

## **APPENDIX A ACRONYMS**

### **A**

**ADT** – American Discovery Trail  
**AMD** – Average Maximum Density  
**AMP** – Allotment Management Plan  
**AMR** – Appropriate Management Response  
**AOI** – Annual Operating Instructions  
**AUM** – Animal Unit Month  
**AWRP** – Accelerated Watershed/Vegetation Restoration Plan

### **B**

**BACM** – Best Available Control Measures  
**BE** – Biological Evaluation  
**BLM** – Bureau of Land Management  
**BMPs** – Best Management Practices  
**BTCP** – Boreal Toad Conservation Plan  
**BTRT** – Boreal Toad Recovery Team

### **C**

**CA** – Comprehensive Assessment  
**CAS** – Conservation Agreement and Strategy for Colorado River Cutthroat Trout  
**CDOW** – Colorado Department of Wildlife  
**CDPHE** – Colorado Department of Health and Environment  
**CEQ** – Council on Environmental Quality  
**CEL** – Coal Exploration License  
**CER** – Comprehensive Evaluation Report  
**CFR** – Code of Federal Regulations  
**CMAI** – Culmination Mean Annual Increment  
**CRCT** – Colorado River Cutthroat Trout  
**CSGS** – Colorado State Geologic Survey  
**CSU** – Controlled Surface Use

**CVU** – Common Vegetation Unit

**CWCB** – Colorado Water Conservation Board

**D**

**DBH** – Diameter at Breast Height

**DF** – Douglas-fir

**E**

**EA** – Environmental Assessment

**EIS** – Environmental Impact Statement

**EPA** – Environmental Protection Agency

**F**

**FIA** – Forest Inventory and Analysis

**FMP** – Fire Management Plan

**FMU** – Fire Management Unit

**FPA** – Fire Protection Assessment

**FRRMA** – Fossil Ridge Recreation Management Area

**FS** – Forest Service

**FSH** – Forest Service Handbook

**FSM** – Forest Service Manual

**FSR** – Forest System Road

**FVS** – Forest Vegetation Simulator

**FY** – Fiscal Year

**G**

**GMUG** – Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests

**GPRA** – Government Performance and Results Act of 1993

**GRA** – Grass - Forb cover type

**H**

**HLP** – Healthy Landscape Partnership

**HPP** – Historical Preservation Plan

**HUC** – Hydrologic Unit Code

**I**

**IDT** – Interdisciplinary Team  
**INFRA** – Infrastructure corporate database  
**IPM** – Integrated Pest Management

**J**

**K**

**KGS** – Known Geologic Structures

**L**

**LAU** – Lynx Analysis Unit  
**LCAS** – Canada Lynx Conservation Assessment and Strategy  
**LPP** – Lodgepole Pine cover type  
**LRMP** – Land and Resource Management Plan  
**LTSYC** – Long Term Sustained Yield Capacity

**M**

**MBF** – Thousand Board Feet  
**MCF** – Thousand Cubic Feet  
**MIS** – Management Indicator Species  
**MIST** – Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics  
**MMBF** – Million Board Feet  
**MMCF** – Million Cubic Feet  
**MOU** – Memorandum of Understanding  
**MUSYA** – Multiple Use and Sustained Yield Act

**N**

**NCSS** – National Cooperative Soil Survey  
**NEPA** – National Environmental Policy Act of 1969  
**NFMA** – National Forest Management Act  
**NFS** – National Forest System

**NFSR** – National Forest System Roads  
**NL** –No Lease  
**NRCS** – National Resource Conservation Service  
**NRT** – National Recreation Trail  
**NSO** – No Surface Occupancy  
**NVUM** – National Visitor Use Monitoring

**O**

**OHV** – Off-Highway Vehicle  
**ORV** – Outstandingly Remarkable Value

**P**

**PAOT** – Persons-At-One-Time  
**PIF** – Partners in Flight  
**PILT** – Payment In Lieu of Taxes  
**PJ** – Pinyon-Juniper  
**PL** – Public Law  
**PNC** – Potential Natural Community  
**PNV** – Potential Natural Vegetation  
**PNV** – Present Net Value  
**POL** – Products Other than Logs  
**PPO** – Ponderosa Pine cover type

**Q**

**R**

**R2** – Region 2 of the US Forest Service  
**RCP** – Rangewide Conservation Plan  
**RFD** – Reasonably Foreseeable Development  
**RFMP** – Recreation Facility Master Plan  
**RMA** – Recreation Management Area  
**RNA** – Research Natural Area  
**ROS** – Recreation Opportunity Spectrum

**ROW** – Right-of-Way

**RPA** – Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974

**RUP** – Road Use Permit

## **S**

**SAOT** – Skiers-At-One-Time

**SDF** – Spruce Douglas-fir Fir potential natural vegetation type

**SGO** – Gambel Oak cover type

**SHR** – Shrub cover type

**SIA** – Special Interest Area

**SIP** – Colorado State Implementation Plan

**SIO** – Scenic Integrity Objective

**SMP** – Smoke Management Program

**SMS** – Mountain Mahogany cover type

**SMS** – Scenery Management System

**SOC** – Species of Concern

**SOI** – Species of Interest

**SSA** – Sagebrush cover type

**SSN** – Snowberry cover type

**SUPO** – Surface Use Plan of Operations

## **T**

**TAA** – Aspen cover type

**TBC** – Bristlecone Pine cover type

**TDF** – Douglas-fir cover type

**TEPCS** – Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, Candidate, and Sensitive

**TES** – Threatened, Endangered or Sensitive Species

**TLI** – Limber Pine cover type

**TLP** – Lodgepole Pine cover type

**TMDL** – Total Maximum Daily Load

**TMO** – Travel Management Objective

**TPJ** – Pinyon-Juniper cover type

**TPP** – Ponderosa Pine cover type

**TSF** – Spruce-fir cover type  
**TSI** – Timber Stand Improvement  
**TSPQ** – Timber Sale Program Quantity

**U**

**UPP** – Uncompahgre Plateau Project  
**USC** – United States Code  
**USDA** – United States Department of Agriculture  
**USFS** – United States Forest Service  
**USFWS** – United States Fish and Wildlife Service  
**USGS** – United States Geologic Survey

**V**

**VAM** – Ventilation Air Methane  
**VDDT** – Vegetation Dynamics Development Tool

**W**

**WCP** – Watershed Conservation Practices  
**WFIP** – Wildland Fire Implementation Plan  
**WFU** – Wildland Fire Use  
**WIS** – Wilderness Implementation Schedules  
**WUI** – Wildland-Urban Interface

**X**

**Y**

**Z**

## **GLOSSARY**

### **A**

#### **Access**

The opportunity to approach, enter and make use of public or private lands.

#### **Activity Fuels**

Fuels resulting from, or altered by, forestry practices such as timber harvest or thinning, as opposed to naturally created fuels.

#### **Adaptive Management**

Implementing policy decisions as science-driven management experiments that tests assumptions and predictions in management plans.

#### **Age Class (cohort)**

One of the intervals into which the age range of trees is divided for classification or use. A distinct aggregation of trees originating from a single natural event or regeneration activity, or a grouping of trees, such as a 10-year age class, as used in inventory or management.

#### **Allotment (Range Management)**

A designated area of land available for livestock grazing upon which a specified number and kind of livestock may be grazed under a range allotment management plan. It is the basic land unit used to facilitate management of the range resource on National Forest System lands administered by the Forest Service. Also called *grazing allotment*.

#### **Allotment Management Plan (AMP)**

A document that specifies the actions to be taken on individual allotments to manage and protect the rangeland resources and reach the stated set of objectives. A long-term operation plan that is the implementing document for the decision made through the NEPA process and promotes progress toward desired conditions.

#### **Animal Unit Month (AUM)**

The tenure of 1 animal-unit (considered to be one mature 1,000-pound cow or the equivalent based on the average daily forage consumption of 26 pounds of dry matter per day) for a period of one month (Society of Range Management 1974).

#### **Annual Operating Instructions (AOI)**

The annual letter issued to each livestock permittee describing management, livestock pasture rotations, season of use, utilization and/or residual levels, etc. for that grazing year. These instructions implement project level NEPA decisions (AMP) or in the absence of project NEPA, the Forest plan.

