or described for the enjoyment and education of the public.

Irregular Shelterwood - Irregular or gradual opening of the canopy generally in groups with long regeneration intervals that result in uneven-aged forests.

Issue - A subject or question of widespread public discussion or interest regarding management of National Forest System lands and identified through public participation.

Land Management Plan (LMP) - A plan written for the management of a National Forest. These plans were mandated by the National Forest Management Act of 1976. Also often abbreviated FLRMP and FP.

Landline - Property boundary location of the Tonto National Forest.

Late Seral Stage Forest - A Forest in the latter stages of development, usually dominated by large, old trees.

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Leasable Minerals - Coal, oil, gas, phosphate, sodium, potassium, oil shale, and geothermal steam.

Linear Program Model - Mathematical method used to determine the best use of resources to achieve a desired result when limitations on available resources can be expressed in the form of equations.

Linear Programming - A mathematical technique for determining the effects of alternatives on resource allocation.

Locatable Minerals - Hardrock minerals which are mined and processed for the recovery of metals. May include certain nonmetallic minerals and uncommon varieties of mineral materials such as valuable and distinctive deposits of limestone or silica. May include any solid natural inorganic substance occurring in the crust of the earth, except for common varieties of mineral materials and leasable minerals.

Long-Term - Action governed by the Forest Plan generally taking place over a period longer than 10 years from the present.

Long-Term Sustained Yield (LTSY) - The highest uniform wood yield from lands being managed for timber production that may be sustained under a specified intensity of management.

Long-Term Sustained Yield Link (LTSYL) - Requirement that the net merchantable timber volume harvested (MCF) in the last period is less than or equal to long run sustained yield.

M - 1,000 units.

MAcFT - One thousand acre feet of water.

Management Activity - Any new or on-going action authorized, funded or carried out by the Forest Service.

Management Area - An area that has common direction throughout that differs from neighboring areas. The entire Forest is divided into management areas. Each is described, and policies and prescriptions relating to their use are listed.

Management Concern - A matter of importance to management of National Forest System Lands that is identified internally by the agency.

Management Direction - A statement of multiple use and other goals and objectives, management prescriptions, and associated standards and guidelines for governing them.

Management Indicator Species (MIS) - A species whose presence in a certain location or situation at a given population level indicates a particular environmental condition. Their population changes are believed to indicate effects of management activities on a number of other species or water quality.

Management Practice - A specific action, measure, or treatment.

Management Prescription - Management practices selected and scheduled for application in a specific area to attain multiple use and other goals and objectives.

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Management Team - Decision-making group consisting of the Forest Supervisor, Group Leaders, and District Rangers.

Marginal Analysis - A type of analysis in which the only costs and benefits considered are those about which decisions can be made. Fixed benefits and costs are not considered.

MAUM - One thousand animal unit months.

Maximum Modification (VQO) - A visual quality objective meaning man's activity may dominate the characteristic landscape but should appear as a natural occurrence when viewed as background.

MBF - One thousand board feet of timber.

MCF - One thousand cubic feet.

Mean Annual Increment - The total increment of merchantable volume growth per acre, up to a given age, divided by that age. Culmination of mean annual increment is the stand age where the mean annual increment of growth is greatest or reaches its highest point.

MIH Codes - Management Information Handbook codes.

Mineral Entry - The right under the Mining Law of 1872 to enter nonwithdrawn public domain land, such as National Forests, and to explore for, extract, and sell certain mineral materials (locatable minerals), protected by the filing of a lode, placer, or mill site claim.

Minimum Level Management - The management strategy that would meet only the basic statutory requirements of administering unavoidable, nondiscretionary land uses, preventing damage to adjoining lands of other ownerships, and protecting the life, health, and safety of incidental users.

Mixed Conifer Forest - Forested sites in the *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, *Abies concolor*, *Picea pungens*, *Pinus strobiformis* and *Pinus flexilis* series and included habitat types except for those sites where 80 percent or more of the existing dominant and co-dominant trees are species other than *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, *Abies concolor*, *Picea pungens*, *Pinus strobiformis* and *Pinus flexilis*. Also included are forested sites in the *Pinus aristata*, *Picea engelmannii*, and *Abies lasiocarpa* series where *Pinus aristata*, *Picea engelmannii*, and *Abies lasiocarpa* are not a plurality of the basal area. Excluded are sites with mixed species but where *Populus tremuloides* makes up 50 percent or more of the basal area. (See Aspen Forest).

MM - One million units.

MMBF - One million board feet of timber.

MMR - Minimum Management Requirements. The minimum legal management requirements to be met for accomplishing the goals and objectives of the National Forest System [36 CFR 219.17 (Fed. Reg. 1982)].

Modification (VQO) - A visual quality objective meaning man's activity may dominate the characteristic landscape but must, at the same time, utilize naturally established form, line, color, and texture. It should appear as a natural occurrence when viewed in foreground or middle ground.

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Monitoring - The process of collecting information to determine whether or not the objectives of a management plan are being met. In reference to the Mexican Spotted Owl Recovery Plan, it means the collection and evaluation of data related to habitat and population trends.

MRVD - Thousand recreation visitor days.

Multiple Use - The management of all various renewable surface resources of National Forests so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the needs of the American people; making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; that some land will be used for less than all of the resources; and harmonious and coordinated management of various resources, each with the other, without impairment of productivity of the land, with consideration being given to relative values of the various resources, and not necessarily the combination of uses that will give the greatest dollar return or the greatest unit output.

National Register of Historic Places - A listing (maintained by the U.S. National Park Service) of areas which have been designated as being of historical significance.

Natural Area - Natural plant communities of interest to the Arizona Parks Board to be protected for demonstration and study purposes in a natural undisturbed setting.

NEPA - National Environmental Policy Act.

Net National Forest Ownership - The acreage of Federal lands which have been designated by Executive Order or statute as National Forest, National Grasslands, or Purchase Units.

NFMA - National Forest Management Act.

No Action Alternative - The most likely condition expected to exist in the future if current management direction would continue unchanged.

Non-commercial Forest Land - See (Forest Land) Not Capable.

Non-consumptive Species - Animal species that are not usually hunted in Arizona.

Non-declining Yield (NDY) - A level of timber production planned so that the planned sale and harvest for any future decade is equal to or greater than the planned sale and harvest for the preceding decade.

Non-forest Land - Land that has never supported forests and lands formerly forested where use for timber utilization is precluded by development for other use. Includes areas used for crops, improved pasture, residential areas, improved roads of any width and adjoining clearings, and power line clearing of any width. If intermingled in forest areas, unimproved roads and nonforest strips must be more than 120 feet wide, and clearings more than one acre in size to qualify as nonforest land. Non-forest land is classified as land not suited for timber production.

Non-game Wildlife - Species of animals which are not managed as a sport hunting resource.

Non-structural Range Improvement - A modification of existing vegetation to improve the grazing resource. Examples are spraying or plowing sagebrush and seeding to grass.

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Objective - A clear and specific statement of planned results to be achieved within a stated time period. Results indicated in the statement of objectives are those which are designed to achieve the desired state of process represented by the goal. An objective is measurable and implies precise time-phased steps to be taken and resources to be used which, together, represent the basis for defining and controlling work to be done.

Obliteration - The returning of land occupied by a road or trail to production.

Occupancy Trespass - The illegal occupation or possession of National Forest land.

Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV) - This includes all mechanical means of transportation; passenger cars, four-wheel drive vehicles, all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) trail bikes, and snowmobiles that are capable of traveling over land where no road exists.

Old Growth - Forested sites distinguished by old trees and related structural attributes. Old growth encompasses the later stages of stand development that typically differ from earlier stages in a variety of characteristics which include tree size, accumulations of large dead woody material, number of canopy layers, species composition, and ecosystem function.

On Site Soil Loss - Soil loss associated with a specific test site. The movement of soil from the point at which it was formed to another location.

Openings - Breaks in the forest canopy that may allow the forest floor to be covered by grasses, forbs, shrubs, tree seedlings; or areas with sapling-sized trees and larger that are stocked less than 10 percent of the areas capacity.

Opportunity Costs - The value of benefits foregone or given up due to the effect of choosing another management alternative that either impacts existing outputs or shifts resources away from other activities so that they are no longer produced and their benefits are lost.

Output Coefficient - Values which relate an acre of land to a particular quantity of output in a specific period of time.

Other Forest and Woodland - As used in MSO standards and guidelines, refers to areas where general ecosystem management principles are implemented to promote recovery of the species.

Overstory - The highest limbs and foliage of a tree, and consequently extending and relating to the upper layers of a forest canopy.