**Appropriate Management Response (AMR)**

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 Fire Management Unit strategies and objectives identified in the Fire Management Plan. See also *Fire Management Objective* and *Fire Management Plan*.

**Aquatic Ecosystem**

The distinctive ecosystem dominated by water, aquatic plants, or aquatic animals. Usually the substrate for plant and microorganism growth is water, not soil in the usual sense. Distinct from the riparian ecosystem, which is a terrestrial ecosystem, and water-dependent but where the substrate is soil. In the aquatic ecosystem, producers include phytoplanktonic algae, and autotrophic consumers include crustaceans, rotifers, and fish. Heterotrophic consumers include benthic insects, mollusks, and crustaceans (Odum 1971:19). See also *Terrestrial Ecosystem* and *Riparian Ecosystem*.

**Arterial Road**

See *Road Functional Classification*.

**Artificial Regeneration**

The renewal of a tree crop by seeding or planting.

**B****Basal Area (Timber Resource)**

The cross-sectional area of a stand of trees measured at breast height. The area is expressed in square feet per acre.

**Best Available Control Measures (BACM)**

A term used to refer to the most effective measures (according to EPA guidance) for controlling small or dispersed particulates and other emissions from sources such as roadway dust, soot and ash from wood-stoves and open burning of brush, timber, grasslands, or trash.

**Best Management Practices (BMPs)**

Land management methods, measures, or practices intended to minimize or reduce water pollution. Usually, BMPs are applied as a system of practices rather than a single practice. BMPs are selected on the basis of site-specific conditions that reflect natural background conditions and political, social, economic and technical feasibility.

**Beta Diversity**

A measure of the variety of organisms in a region. Beta diversity is influenced by the turnover of species among habitats.

## Biological Diversity or Biodiversity

The full variety of life in an area, including the ecosystems, plant and animal communities, species and genes, and the processes through which individual organisms interact with one another and with their environments (Rocky Mountain Regional Guide 1992).

## Botanical Area

“A unit of land that contains plant specimens, plant groups, or plant communities that are significant because of their form, color, occurrence, habitat, location, life history, arrangement, ecology, rarity, or other features” (USDA Forest Service 1990).

## Browse

That part of the current leaf and twig growth of shrubs, woody vines, and trees available for animal consumption (Schwarz et al. 1976).

## Bypass Flow

An administratively required condition of use for a water-related special use authorization where a volume of water decreed to the user is required to remain in the stream, by-passing the point of diversion. It may also apply to reservoir operations where specific releases of water are required to provide downstream flow.

## C

### Candidate Species

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service recently updated the definition of candidate species to -- Species for which the Fish & Wildlife Service has on file sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threat(s) to support issuance of a proposed rule to list but issuance of the proposed rule is precluded.

### Canopy

- ◆ **Canopy:** The cover by vegetation and/or branches. Often, but not always restricted to the tree layer or greater than 6 feet tall.
- ◆ **Canopy Base Height:** The lowest height above the ground at which there is a sufficient amount of canopy fuel to propagate fire vertically into the canopy. Canopy base height is an effective value that incorporates ladder fuels such as shrubs and understory trees (synonym: crown base height).
- ◆ **Canopy Bulk Density:** The mass of available canopy fuel per unit canopy volume. It is a bulk property of a stand, not an individual tree.
- ◆ **Canopy Closure/Cover:** The percentage of ground covered by a vertical projection of the outermost perimeter of the natural spread of foliage of plants. Small openings within the canopy are included. Total canopy cover may exceed 100 percent.
- ◆ **Canopy Layer:** Cover by vegetation and branches in different height intervals. These intervals are often defined in terms of vegetation, such as herbaceous or grass/forbs less than two feet tall, shrubs less than six feet tall, and overstory greater than six feet tall.

**Capability**

The potential of an area of land to produce resources, supply goods and services, allow resource uses under an assumed set of management practices and at a given level of management intensity. Capability depends upon current conditions and site conditions such as climate, slope, landform, soils, and geology, as well as the application of management practices, such as silviculture or protection from fire, insects, and disease.

**Carrying Capacity**

The average number of livestock and/or wildlife that may be sustained on a management unit compatible with management objectives for the unit. In addition to the site characteristics, it is a function of management goals and management intensity.

**Channel (Watershed)**

A passage, either naturally or artificially created, that periodically or continuously contains moving water, or that forms a connecting link between two bodies of water. Stream, river, creek, run, branch and tributary are some of the terms used to describe natural channels. Natural channels may be single or braided. Canal and floodway are some of the terms used to describe artificial channels.

**Climax**

A plant community, “the highest ecological development of a plant community capable of perpetuation under the prevailing climatic and edaphic conditions” (Pritchard and others 1982).

**Clearcut, Clearcutting**

The cutting of essentially all trees in one operation, producing a fully exposed microclimate for the development of a new age class (even-aged stand). Regeneration can be from natural seeding, direct seeding, planted seedlings, or advanced reproduction. Cutting may be done in groups or patches (group or patch clearcutting), or in strips (strip clearcutting).

**Clone**

A group of plants, (for example, quaking aspen) growing in close association, derived by asexual reproduction from a single parent plant.

**Closed Road**

An intermittent service road in Maintenance Level 1 that is closed to all vehicular traffic for more than one year. The closure may be ordered under 36 CFR 261.

**Coal Exploration License**

The U.S. Department of Interior may issue a coal exploration license that grants the right to prospect for coal, although such a license does not grant an exclusive right.

**Commercial Thinning**

See *Thinning*.

**Commercial Timber Sales**

The selling of timber from National Forest System lands for the manufacture of commercial products such as lumber, plywood, etc.

**Community (Biological)**

Any assembly of organisms living together.

**Community (Social)**

The people who reside in one locality and are subject to the same laws, or who have common interests, etc.

**Community Lifestyles**

The ways in which residents conduct their everyday routines and how the "way they live" is associated with the National Forest.

**Condition Class**

Depiction of the degree of departure from historical fire regimes, possibly resulting in alternations of key ecosystem components. These classes categorize and describe vegetation composition and structure conditions that currently exist inside the Fire Regime Groups. Based on the coarse-scale national data, they serve as generalized wildfire rankings. The risk of loss of key ecosystem components from wildfires increases from Condition Class 1 (lowest risk) to Condition Class 3 (highest risk).

**Conifer**

A group of cone-bearing trees, mostly evergreen, such as the pine, spruce and juniper.

**Conservation**

"In the administration of the National Forests the aim is to convey to the greatest possible number the full benefit of all the resources which the Forests contain and at the same time to perpetuate those resources by regulating their use" (Jardine and Anderson 1919). "The protection, improvement, and use of natural resources according to principles that will assure their highest economic or social benefits for man and his environment now and into the future" (Pritchard and others 1982).

**Construction (Roads)**

The displacement of vegetation, soil, and rock, and the installation of human-made structures involved in the process of building a complete, permanent road facility. The activities occur at a location, or corridor, that is not currently occupied by a road.

**Controlled Surface Use (CSU)**

Allowed use and occupancy for oil and gas leasing, unless restricted by another stipulation, with identified resource values requiring special operational constraints that may modify the lease rights. CSU is used as an operating guideline, not as a substitute for no-surface occupancy or a "timing" stipulation.

**Conversion (Vegetation)**

To change the dominant vegetative species or growth form, such as grass/forb, through vegetative management.

**Convey**

To transfer or deliver to another. To pass or transmit the title to property from one to another. To transfer property through the title to property by deed, bill of sale, or instrument under seal.

**Coppice**

An even-aged method of regenerating a stand in which the trees in the previous stand are cut and the majority of regeneration is from sprouts or root suckers.

**Corridor (Utility or Rights-of-Way)**

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

**Cost Effective**

Achieving specified outputs or objectives under given conditions for the least cost.

**Cost Efficient**

A comparative measure of economic efficiency determined by maximizing the present net worth or value of an alternative, subject to meeting the objectives of the alternative.

**Cover**

See *Canopy Cover*.

**Cover Type**

The vegetative species that dominates a site. Cover types are named for one plant species or non-vegetated condition presently (not potentially) dominant, using canopy or foliage cover as the measure of dominance. In several cases, sites with different species dominant have been lumped together into one cover type; co-dominance is not necessarily implied.

**Crown (Vegetation)**

The upper part of a tree or other woody plant carrying the main branch system and foliage, and surmounting at the crown base a more or less clean stem.

**Crown Closure**

See *Canopy Cover*.

**Cultural Properties**

Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, object, artifact, record, or remains related to and located within such properties (36 CFR 800.2 (e)).

**Cultural Resources**

See *Heritage Resources*.

**Cumulative Effects**

Collective results of past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of which agency or person undertakes the actions.

**Cutting Cycle**

The planned, recurring lapse in time between successive cutting in a timber stand.

**D****Decommission (Road)**

Activities that result in the stabilization and restoration of unneeded roads to a more natural state.

**Deferred Maintenance**

Maintenance activities that can be delayed without critical loss of facility serviceability until the work can be economically or efficiently performed.

**Demand Species**

Emphasis species that are hunted or fished including elk, deer, moose, turkey, blue grouse, ruffed grouse, chukar, brown trout, brook trout, etc.

**Denning Habitat**

The environment lynx use when giving birth and rearing kittens until they are mobile. The most common component is large amounts of coarse woody debris to provide escape and thermal cover for kittens. Denning habitat must be within daily travel distance of winter snowshoe hare habitat – the typical maximum daily distance for females is about three to six miles. Denning habitat includes mature and old growth forests with plenty of coarse woody debris. It can also include young regenerating forests with piles of coarse woody debris, or areas where down trees are jack-strawed.

**Designated Route**

A road or trail that has been identified as open for specified travel use.

**Designated Wilderness**

Any area of land designated by Congress as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System that was established in the wilderness Act of 1964 (16 U.S.C. 1131-1136).

**Developed Recreation**

Outdoor recreation requiring significant capital investment in facilities to handle a concentration of visitors on a relatively small area. Examples are ski areas, resorts, and campgrounds.

**Developed Recreation Sites**

Relatively small, distinctly defined area where facilities are provided for concentrated public use (e.g., campgrounds, picnic areas, trail heads, and swimming areas).

**Diameter at Breast Height (DBH)**

The diameter of a standing tree at a point 4 feet, 6 inches from ground level.

**Dispersed Recreation**

Outdoor recreation in which visitors are diffused over relatively large areas. Where facilities or developments are provided, they are more for access and protection of the environment than for the comfort or convenience of the people. Common dispersed recreation activities include hunting, fishing, trail use, and camping.

**Disturbance (ecology)**

Any relatively discrete event in time that disrupts ecosystem, community, or population structure and changes resources, substrate availability, or the physical environment. A force that causes significant change in structure and/or composition through natural events such as fire, flood, wind, or earth quake, mortality caused

**Diversity**

Diversity refers to the distribution and abundance of different plant and animal communities and species within the area covered by a land and resource management plan. This term is derived from the National Forest Management Act (NFMA). This term is not synonymous with "biological diversity."

**E****Easement**

A right held by one person to make use of the land of another for a limited purpose, such as a special-use authorization for a right-of-way that conveys a conditioned interest in National Forest System land, and is compensable according to its terms.

**Ecosystem**

A community of interacting organisms, considered together with the habitats and environments associated with the individuals and species of that community (after definitions of ecosystem and community in Daubenmire 1978).

**Ecosystem Diversity**

The variety and relative extent of ecosystem types including their composition, structure, and processes.

**Ecosystem Management**

A concept of natural resources management where National Forest activities are considered within the context of economic, ecological, and social interactions within a defined area or region over both short- and long-term.

**Edge**

The place where plant communities meet or where successional stages or vegetative conditions within plant communities come together (Thomas 1979).

**Edge Habitats**

The boundary between two or more elements of the environment, such as a field and woodland.

**Elk Security Areas**

Elk security is defined by Lyon and Christensen (1992) as habitat that “allows elk to remain in a defined area despite an increase in stress or disturbance associated with the hunting season or other human activities.” Security area is any area that will hold elk during periods of stress.

On the GMUG, Elk security areas are defined as areas greater than 250 acres, greater than ½ mile from an open road or motorized trail, with a diversity of habitat structural stages, distributed through different elevations and cover types. Presence of these areas encourage big game populations to remain on NFS lands through the majority of the summer and fall.

**Encroachments**

Improvements occupied or used on National Forest System lands without authorization.

**Endangered Species**

Any species of animal or plant in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range and so designated by the Secretary of Interior in accordance with the 1973 Endangered Species Act.

**Endangered Species Act**

Sets a policy for conserving species (and their critical habitat) of fish, wildlife, and plants that are in danger of, or threatened with extinction. The act also sets forward procedures for implementation.

**Erosion**

The wearing away of the land surface by running water, wind, ice, gravity or other geological activities.

**Even-aged (Vegetation)**

A forest stand composed of trees having no or relatively minor differences in age.

**Even-aged Management**

The application of a combination of actions resulting in the creation of stands in which trees of essentially the same age grows 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 after the time a stand has reached the desired age or size for regeneration and has been harvested. Clearcut, shelterwood, or seed tree cutting methods produce even-aged stands.

## **F**

### **Facility**

Structures needed to support the management, protection, and utilization of the National Forests, including buildings, utility systems, dams and other construction features. There are three categories of facilities -- recreation, administrative, and permitted.

### **Federally Listed Species**

Species that are listed by the Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as threatened or endangered.

### **Fen**

A kind of wetland characterized by accumulation of peat, “a peatland that is fed by groundwater” (Brinson 1993). “Fens are wetlands distinguished by their strong connection to ground water, wetlands whose vegetation, water chemistry, and soil development are determined, in large part, by the flows of ground water to [them]” (Bedford and Godwin 2003).

### **Final Regeneration Harvest**

Timber harvest designed to regenerate a timber stand or release a regenerated stand. This includes clearcut, removal cut of a shelterwood or seed tree system, and selection cut.

### **Fire Hazard**

A fuel complex, defined by volume, type condition, arrangement, and location, that determines the degree of ease of ignition and of resistance to control.

### **Fire Management**

Activities required for the protection of burnable wildland values from fire and the use of prescribed fire to meet land management objectives.

### **Fire Management Objective**

Planned, measurable result desired from fire protection and use based on land management goals and objectives.

### **Fire Management Plan (FMP)**

A plan which identifies and integrates all wildland fire management and related activities within the context of approved land/resource management plans. It defines a program to manage wildland fires (wildfire, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use). The plan is supplemented by operational plans, including but limited to preparedness plans,

preplanned dispatch plans, and prevention plans. Fire Management Plan's assure that wildland fire management goals and components are coordinated.

### **Fire Management Unit (FMU)**

A land management area definable by objectives, management constraints, topographic features, access, values to be protected, political boundaries, fuel types, major fire regime groups, etc. that set it apart from the characteristics of an adjacent FMU. The FMU may have dominant management objectives and pre-selected strategies assigned to accomplish these objectives.

### **Fire Regime**

Description of the patterns of fire occurrences, frequency, size, severity, and sometimes vegetation and fire effects as well, in a given area or ecosystem. A fire regime is a generalization based on fire histories at individual sites. Fire regimes can often be described as cycles because some parts of the histories usually get repeated, and the repetitions can be counted and measured, such as fire return interval

### **Fire Regime Groups**

A classification of fire regimes into a discrete number of categories based on frequency and severity. The national, coarse-scale classification of fire regime groups commonly used includes five groups:

<b>Fire Regime</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Severity</b>
I	- frequent (0-35 years)	low severity;
II	- frequent (0-35 years)	stand replacement severity;
III	- 35-100+ years	mixed severity;
IV	- 35-100+ years	stand replacement severity
V	- 200+ years	stand replacement severity.

### **Fire Regime Current Condition Class**

A qualitative measure classified into three classes describing the relative degree of departure from historical fire regimes, possibly resulting in alterations of key ecosystem components such as species composition, structural stage, stand age, canopy closure, and fuel loadings

### **Fire Risk**

1. The chance of fire starting, as determined by the presence and activity of causative agents.
2. A causative agent.
3. A number related to the potential number of firebrands to which a given area will be exposed during the rating day (National Fire Danger Rating System).

### **Fire Suppression**

All work and activities connected with control and fire-extinguishing operations, beginning with discovery and continuing until the fire is completely extinguished.

**Fire Use**

See *Use of Wildland Fire and Wildland Fire Use*.

**Firewood**

See *Fuelwood*.