Patch - An area of trees within a site where the vegetative structure stage is sufficiently uniform to be distinguishable from an adjacent patch. An existing patch can be sufficiently large to be the same size as a site. Patch size ranges from 1/4 acre to 4 acres in size for ponderosa pine.

Partial Retention (VQO) - A visual quality objective which in general means man's activities may be evident but must remain subordinate to the characteristic landscape.

Patented Mining Claim - A mining claim to which the Federal Government has granted the claimant all surface and some or all mineral rights. Patented mining claims are private land and may be sold or used for other than mining activity, such as residential or recreational use.

Planned Ignition – The intentional initiation of a wildland fire by hand-held, mechanical or aerial device where the distance and timing between ignition lines or points and the sequence of igniting them is determined by environmental conditions (weather, fuel, topography), firing technique, and other factors which influence fire behavior and fire effects (see prescribed fire).

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Perennial Stream - Streams that flow throughout the year and from source to mouth.

Persons At One Time (PAOT) - A recreation capacity measurement term indicating the number of people that can comfortably occupy or use a facility or area at one time.

Pine-Oak Forest - All forested sites in the *Pinus leiophylla* series. Forested sites within the Upper Gila and Colorado Plateau Recovery Units in the *Pinus ponderosa* series with *Pinus ponderosa/Quercus gambelii* habitat types where a plurality of the basal area exists in ponderosa pine and at least 10 percent or 10 square feet of the basal area is made up of *Quercus gambelii* greater than 5 inches in diameter at the root collar. Forested sites in the Basin and Range West Recovery Unit where a plurality of the basal area is in yellow pines (*ponderosa*, Arizona, Apache, or Chihuahua) and at least 10% or 10 square feet of basal area is made up of any oak species greater than 5 inches in diameter at the root collar.

Planning Criteria - Criteria prepared to guide the planning process and management direction.

Planning Period - The 50-year time frame (1980-2030) for which goods, services, and effects are projected in the development of the Forest Plan.

Pole Timber - As used in timber survey, a size class definition, trees 5.0 to 8.9 inches at DBH. As used in logging operations, trees from which pole products are produced, such as telephone poles, pilings, etc.

Ponderosa Pine Forest - Forested sites in the *Pinus ponderosa* series not classified as pine-oak forest and sites in any other series and habitat type where 80 percent or more of the dominant and co-dominant trees are *Pinus ponderosa*.

Precommercial Thinning - An operation to remove excess trees in young stands to maintain a specified stocking level. The stocking level is commonly expressed as basal area per acre for trees over 5 inches in diameter or as a number of stems per acre for smaller trees. Thinning also provides a means for controlling species composition and quality through selection of trees that are to remain in the stand.

Prescribed Fire - Any fire ignited by management actions to meet specific objectives.

Prescription - See Management Prescription.

Present Net Value (PNV) - Discounted benefits less discounted costs associated with providing all outputs to which monetary values can be assigned.

PVB - Present value benefits - Cumulative discounted benefits at a 4 percent interest rate.

PVC - Present value costs - Cumulative discounted costs at a 4 percent interest rate.

Preservation (VQO) - A visual quality objective that provides for ecological change only.

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Primitive ROS Class - A classification of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum system characterized by an essentially unmodified environment, where trails may be present but structures are rare, and where probability of isolation from the sights and sounds of man is extremely high.

Protected Activity Center (PAC) - An area established around an owl nest (or sometimes roost) site, for the purpose of protecting that area. Most management activities are severely restricted or not allowed within this area.

Protected Areas - As used in owl standards and guidelines refers to areas that are protected, and where most management activities are severely restricted or not allowed. Includes Protected Activity Centers.

Range Allotment - An area designated for the use of a prescribed number of cattle or sheep, or by common use by both under one plan of management.

Reclamation - Returning disturbed lands to a form and productivity that will be ecologically balanced and in conformity with a predetermined land management plan.

Record of Decision - Documentation of what the decision was, the date, and a statement of reasons for the decision.

Recovery Unit (RU) - A specific geographic area, identified mainly from physiographic provinces, used to evaluate the status of the Mexican spotted owl.

Recovery Unit Working Team - An interagency team to oversee the implementation of the Mexican spotted owl recovery plan for each recovery unit.

Recreation Capacity - The number of people that can enjoy a recreation opportunity at any one time without substantially diminishing the quality of the experience sought after.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) - A land classification system which categorizes National Forest land into six classes, each class being defined by its setting and by the probable recreation experiences and activities it affords. The six classes in the spectrum are: primitive, semi-primitive non-motorized, semi-primitive motorized, roaded natural, rural, and urban.