**Fiscal Year (FY)**

Within the Forest Service, the fiscal year includes October 1 to September 30. The Fiscal Year is referred to by the calendar year beginning January 1. For example, October 1, 2001, to September 30, 2005, is referred to as Fiscal Year 2005.

**Floodplain**

That portion of a river valley, adjacent to the channel, which is built of sediments deposited during the present regimen of the stream and covered with water when the river overflows its banks at flood stages.

**Forage**

Vegetation used for food by wildlife, particularly ungulate wildlife and domestic livestock (Thomas et al. 1979).

**Forb**

Any herbaceous plant other than those in the grass (Poaceae), sedge (Cyperaceae) and rush (Juncaceae) families.

**Forest Road**

As defined in Title 23, Section 101 of the United States Code (23 U.S.C. 101), any road wholly or partly within, or adjacent to, and serving the National Forest System and which is necessary for the protection, administration, and utilization of the National Forest System and the use and development of its resources. (FSM 7705)

**Forest Service Handbook (FSH)**

One of the publications in the Forest Service's Directives System, generally containing the "specialized guidance and instruction for carrying out the direction issued in the Forest Service Manual." See also [www.fs.fed.us/im/directives/](http://www.fs.fed.us/im/directives/).

**Forest Service Manual (FSM)**

One of the publications in the Forest Service's Directives System, generally containing the "legal authorities, objectives, policies, responsibilities, instructions, and guidance" needed for management of units of the National Forest System. See also [www.fs.fed.us/im/directives/](http://www.fs.fed.us/im/directives/).

**Forest Supervisor**

Official responsible for administering the Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre and Gunnison National Forests. The Forest Supervisor reports to the Regional Forester.

**Forest System Road**

A road under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service (PL 95-599, Section 106) which has been inventoried, mapped, and assigned an inventory number.

**Forested Area**

Land at least 10 percent of which is occupied by trees of any size or formerly having had such tree cover and not currently developed for non-forest use. Lands developed for non-forest use include areas for crops, improved pastures, residential or administrative areas, improved roads of any width, and adjoining road clearing and powerline clearing of any width.

**Fragmentation (Wildlife)**

A process that occurs wherever a large, contiguous habitat is transformed into smaller patches isolated from each other by a landscape matrix unlike the original. This matrix can differ from the original habitat in either composition or structure. The crucial point is that fragmentation functions as either a partial or total barrier to dispersal for species associated with the original habitat (Thomas et al. 1990).

**Fuel Breaks**

Generally, wide strips of land 60 to 1,000 feet in width on which native vegetation have been modified so fires burning into them can be more readily controlled. Some fuel breaks contain fire lines, such as roads or handlines, which can be widened.

**Fuel Loading**

The volume of the available or burnable fuels in a specified area, usually expressed in tons per acre.

**Fuel Management**

Act or practice of controlling flammability and reducing resistance to control of wildland fuels through mechanical, chemical, biological, or manual means, or by fire, in support of land management objectives.

**Fuels**

The organic materials that will support the start and spread of a fire such as duff, litter, grass, weeds, forbs, brush, trees, and dead woody materials.

**Fuel Treatment**

Manipulation or removal of fuels to reduce the likelihood of ignition and/or to lessen potential damage and resistance to control (e.g., lopping, chipping, crushing, piling and burning).

**Fuelwood**

Round, split, or sawed wood cut into short lengths for burning as fuel.

## **G**

### **General Mining Law**

See *Mining Law of 1872*.

### **Genetic Diversity**

The genetic variation present in individuals, populations or species.

### **Grass/Forb, Grass/Forb Stage (Habitat Structural Stage 1)**

See *Structural Stages - Structural Stage 1*.

### **Grassland**

Land on which the dominant vegetation is comprised of grasses or grasslike plants (after Penfound 1967).

### **Grazing Allotment**

See *Allotment*.

### **Groundwater**

Water within the earth that supplies wells and springs. Specifically, water in the zone of saturation where all openings in soils and rocks are filled; the upper surface level forms the water table.

### **Group Selection**

A method of regenerating uneven-aged stands in which trees are cut, in small groups, and new age classes are established. The width of groups is commonly approximately twice the height of the mature trees, with small openings providing microenvironments suitable for tolerant regeneration, and the larger openings providing conditions suitable for more intolerant regeneration.

## **H**

### **Habitat**

The place where a plant or animal (individual, population, or species) lives. The biotic or abiotic environment of a plant, animal, or community.

### **Habitat Connectivity**

An adequate amount of vegetative cover arranged in a way that allows animals to move around. Narrow forested mountain ridges or shrub-steppe plateaus may serve as a link between more extensive areas of habitat; wooded riparian areas may provide travel cover across open valley floors.

### **Habitat Structural Stages (Vegetation)**

Any of several developmental stages of tree stands described in terms of tree size and the extent of canopy closure they create (Hoover and Wills 1987).

- ♦ **Structural Stage 1 (Grass/Forb):** An early forest successional stage during which grasses and forbs are the dominant vegetation. At the RIS site level, Structural Stage I is defined as non-stocked, with an AMD less than 10 percent. Small-scale Structural Stage 1 within RIS sites are at least one acre in size, do not meet the seedling stocking criteria (SG2416) and contain no saplings, poles or mature trees.
- ♦ **Structural Stage 2 (Shrubs/Seedlings):** Developmental stage dominated by tree seedlings (less than one inch DBH) and shrub species.
- ♦ **Structural Stage 3 (Sapling/Pole):** Developmental stage dominated by young trees 1 to 7 inches DBH, 10 to 50 feet tall and usually less than 50 years old. This stage is subdivided into three canopy closure classes -- A (less than 40 percent), B (40 to 70 percent) and C (greater than 70 percent).
- ♦ **Structural Stage 4 (Mature):** Consists of trees larger and older than Structural Stage 3. Also classified by the same canopy closure categories as Structural Stage 3.
- ♦ **Structural Stage 5 (Old Growth):** This structural stage is characterized by trees 160 years of age and older.

### **Habitat Type (Ecology)**

A land or aquatic unit consisting of an aggregation of habitats having equivalent structure, function, and responses to disturbance.

### **Hardened Sites (Recreation)**

Developed recreation sites where techniques have been used to protect natural resources (soil, water, vegetation, etc.) from overuse.

### **Hazard (Fire Management)**

Any real or potential condition that can cause injury, illness or death of personnel, or damage to, or loss of equipment or property.

### **Hazard Reduction**

Any treatment of living and dead fuels that reduces the potential spread or consequences of fire.

### **Heritage Resources**

The physical remains (including but not limited to artifacts, structures, landscape modifications, rock art, trails, or roads) and conceptual content or context (as a setting for legendary, historic or prehistoric events, such as a sacred area for native peoples) of an area.

### **Hiding Cover (Wildlife)**

Vegetation capable of hiding 90 percent of a standing adult deer or elk from the view of a human at a distance equal to or less than 200 feet.

### **Historic Range of Variability (HRV)**

See *Range of Variability*.

**Horizontal Diversity (Vegetation)**

The diversity in an area resulting from the number and arrangement of plant communities or successional stages or both; the greater their number, the greater the horizontal diversity. Also, the greater the amount of edge, the higher the degree of horizontal diversity (Thomas et al. 1979).

**Hydrologic Flow Regimes**

The cumulative effect of a stream's hydrograph where there is variation in flow volumes, typically related to specific seasons of each year.

**Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC)**

A classification system where river basins are delineated based on their composite of smaller watersheds forming the larger basin. The ordering or sequence of numbering, based on this US Geological Survey-derived system; the smaller the HUC number, the larger the watershed basin. The 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> level HUCs were used primarily in this planning effort and 7<sup>th</sup> level is the smallest watershed area evaluated.

/

**Implementation**

Those activities necessary to initiate the actions in the approved land and resource management plan.

**Indicator Species**

Any plant (species) that, by its presence, frequency, or vigor, indicates any particular property of the site, particularly of the soil or aquatic areas.

**Indirect Effects**

Results of an action occurring at a location other than where the action takes place and/or later in time, but in the reasonably foreseeable future.

**Infrastructure**

The facilities, utilities, and transportation systems needed to meet public and administrative needs.

**Inholdings**

Lands within the proclaimed boundaries of a National Forest that are owned by some other agency, organization, or individual.

**Insect and Disease Suppression**

Management practices applied to reduce insect and disease pest populations or damage. Insect and disease suppression includes actions taken to limit the spread of pests or to reduce susceptibility of hosts in imminent danger of being attacked.

**Instream Flow**

The quantity and timing of flows to sustain one or more in-channel uses such as fish and wildlife, and for consideration of water quality, channel maintenance, recreation and aesthetic requirements. As a beneficial use, instream water is a demand that must compete with other uses, such as irrigation, mining, municipal water supply (Bovee 1975).

**Integrated Pest Management (IPM)**

A process for evaluating and selecting a program from available techniques to reduce pest populations in an ecologically, economically, and socially acceptable manner. Programs may include one or a combination of available techniques, which may include the use of pesticides, cultural or silvicultural treatments, biological control agents, host resistance, genetic control, mechanical destruction or trapping, and behavioral chemicals including attractants and repellants.

**Intensity (Fire Management)**

How hot a fire is. Specifically, a measure (in BTUs per foot per second) of the energy released per unit of time in an area of actively burning fire. The amount of heat released per foot of fire front per second.

**Intermediate Harvest**

A collective term for any treatment or tending designed to enhance growth, quality, vigor, and composition of the stand after establishment or regeneration and prior to final harvest.

**Invasive Species**

Any non-native species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health (Executive Order 13112, 1999).

**Ips (Pine Engraver Beetle)**

A genus of bark beetle that feeds beneath the bark of pines, typically killing branches, tops or entire trees. These beetles often breed in logging slash or attack stressed and injured pines.

**Irregular Shelterwood (Timber Management)**

A silvicultural method characterized by a relatively long regeneration period during which some of the trees of the overwood are retained to complete growth to optimum size and quality. The trees reserved may be the best and most vigorous of the dominants, as in typical shelterwood cuttings. They may also be trees of the lower crown classes that have grown slowly in the past, but are capable of rapid growth if released. In either case, the reserved trees tend to hamper the development of regeneration beneath them so that the new stand will have a distribution of ages broader than that of truly even-aged stands.

**J**

## **K**

### **Key Heritage Asset**

Eligible sites in good to excellent physical condition or that have a need for protection or preservation of significant cultural values. These sites are the Forest's highest priority of heritage resources for active management and maintenance.

## **L**

### **Land Exchange**

The conveyance of non-federal land or interests to the United States in exchange for National Forest System land or interests in land.

### **Landscape Character**

Particular attributes, qualities, and traits of a landscape that give it an image and make it identifiable or unique. Valued landscape character creates a "sense of place" and describes the image of an area. The landscape character provides a reference for defining the inherent scenic attractiveness classes.

### **Landscape Scale**

A heterogenous land area composed of a cluster of interacting ecosystems that are repeated in similar form throughout. Landscapes vary in size from many thousands of acres to only a few acres (Forman and Godron 1986).

### **Late-Seral**

See *Seral Stage*.

### **Late Succession**

Ecosystems distinguished by old trees and related structural features. This term encompasses the later stages of stand development that typically differ from earlier stages in structure, composition, function and other attributes (Kaufmann et al. 1992). The term is also associated with "old growth." The composition of late successional stands on the GMUG were described by Mehl (1992), and vary according to cover type. They usually involve older, large diameter trees. See *Appendix G*.

### **Linkage Area**

An area that provides connectivity between blocks of lynx habitat. Linkage areas occur both within and between geographic areas, where basins, valleys or agricultural lands separate blocks of lynx habitat, or where lynx habitat naturally narrows between blocks. (LCAS updated definition approved by the Steering Committee 10/23/01)

### **Litter**

A surface layer of loose organic debris consisting of freshly fallen or slightly decomposed organic materials.

**Locatable Minerals**

Minerals or mineral materials subject to claim and development under the Mining Law of 1872, as amended. Generally includes metallic minerals, such as gold and silver, and other materials not subject to lease or sale, like some bentonites, limestone, talc, zeolites, etc.

**Long-Term Sustained-Yield Timber Capacity**

The highest uniform wood yield that may be sustained under specified management intensities consistent with multiple-use objectives after stands have reached desired conditions.

**Lynx Analysis Units**

An area of at least the size used by an individual lynx, from about 25 to 50 mi<sup>2</sup> (LCAS). An LAU is a unit for which the effects of a project would be analyzed; its boundaries should remain constant.

**Lynx Habitat**

Occurs in mesic coniferous forest that experience cold, snowy winters and provide a prey base of snowshoe hare. Lynx habitat primarily consists of lodgepole pine, subalpine fir and Engelmann spruce. It may also consist of cool, moist Douglas fir, and aspen when interspersed in subalpine forests. Dry forests do not provide lynx habitat. (LCAS)

**Lynx Habitat, Unsuitable Condition**

Habitat in the stand initiation structural stage where the trees are generally less than ten to 30 years old and have not grown tall enough to protrude above the snow during winter. Stand replacing fires or certain vegetation management projects can result in unsuitable conditions. Vegetation management projects that can result in unsuitable habitat include clearcuts and seed tree harvest, and sometimes shelterwood cuts and commercial thinning depending on the resulting stand composition and structure. (LCAS)

**M****Maintenance Levels**

See *Road Maintenance Level*.

**Management Objectives**

Clearly stated objectives describing the intended post-management status of an area. Typically, objectives are disclosed in the NEPA documentation.

**Mass Movement**

Down-slope movement of a portion of the land's surface, such as a single landslide or the gradual, simultaneous downhill movement of the whole mass of loose earthen material on a slope face.

**Meadow**

An area of perennial, herbaceous vegetation, usually grass or grass-like. A natural opening in a forest, generally at higher elevations, that produces exceptional levels of herbaceous plants, which is usually a consequence of high soil/water content, or a perched water table. Generally, a prairie grassland will occupy a convex surface, while a meadow will occupy a concave surface.

**Mechanized**

Any non-motorized device with (gear supported) wheels, tracks, skids, or flotation, used for personal or materials transport. Examples include but are not limited to a bicycle, game cart, and wheelbarrow.

**Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**

A legal agreement between the Forest Service, other agencies, private parties, or individuals resulting from consultation between agencies that states specific measures the agencies will follow to accomplish a project. A memorandum of understanding is not a fund-obligating document.

**Mid-seral**

The successional stage in a plant community that's the midpoint as it moves from bare ground to climax. For riparian areas, it means willows or other shrubs have become established. For shrub-steppe areas, it means shrubs associated with climax are present and increasing in density.

**Mineral Development**

The activities and facilities associated with extracting mineral deposits.

**Mining Law of 1872**

Provides for claiming and gaining title to locatable minerals on public lands. Also referred to as the "General Mining Law" or "Mining Law."

**Mitigate/Mitigation**

Actions taken to reduce or eliminate effects from management actions. Includes (a) avoiding the impact altogether by not taking certain action or parts of an action, (b) minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation, (c) rectifying the impacts by repairing, rehabilitating or restoring the affected environment, (d) reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action, (e) compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments (40 CFR 1508.20).

**Monitoring**

The sample collection and analysis of information regarding forest plan management practices to determine how well objectives have been met, as well as the effects of those management practices on the land and environment.

**Motorized Recreation**

A recreational opportunity provided through the use of a motorized vehicle. This includes travel on and off highways, Forest roads, and four-wheel-drive primitive roads and trails.

**Multi-storied Stands (Vegetation)**

Plant communities having two or more recognizable canopy layers or height levels.

**Multiple Use**

According to the Multiple-use Sustained-yield Act of 1960, multiple use is the management of all the various renewable surface resources of the National Forest System so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the needs of the American people; such management makes 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. Some lands will be used for less than all of the resources. Harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources is employed, each with the other, without impairment of the productivity of the land. Consideration being given to the 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.

**N****National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)**

An act declaring a national policy to encourage productive harmony between people and their environment, to promote efforts that will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and the biosphere and simulate the health and welfare of people, to enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the nation and to establish a Council on Environmental Quality.

**National Forest Management Act (NFMA)**

A law passed in 1976 amending the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act that requires the preparation of Regional and Forest Plans and the preparation of regulations to guide that development.

**National Forest System Land (NFS)**

Federal lands designated by Executive Order or statute as National Forests, National Grasslands or Purchase Units, or other lands under the administration of the Forest Service.