Recreation Residence Site - House or cabin permitted on National Forest land for recreational use of the owner, but not as a primary residence.

Recreation Visitor Day (RVD) - Recreational use of National Forest land which aggregates 12 hours. It may consist of one person for 12 hours, two people for six hours, or any combination that totals 12 hours.

Reduced Service Level - Management of developed recreation facilities below optimum maintenance standards.

Reforestation - Natural or artificial restocking of an area with forest trees.

Reforestation Backlog - Areas that need to have trees re-established. Reforestation can be done by planting, seeding, or preparing the site for natural regeneration.

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Regeneration - (1) The actual seedlings and saplings existing in a stand; (2) the act of establishing young trees naturally or artificially.

Regeneration Cut - Removal of trees with the intention of establishing a new crop of seedlings.

Removal Cut - See Shelterwood Cut.

Research Natural Area - Natural plant communities that have not been modified by man, and are protected and studied to learn more about the ecosystem.

Reserved Lands - Lands that have been administratively withdrawn from commercial activities, such as wilderness or research natural areas.

Resource Data Base - Information about resources stored in a computerized system.

Response to Wildland Fire – The mobilization of the necessary services and responders to a fire based on ecological, social, and legal consequences, the circumstances under which a fire occurs, and the likely consequences of firefighter and public safety and welfare, natural and cultural resources, and values to be protected.

Rest-rotation - A grazing system in which the pastures being rotated receive non-use for a period of plant recovery.

Restricted Areas - As used in owl standards and guidelines, refers to areas that are not protected (see Protected Areas), but where specific guidelines for management activities are proposed.

Retention (VQO) - A visual quality objective that, in general, means man's activities are not evident to the casual forest visitor.

Revegetation - Re-establishment and development of a plant cover. Revegetation may take place naturally through the reproductive processes of existing flora or artificially through direct action of man.

Riparian - Of or relating to a river; specifically applied to ecology, "riparian" describes the land immediately adjoining and directly influenced by streams. Example: Riparian vegetation includes any and all plant life growing on the land adjoining a stream and directly influenced by that stream.

Riparian Forests - Forests along rivers, streams, and other wetland environments, typically characterized by the presence of riparian obligate plants such as cottonwoods, willows, sycamores, or alders.

Roads, Arterial and Collector - Arterial and collector roads are the highest standard roads in the Forest Road System. These roads provide efficient, improved access to large land areas and generally connect to or are extensions of the public road system.

Roads, Local - Local roads are usually one-lane roads constructed to serve a dominant use or resource. Local roads do not access large land areas, as they are more site specific than arterial and collector roads.

Roads, Temporary - Temporary roads are low-level roads constructed for a single purpose and short-term use. Once use of the road has been completed, it is obliterated, and the land it occupied is returned to production.

Road Density - Measure of the degree to which the length of road miles occupies a given land area, e.g., one mi/sq. mi. is one mile of road within a given square mile.

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Roaded Natural ROS Class - A classification of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum system that characterizes a predominately natural environment with evidence of moderate permanent alternate resources and resource utilization. Evidence of sights and sounds of man is moderate, but in harmony with the natural environment. Opportunities exist for both social interaction and moderate isolation from sights and sounds of man.

Rocky Mountain Yield (RMYLD) - Acronym for Rocky Mountain Yield, a computer program used to simulate timber growth based on site index, basal area, species, mortality, mistletoe infestation and silvicultural objectives.

Rotation - The planned number of years between the regeneration of a forest stand and final harvest of that stand.

Roundwood - Trees that are used without being milled (fence posts, telephone poles, pulpwood, etc.).

RPA - Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resource Planning Act of 1974.

Rural ROS Class - A classification of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum system that characterizes an area in which the sights and sounds of man are prevalent and the landscape has been considerably altered by the works of man.

Salvage - The exploitation of trees that are dead, dying or deteriorating (e.g., because over mature, materially damaged by fire, wind, insects, fungi or other injurious agencies) before their timber becomes worthless (Source: Society of American Foresters)

Sanitation Salvage - Removal of dead, damaged, or susceptible trees primarily to prevent the spread of pests or pathogens and to promote forest health.

Sapling - As used in timber survey, a size class definition; trees 1.0 to 4.9 inches at DBH.