**Natural Landscape Character**

Landscape character that originated from natural disturbances, such as wildfires, glaciation, succession of plants from pioneer to climax species or indirect activities of humans, such as inadvertent plant succession through fire prevention

## Natural Regeneration

The renewal of a tree crop by natural means without seeding or planting done by people. The new crop is grown from self-sown seed or by vegetative means, such as root suckers.

## NatureServe Conservation Status Ranks

Listed below are definitions for interpreting NatureServe conservation status ranks. Global ranks (G-ranks) reflect an assessment of the condition of the species or ecological community across its entire range. Where indicated, definitions differ for species and ecological communities.

Global Rank	Definition
<b>GX</b>	<b>Presumed Extinct</b> (species) – Not located despite intensive searches and virtually no likelihood of rediscovery. <b>Eliminated</b> (ecological communities) – Eliminated throughout its range, with no restoration potential due to extinction of dominant or characteristic species.
<b>GH</b>	<b>Possibly Extinct</b> (species) – Missing; known from only historical occurrences but still some hope of rediscovery. <b>Presumed Eliminated</b> – (Historic, ecological communities)-Presumed eliminated throughout its range, with no or virtually no likelihood that it will be rediscovered, but with the potential for restoration, for example, American Chestnut Forest.
<b>G1</b>	<b>Critically Imperiled</b> – At very high risk of extinction due to extreme rarity (often 5 or fewer populations), very steep declines, or other factors.
<b>G2</b>	<b>Imperiled</b> – At high risk of extinction due to very restricted range, very few populations (often 20 or fewer), steep declines, or other factors.
<b>G3</b>	<b>Vulnerable</b> – At moderate risk of extinction due to a restricted range, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors.
<b>G4</b>	<b>Apparently Secure</b> – Uncommon but not rare; some cause for long-term concern due to declines or other factors.
<b>G5</b>	<b>Secure</b> – Common; widespread and abundant.

## Variant Ranks

Rank	Definition
<b>G#G#</b>	<b>Range Rank</b> – A numeric range rank (e.g., G2G3) is used to indicate the range of uncertainty in the status of a species or community. Ranges cannot skip more than one rank (e.g., GU should be used rather than G1G4).
<b>GU</b>	<b>Unrankable</b> – Currently unrankable due to lack of information or due to substantially conflicting information about status or trends. Whenever possible, the most likely rank is assigned and the question mark qualifier is added (e.g., G2?) to express uncertainty, or a range rank (e.g., G2G3) is used to delineate the limits (range) of uncertainty.
<b>GNR</b>	<b>Unranked</b> – Global rank not yet assessed.
<b>GNA</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b> – A conservation status rank is not applicable because the species is not a suitable target for conservation activities.

## Rank Qualifiers

Rank	Definition
<b>?</b>	<b>Inexact Numeric Rank</b> – Denotes inexact numeric rank (e.g., G2?)
<b>Q</b>	<b>Questionable taxonomy</b> – Taxonomic distinctiveness of this entity at the current level is questionable; resolution of this uncertainty may result in change from a species to a subspecies or hybrid, or the inclusion of this taxon in another taxon, with the resulting taxon having a lower-priority conservation priority.

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>C</b>	<b>Captive or Cultivated Only</b> – At present extant only in captivity or cultivation, or as a reintroduced population not yet established.

### **Intraspecific Taxon Conservation Status Ranks**

Intraspecific taxa refer to subspecies, varieties and other designations below the level of the species. Intraspecific taxon status ranks (T-ranks) apply to plants and animal species only; these T-ranks do not apply to ecological communities.

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>T#</b>	<b>Intraspecific Taxon</b> (trinomial) – The status of intraspecific taxa (subspecies or varieties) are indicated by a "T-rank" following the species' global rank. Rules for assigning T-ranks follow the same principles outlined above for global conservation status ranks. For example, the global rank of a critically imperiled subspecies of an otherwise widespread and common species would be G5T1. A T-rank cannot imply the subspecies or variety is more abundant than the species as a whole—for example, a G1T2 cannot occur. A vertebrate animal population, such as those listed as distinct population segments under the U.S. Endangered Species Act, may be considered an intraspecific taxon and assigned a T-rank; in such cases a Q is used after the T-rank to denote the taxon's informal taxonomic status. At this time, the T rank is not used for ecological communities.

### **National and Subnational Conservation Status Ranks**

Listed below are definitions for interpreting NatureServe conservation status ranks at the national (N-rank) and subnational (S-rank) levels. The term "subnational" refers to state or province-level jurisdictions (e.g., California, Ontario).

Assigning national and subnational conservation status ranks for species and ecological communities follows the same general principles as used in assigning global status ranks. A subnational rank, however, cannot imply that the species or community is more secure at the state/province level than it is nationally or globally (i.e., a rank of G1S3 cannot occur), and similarly, a national rank cannot exceed the global rank. Subnational ranks are assigned and maintained by state or provincial natural heritage programs and conservation data centers.

<b>Status</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>NX</b> <b>SX</b>	<b>Presumed Extirpated</b> – Species or community is believed to be extirpated from the nation or state/province. Not located despite intensive searches of historical sites and other appropriate habitat, and virtually no likelihood that it will be rediscovered.
<b>NH</b> <b>SH</b>	<b>Possibly Extirpated</b> (Historical) – Species or community occurred historically in the nation or state/province, and there is some possibility that it may be rediscovered. Its presence may not have been verified in the past 20-40 years. A species or community could become NH or SH without such a 20-40 year delay if the only known occurrences in a nation or state/province were destroyed or if it had been extensively and unsuccessfully looked for. The NH or SH rank is reserved for species or communities for which some effort has been made to relocate occurrences, rather than simply using this status for all elements not known from verified extant occurrences.
<b>N1</b> <b>S1</b>	<b>Critically Imperiled</b> – Critically imperiled in the nation or state/province because of extreme rarity (often 5 or fewer occurrences) or because of some factor(s) such as very steep declines making it especially vulnerable to extirpation from the state/province.
<b>N2</b> <b>S2</b>	<b>Imperiled</b> – Imperiled in the nation or state/province because of rarity due to very restricted range, very few populations (often 20 or fewer), steep declines, or other factors making it very vulnerable to extirpation from the nation or state/province.

<b>Status</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>N3</b> <b>S3</b>	<b>Vulnerable</b> – Vulnerable in the nation or state/province due to a restricted range, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors making it vulnerable to extirpation.
<b>N4</b> <b>S4</b>	<b>Apparently Secure</b> – Uncommon but not rare; some cause for long-term concern due to declines or other factors.
<b>N5</b> <b>S5</b>	<b>Secure</b> – Common, widespread, and abundant in the nation or state/province.
<b>NNR</b> <b>SNR</b>	<b>Unranked</b> – Nation or state/province conservation status not yet assessed.
<b>NU</b> <b>SU</b>	<b>Unrankable</b> – Currently unrankable due to lack of information or due to substantially conflicting information about status or trends.
<b>NNA</b> <b>SNA</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b> – A conservation status rank is not applicable because the species is not a suitable target for conservation activities.
<b>N#N#</b> <b>S#S#</b>	<b>Range Rank</b> – A numeric range rank (e.g., S2S3) is used to indicate any range of uncertainty about the status of the species or community. Ranges cannot skip more than one rank (e.g., SU is used rather than S1S4).
<b>Not Provided</b>	Species is known to occur in this nation or state/province. Contact the relevant natural heritage program for assigned conservation status.

### Breeding Status Qualifiers

<b>Qualifier</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>B</b>	<b>Breeding</b> – Conservation status refers to the breeding population of the species in the nation or state/province.
<b>N</b>	<b>Nonbreeding</b> – Conservation status refers to the non-breeding population of the species in the nation or state/province.
<b>M</b>	<b>Migrant</b> – Migrant species occurring regularly on migration at particular staging areas or concentration spots where the species might warrant conservation attention. Conservation status refers to the aggregating transient population of the species in the nation or state/province.

**Note:** A breeding status is only used for species that have distinct breeding and/or non-breeding populations in the nation or state/province. A breeding-status S-rank can be coupled with its complementary non-breeding-status S-rank if the species also winters in the nation or state/province, and/or a migrant-status S-rank if the species occurs regularly on migration at particular staging areas or concentration spots where the species might warrant conservation attention. The two (or rarely, three) status ranks are separated by a comma (e.g., "S2B,S3N" or "SHN,S4B,S1M").

### Non-Compatible

Land uses or activities that are inconsistent with maintaining or achieving desired conditions.

### Non-Motorized Activities

Activities that do not incorporate the use of a motor, engine or other non-living power source. Non-motorized activities exclude such machines as aircraft, hovercraft, motorboats, automobiles, motor bikes, snowmobiles, bulldozers, chainsaws, rock drills, and generators.

**Non-Native Species**

Animals or plants not endemic to the GMUG that were introduced following frontier settlement. Non-native species are also called "exotic species."

**Noxious Weeds**

Those plant species designated as weeds by federal or state laws. Noxious weeds generally possess one or more of the following characteristics -- aggressive and difficult to manage, poisonous, toxic, parasitic, a carrier or host for serious insects or diseases, and generally non-native (FSM 2080).

**O****Off-Highway Vehicle / Off-Road Vehicle (OHV/ORV)**

Any motorized vehicle designed for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, ice, marshy, swampland, or other natural terrain.

**Oil and Gas Lease**

An oil and gas lease grants the right to explore, develop, extract, and dispose of a specific mineral or minerals in lands covered by the lease, subject to various terms and conditions. Oil and gas leases are issued by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Department of Interior. On National Forest System lands, leases are issued with Forest Service direction and concurrence.

**Old-Growth**

See *Late Succession*.

**Openings (Tree Canopy)**

The hole created by removing the majority of the tree canopy. This includes the harvesting of the majority of trees in a given area.

**Outstandingly Remarkable Values**

A term from the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act; to qualify as outstandingly remarkable, a resource value must be a unique, rare, or exemplary feature that is significant at a regional or national level.

**Outputs**

The goods, end products, or services purchased, consumed or utilized directly by people. Outputs are goods, services, and products produced by activities that are measurable and capable of being used to determine the effectiveness of programs and activities in meeting objectives. A broad term used to describe any result, product or service that a process or activity actually produces.

**Over-Snow Vehicle (snowmobile)**

A motor vehicle that is designed for use over snow and that runs on a track or tracks and/or a ski or skis while in use over snow.

**Overstory (Biological Diversity)**

The portion of vegetation in a forest forming the uppermost foliage layer.

**P****Paleontological Resources**

The remains or traces of an organism or assemblage of organisms that have been preserved by natural processes in the earth's crust. Minerals, such as oil and gas, coal, oil shale, bitumen, lignite, asphaltum and tar sands, phosphate, limestone, diatomaceous earth, uranium and vanadium, while they may be of biologic origin, are not here considered fossils. Fossils of scientific value may occur within or in association with such materials.

**Passport in Time**

A nationwide Forest Service program that provides opportunities for "hands-on" public involvement in heritage resources management, such as archeological excavations, historical research and oral history collection.

**Permanent Development**

Any development that results in a loss of lynx habitat for at least 15 years. Ski trails, parking lots, new permanent roads, structures, campgrounds and many special use developments would be considered permanent developments.

**Persons-At-One-Time (PAOT)**

A measurement of recreational capacity which indicates the number of people who can use a facility or area at one time.

**Pesticide**

A chemical agent formulated to kill or suppress insects, plants, or animals.

**Plant Associations**

A kind of climax "plant community represented by stands occurring in places where environments are so closely similar that there is a high degree of floristic uniformity in all layers" (Daubenmire 1978). "A kind of climax plant community consisting of stands with essentially the same dominant species in corresponding layers" (Task Group on Unity in Concepts and Terminology 1995). The most significant climax plant community, analogous to the species level in species taxonomy.

**Plant Communities**

Assemblage of plant species living in an area. It is an organized unit to the extent that it has characteristics in addition to the individuals and populations, and functions as a unit (Odum 1971).

**Pollution**

The presence of matter or energy whose nature, location, or quantity produces undesired environmental effects.

**Potential Natural Vegetation (PNV)**

The stable vegetation community which could occupy a site under current climatic conditions without further influence by humans. Often used interchangeably with "Potential Natural Community" (Rangeland Analysis and Management Work Group 1994).

**Prescribed Burning**

Application of prescribed fire.

**Prescribed Fire**

Any fire ignited by management actions to meet specific objectives. A written, approved prescribed fire plan must exist, and NEPA requirements (where applicable) must be met, prior to ignition. See also *Wildland Fire*.

**Prescribed Fire Burn Plan**

A plan required for each fire application ignited by management. Plans are documents prepared by qualified personnel, approved by the agency administrator, and include criteria for the conditions under which the fire will be conducted (a prescription). Plan content varies among the agencies.

**Prescription**

Measurable criteria that define conditions under which a prescribed fire may be ignited, guide selection of appropriate management responses, and indicate other required actions.

**Primitive Road**

Generally road objective maintenance level 2 (FSH 7709.58). Provides an opportunity for challenge, risk, and self-reliance. Usually native surfaced.

**Products Other than Logs (POL)**

Products such as posts, poles, and fiber from trees or parts of trees less than sawlog size. POL usually include trees greater than 5 inches diameter breast height (4.5 feet from ground level) and less than 7.9 inches diameter breast height, with tops of trees greater than 4 inches to less than 6 inches in diameter.

**Project**

One or more site-specific activities designed to accomplish a specific on-the-ground purpose or result. Projects are tiered to the Forest Plan and will have further site-specific analysis.

**Project Analysis Area**

The area surrounding a proposed project activity to be evaluated for potential and cumulative effects to forest resources from the proposed project. This area should generally coincide with a lynx analysis unit (LAU) in forested cover types that provide lynx habitat, or a 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> HUC watershed, whichever is more appropriate to the project, location, and species potentially affected.

**Public Access**

Usually refers to a road or trail route over which a public agency has secured a right-of-way for public use.

**Public Water Supplies**

A surface or groundwater system providing community or non-community drinking water.

**Q****R****Range Analysis**

Systematic acquisition and evaluation of rangeland resource data needed for allotment management planning and overall land management (Rangeland Analysis and Management Work Group 1994).

**Range of Variability**

Spatial and temporal variation in ecosystem characteristics during a period of time when the influences of European-American settlement were minimal. Also referred to as Historic Range of Variability.

**Rangeland**

All land producing, or capable of producing, native forage for grazing and browsing animals, and lands that have been revegetated naturally or artificially to provide a forage cover that is managed like native vegetation. It includes all grasslands, forblands, shrublands, and those forested lands which can continually or periodically, naturally or through management support an understory of herbaceous or shrubby vegetation that provides forage for grazing or browsing animals.

**Rangeland Condition**

The present state of vegetation of a range site in relation to the climax (natural potential) plant community for that site. It is an expression of the relative degree to which the kinds, proportions, and amounts of plants in a plant community resemble that of the climax plant community for the site.

**Reclamation**

Returning disturbed lands to a form and productivity that will be ecologically balanced, often in conformity with a predetermined reclamation plan.

**Recommended Wilderness**

Lands that are recommended to Congress for inclusion into the National Wilderness Preservation System. If approved, they become "designated wilderness."

**Reconstruction**

Construction activities performed on an existing facility. Reconstruction includes those activities that alter the facility from its originally constructed or subsequently reconstructed condition.

**Recreation Residence**

A house or cabin on National Forest System land for seasonal recreation use that is not the primary residence of the owner.

**Reforestation**

Reestablishment of a tree crop on forested land.

**Regeneration (Silviculture)**

The renewal of vegetation whether by natural or artificial means. Also, the new growth itself.

**Research Natural Area (RNA)**

An area that illustrates or typifies for research or educational purposes, the important forest and range types in each forest region, as well as other plant communities that have special or unique characteristics of scientific interest and importance. (36 CFR 1251.23)

**Responsible Official**

The Forest Service employee who has the delegated authority to make a specific decision.

**Restoration**

- ◆ Facilities – Work necessary to restore a facility to the original constructed condition or to an acceptable condition concerning any damage resulting from natural or human causes, which exceeds that which normally occurs during annual maintenance.
- ◆ Ecosystem – To return or re-establish ecosystems or habitats to their original structure and species composition. (Dictionary of Forestry)

**Revegetation**

The reestablishment and development of a plant cover. This may take place naturally through the reproductive processes of the existing flora, or artificially through the direct action of reforestation or reseeding.