Sawtimber - As used in timber survey, a size class definition; trees larger than 9 inches at DBH.

Sediment - Solid material, both mineral and organic, that is in suspension, is being transported, or has been moved from its site of origin by air, water, gravity, or ice and has come to rest on the earth surface either above or below sea level.

Sediment Yield - Amount of soil washed into a water course.

Seed Cut - See Shelterwood Cut.

Seed-tree Cut - An even-age regeneration cutting in which only a few seed trees are retained per acre. Shelterwood cuts retain more seed trees.

Seedling - As used in timber survey, a size class definition; trees less than one inch at DBH.

Selected Project Action - The action chosen by the responsible official for implementation from among the alternatives considered in the environmental analysis. Biological assessments and evaluations and cultural resource clearances are prepared for the selected action and not all alternatives evaluated.

Semi-Primitive Motorized ROS Class - A classification of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum system characterized by moderately dominant alterations by man, with strong evidence of primitive roads and/or trails.

Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized ROS Class - A classification of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum system characterized by few and/or subtle modifications by man, and with a high probability of isolation from the sights and sounds of man.

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Sensitivity Level - As used in Visual Quality Management, a particular degree or measure of viewer interest in scenic qualities of the landscape.

Seral Species - Any plant or animal that is typical of a seral community (stage).

Seral Stage - Any plant community whose plant composition is changing in a predictable way; for example, an aspen community changing to a coniferous forest community.

Shelterwood Cut - An even-age regeneration cutting in which new tree seedlings are established under the partial shade of remnant seed trees.

Significant Forest Plan Amendment - A change in a forest plan that would significantly alter the long-term relationship between levels of multiple-use goods and services originally projected and that may have an important effect on the entire forest plan or affect land and resources throughout a large portion of the planning area during the plan period.

Silviculture - The practice of controlling the establishment, composition, and growth of forests.

Single-Tree Selection Cutting - A cutting method based on removal of individual trees, rather than groups of trees (see also group selection cutting).

Site - As used in owl standards and guidelines refers to the nest location, a roost grove commonly used during the breeding season, or the best roosting/nesting habitat if actual nesting and roosting locations can not be confirmed.

Site Index - A numerical evaluation of the quality of land for plant productivity especially used in Forest land, where it is determined by the rate of growth in height on one or more of the tree species. A particular measure of site class, based on the height of the dominant trees in a stand at an arbitrarily chosen age.

Site (Stand) - An area of trees possessing sufficient uniformity (species, composition, age, and physical features) to be distinguishable from trees on adjacent areas. Sites contain patch(s) and groups.

Slash - The residue left on the ground after logging, including logs, uprooted stumps, branches, twigs, leaves, and bark.

Snag - A standing dead tree.

"Snag" Policy - See Wildlife Tree Policy.

Softwood - A conventional term for both timber and trees belonging to the botanical group, Gymnospermae.

Soil Loss - The estimated quantity of soil moved by sheet and rill erosion. The Universal Soil Loss Equation is used to predict soil loss. Soil loss rarely equals sediment yield to a water course.

Sonoran Desert subtype - The following species are indicators of Sonoran Desert: Saguaro (*Cereus giganteus*), Little-leaf Palo-verde (*Cercidium microphyllum*), or Blue Palo-verde (*C. floridum*). If any of these species occur in a trace amount (defined as a canopy of 0.1%) or greater, the area should be considered as Sonoran Desert. This is equivalent to about one plant per acre.

Southwestern Region (Region 3) - An administrative unit of the USDA Forest Service, including national forests in Arizona and New Mexico and national grassland units in Oklahoma and Texas.

Spruce-Fir Forest - See High Elevation Forest

Stand - Any homogeneous area of vegetation with more or less uniform soils, landform, and vegetation. Typically used to refer to forested areas.

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Stand Density Index (SDI) - Stand density index was developed by L.H. Reineke. It is the expression of the existing numbers of trees per acre as the equivalent number of trees at an average stand diameter (ASD) of ten inches. For example, if you currently have 4000 trees per acre at 2" ASD that is equivalent in density to 300 trees per acre at 10" ASD; therefore, the SDI is 300.

Stand Replacement Fire - A severe burn through the forest canopy (crown fire) that kills all or nearly all of the trees over a large area setting the area back to an earlier successional stage and making it unsuitable habitat.

Standards and Guidelines - The bounds or constraints within which all management activities are to be carried out in achieving Forest Plan objectives.

Steep Slopes - Areas of National Forests that are over 40% inclination.

Strata Analysis Level and Timing (SALT) - Computer program for scheduling timber harvest on commercial forest lands.

Structural Range Improvement - Any type of range improvement that is man-made (fences, corrals, etc.).

Succession - An orderly process of biotic community development that involves changes in species, structure, and community processes with time; it is reasonably directional and, therefore, predictable.

Suitable Range - Range accessible to livestock or wildlife, and that can be grazed on a sustained yield basis without damage to other resources.

Suitable Timber Lands - Forest lands to be managed for timber production.

Sustained Yield - The achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of a high-level annual or regular periodic output of various renewable resources of the National Forest without impairment of the productivity of the land.

Terrestrial Ecosystem Survey (TES) - A system of ecosystem classification, inventory, mapping, and interpretation based upon terrestrial vegetation and environmental factors, used by the USDA Forest Service, Southwestern Region. Ecosystems are defined by combinations of potential vegetation, soils, and climates. Land is partitioned into mapping units based upon inventory data, classification, and air photo interpretation.

Territory - The area that an animal defends against intruders of its own species. Not synonymous with home range, as parts of the home range are typically shared with other individuals.

Thinning - The practice of removing some of the trees in a stand so that remaining trees will grow faster.

Threatened Species - Any species that is likely to become an Endangered Species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Tiering - Incorporating information contained in an EIS (Environmental Impact Statement), such as the Forest Plan EIS, by reference in subsequent environmental documents.

Timber Stand Improvement (TSI) - Usually related to activities conducted in young stands of timber to improve growth rate and form of the remaining trees, e.g., thinning, pruning, fertilization, and control of undesirable vegetation.

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Travelway - A two-track road that has evolved primarily through use by off-highway (high-clearance) vehicles. Usually no planning, design, or construction has occurred and the road snakes its way between obstacles to reach the user's destination.

Unconstrained Maximum - Level of management defined as the highest possible level of a given output along with the costs associated with achieving it.

Understory - Any vegetation whose canopy (foliage) is below, or closer to the ground than, canopies of other plants. The opposite of overstory.

Uneven-Aged Timber Management - The application of a combination of actions needed to simultaneously 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. Cutting is usually regulated by specifying the number or proportion of trees to retain within each area, thereby, maintaining a planned distribution of size classes. Cutting methods that develop and maintain uneven-aged stands are single-tree selection, group selection, and irregular shelterwood.

Universal Soil Loss Equation (USLE) - An equation used to express the methodology used in estimating the sheet and rill erosion of a specific soil relative to its characteristics. Factors involved are: soil erodibility, percent canopy cover, percent total ground cover, canopy height, slope length; and percent grade, slope shape, surface cover type, and rainfall. The result of this data is expressed in tabular form through the use of a computer program.

Unpatented Mining Claim - A claim made by a qualified person for possession of locatable minerals on public land (e.g., National Forests). A properly recorded claim entitles the claimant to reasonable access to the claim and exclusive right to extract and sell valuable minerals from the claim. Unpatented mining claims may be occupied and used solely for mining and related activity.

Unplanned Ignition - The initiation of a wildland fire by lightning, volcanoes, unauthorized and accidental human-caused fires (see wildfire).

Urban ROS Class - A classification of Recreation Opportunity Spectrum system in which the natural setting is dominated by man-made structures and the sights and sounds of man predominate.

Utility Corridor - A tract of land of varying width forming a passageway through which various commodities such as oil, gas, and electricity are transported.

Variety Class - A particular level of diversity of landscape character.

Vegetation Types - A land classification system based upon the concept of distinct plant associations. Vegetation or habitat types (plant associations) have been documented for western forests, and keys to their identification are available.

Vegetative Manipulation - The change of one vegetation type to another. Manipulation can be done by tractor, chemicals, or fire. Usually vegetation manipulation is done to increase forage for livestock and can be a beneficial tool for wildlife.

Vertical Diversity - Diversity in an area that results from the complexity of the above ground structure of the vegetation; the more tiers of vegetation or more diverse the species make-up, or both, the higher the degree of vertical diversity.

Viability - Ability of a population to persist through time.

Visitor Information Services (VIS) - A service provided to the public by the National Forests in which the public is supplied with information regarding opportunities or activities on National Forest lands; usually but not restricted to recreational opportunities.

Visual Management Program - Also referred to as "Landscape Management", "Visual Resource Management", or "Visual Management"; the art and science of planning and administering the use of Forest lands in such ways that visual effects maintain or upgrade man's psychological welfare. The planning and design of visual aspects of multiple-use land management.

Visual Quality Objective VQO - A desired level of excellence based on physical and sociological characteristics of an area. Refers to degree of acceptable alteration of the characteristic landscape. The five levels are Preservation, Retention, Partial Retention, Modification, and Maximum Modification.

Water - Streams, sloughs, estuaries, and canals 120 feet or more in width; and lakes, reservoirs, and ponds more than one acre in area.

Water Rights - A right to the use of water, such as for irrigation, wildlife, etc.

Water Yield - Total net amount of water produced on the Forest including streamflow and groundwater recharge.

Watershed - Entire area that contributes water to a drainage or stream.

Watershed Condition - A measure of the ability of a watershed to provide a sustained and orderly flow of water while maintaining soil productivity.

Wetlands - Areas with shallow standing water or seasonal to year-long saturated soils (includes bogs, marshes, and wet meadows).

Wilderness - The National Wilderness Preservation Act of 1964 defines a wilderness as an area of undeveloped public land designated by Congress that has the following characteristics: (1) Affected primarily by forces of nature, where man is a visitor who does not remain. Wilderness may contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value. (2) Possesses outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation. (3) An area large enough so that continued use will not change its unspoiled natural condition.

Wildland Fire - Any non-structure fire that occurs in the wildland. Wildland Fires are categorized into two distinct types:

- **Wildfire** – Unplanned ignitions and planned ignitions that are declared wildfires. The wildfire term is to be applied to all unplanned ignitions, including events formally termed wildland fire use.
- **Prescribed Fire** – A planned ignition of a fire to meet specific objectives. A written, approved prescribed fire plan just exist, and NEPA requirements (where applicable) must be met prior to ignition.

Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP) - A progressively developed assessment and operational management plan that documents the analysis and describes the appropriate management response for a wildland fire. WFIP has been replaced by WFDSS and supports the Federal Wildland Fire Policy implementation guidance update (2009).

Wildland Fire Situation Analysis (WFSA) - A decision making process that evaluates alternative wildfire suppression strategies against selected environmental, social, political, and economic criteria, and provides a record of those decisions. WFSA has been replaced by WFDSS and supports the Federal Wildland Fire Policy implementation guidance update (2009).

Wildland Fire Use – The application of the appropriate management response to naturally ignited wildland fires to accomplish specific resource management objectives in predefined designated areas outlined in the fire management plans. This term is no longer used in fire management and applicable Land/Resource Management Plans.

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Wild Fire Decision Support System (WFSS) – Is the current analysis system to support agency administrators and fire managers in making improved fire management decisions. It is designed to: 1) support the Federal Wildland Fire Policy implementation guidance update (2009) and 2) replace three current decision analysis processes – the Wildland Fire Situation Analysis, the Wildland Fire Implementation Plan, and the Long-term Implementation Plan.

Wildland Urban Interface (WUI) - The line, area, or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels. Typically these areas are within or adjacent to an at-risk community that is identified in a community wildfire protection plan. However, if a community wildfire protection plan does not exist, the wildland urban interface is defined as:

- The area 0.5 mile from the boundary of an at-risk community; or
- The area within 1.5 miles of the boundary of an at-risk community if:
 - There is a sustained steep slope,
 - There is a nearby road or ridge top that could be incorporated into a fuel break,
 - The area contains an emergency exit route for safe evacuations.

Wildlife Habitat - Sum total of environmental conditions of a specific place occupied by a wildlife species or a population of such species.

Wildlife Structure - A site specific improvement of wildlife or fish habitat, e.g., spring development or dugout to provide water, brush pile for cover, nest-box for birds, or rock and log placement in a stream for fish cover and pool creation.

Wildlife Tree Policy - A policy that encourages the preservation of snags for wildlife use; optimum numbers are 20-30 snags per 10 acres.

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Withdrawal - Withholding an area of Federal land from settlement, sale, location, or entry, under some or all of the general land laws, for the purpose of limiting activities under those laws in order to maintain other public values in the area or reserving the area for a particular public purpose or program.

Woodland Forest - Forested sites in the pinyon sp., Juniperus sp., Cypress arizonica, and evergreen oak series.

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