**Rights-of-way Corridors**

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

**Riparian Area**

“Land and vegetation for approximately 100 feet from the edges of all perennial streams, lakes, and other bodies of water [including streambanks, shorelines, and wetlands. ...This area shall correspond to at least the recognizable area dominated by the riparian

vegetation” (pre-2005 planning regulations). A specific delineation of an Ecological Unit, characterized by high water tables, seasonal high water availability, or unbound water. A “geographically delineable area with distinctive resource values and characteristics that are comprised of the aquatic and riparian ecosystems...identified by soil characteristics or distinctive vegetation communities that require free or unbound water” (FSM 2526.05 USDA Forest Service 2004). The definition of “riparian area” used in the Forest Service includes the definition of “wetlands” by necessity; “riparian area” is the all-inclusive term. Even wetlands containing no stream, lake, or body of water are considered riparian areas (after Johnston and others 2001). Synonymous with *water influence zone*.

### **Riparian Ecosystem**

“A distinct, terrestrial ecosystem, often located spatially between an aquatic ecosystem and a drier ecosystem, characterized by distinctive riparian vegetation and soils requiring high water tables at some time in the growing season, and often occupying distinctive landforms (floodplains, alluvial benches) as well. A riparian ecosystem can be distinguished from an aquatic ecosystem that sometimes might be adjacent to it, because the substrate for the riparian ecosystem is true soil” (Johnston and others 2001).

### **Roads**

A motor vehicle travel way over 50 inches wide, unless designated and managed as a trail. A road may be classified, unclassified, or temporary (36 CFR 212.1).

### **Road Maintenance**

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

### **Road Maintenance Level**

Defines the level of service provided by, and maintenance required for, a specific road, consistent with road management objectives and maintenance criteria (FSH 7709.58, Section 12.3).

- ◆ **Maintenance Level 1:** Assigned to intermittent service roads during the time they are closed to vehicular traffic. The closure period is 1 year or longer. Basic custodial maintenance is performed.
- ◆ **Maintenance Level 2:** Assigned to roads open for use by high-clearance vehicles. Passenger car traffic is not a consideration.
- ◆ **Maintenance Level 3:** Assigned to roads open and maintained for travel by a prudent driver in a standard passenger car. User comfort and convenience are not considered priorities.
- ◆ **Maintenance Level 4:** Assigned to roads that provide a moderate degree of user comfort and convenience at moderate travel speeds.
- ◆ **Maintenance Level 5:** Assigned to roads that provide a high degree of user comfort and convenience. Normally, roads are double-lane and paved or aggregate-surfaced with dust abatement.

## **Rocky Mountain Region**

The Forest Service organizational unit consisting of Colorado, Wyoming, part of South Dakota, Nebraska, and Kansas. Also called Region 2.

## **Rotation, Rotation Age (Silviculture)**

The planned number of years between the formation or regeneration of a stand of trees and its final cutting at a specified age.

## **S**

### **Salable Minerals**

Salable minerals include common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, pumice, pumicite, cinders, and clay. In general, these minerals are of widespread occurrence and are of relatively low unit value. They are generally used for construction materials and for road-building purposes.

### **Salvage Cutting**

The removal of dead trees or trees being damaged or dying due to injurious agents other than competition, to recover value that would otherwise be lost.

### **Sanitation Cutting**

The removal of trees to improve stand health by stopping or reducing actual or anticipated spread of insects and disease.

### **Sawtimber**

Trees suitable in size and quality for producing logs that can be processed into lumber. For planning purposes, trees with an 8-inch diameter or more are classified as sawtimber.

### **Scenic Integrity**

The state of naturalness, or conversely, the state of disturbance, created by human activities or alteration from the existing landscape character in a National Forest. Integrity is stated in degrees of deviation from the existing landscape character in a National Forest. It is the measure of the degree to which a landscape is visually perceived to be complete. The highest scenic integrity ratings are given to those landscapes which have little or no deviation from the character valued by constituents for its aesthetic appeal. Scenic integrity is used to describe an existing situation, standard for management, or desired future conditions. Scenic integrity is a continuum ranging over six levels of integrity from very high to very low and marginally acceptable.

### **Scenic Integrity Objective (SIO)**

Scenic Integrity Objectives are determined through an analysis of inherent scenic attractiveness, landscape visibility, distance zones, concern levels, scenic class, the management direction identified by management area and desired conditions. Once a determination is made, a specific scenic integrity level is assigned to an area and that level becomes the objective for its desired condition. In general, a specific integrity level

can be achieved by decreasing the visual contrast of the deviation being viewed. Scenic Integrity Objectives are:

- ◆ **Very High** – refers to landscapes where the valued landscape character “is” intact with only minute deviations, if any.
- ◆ **High** – refers to landscapes where the valued landscape character “appears” intact. Deviations may be present but must repeat the form, line, color, texture, and pattern common to the landscape character so completely and at such scale that they are not evident.
- ◆ **High/Moderate** – refers to landscapes with a long term Scenic Integrity Objective of High that may be in a state of transition resulting from current resource activities where the landscapes appear slightly altered (Moderate) during and immediately following completion of resource activity.
- ◆ **Moderate** – refers to landscapes where the valued landscape character “appears slightly altered.” Noticeable deviations must remain visually subordinate to the landscape character being viewed.
- ◆ **Low** – refers to landscapes where the valued landscape character “appears moderately altered.” Deviations begin to dominate the valued landscape character being viewed.

### **Scenery Management System (SMS)**

A tool for integrating the benefits, values, desires, and preferences regarding aesthetics and scenery for all levels of management planning. It provides an overall framework for the inventory, analysis, and management of scenery on National Forest System land.

### **Sediment**

Material suspended in water or that has been deposited in streams and lakes.

### **Seed-Tree Regeneration Method**

A even-aged regeneration method in which a new age class develops from seeds that germinate in fully-exposed micro-environments after removal of the previous stand, except for a small number of trees left to provide seed. The cutting of all trees except for a small number of widely dispersed trees retained for seed production and to produce a new age class in fully exposed microenvironment. Seed trees are usually removed after regeneration is established unless some are retained to meet other resource objectives (snags replacement). Under a two-aged method (seed tree with reserves), some, or all of the seed trees are retained after regeneration has become established to attain goals other than regeneration.

### **Seeps**

A spot where water flows from the earth, often forming the source of a small stream. Also, a spot where petroleum flows from the earth.

### **Self-Sustaining Population**

Population that is sufficiently abundant and has appropriate population characteristics to provide for its persistence over many generations.

## **Sensitive Species**

In the Forest Service, “Those plant and animal species identified by a Regional Forester for which population viability is a concern, as evidenced by: a. Significant current or predicted downward trends in population numbers or density [or] b. Significant current or predicted downward trends in habitat capability that would reduce a species’ existing distribution” (USDA Forest Service 2005).

## **Seral (Ecology)**

A biotic community that is in a developmental, transitory stage in an ecological succession.

## **Seral Stage**

A community related to the rest of its successional sequence, that is, to its sere. Often seral stage and ecological status are taken to be synonymous. There are usually many different communities and stages in a sere, related in time by a multi-dimensional network, and in space by being in the same habitat type. Seres are rarely completely sequential and along a single line, although they are often simplified as such for discussion (Johnston and others 2001).

## **Shelterwood, Shelterwood Method**

A method of regenerating an even-aged stand in which a new age class develops beneath the moderated micro-environment provided by the residual trees. The sequence of treatments can include three distinct types of cuttings:

- ♦ **Preparatory cut** – an optional cut to enhance conditions for seed production (i.e., develop/test wind firmness, develop/maintain seed-bearing leave trees, and decrease insect and disease susceptibility before the next entry)
- ♦ **Seed cut** – remove trees except those needed to provide seed and prepares the seed bed.
- ♦ **Removal cut** – a final cut that removes all mature trees after a new even-aged stand has regenerated that releases established regeneration from competition with shelter trees.

## **Shrubland**

“Any land on which shrubs dominate the vegetation” (Penfound 1967).

## **Significant Cultural Site**

All sites that have intrinsic cultural value as defined in 36 CFR 60 making them eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

## **Significant Sites**

Cultural properties with specific qualities that qualify the site(s) for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

## **Silvicultural System**

A management process that tends, harvests, and replaces forests, resulting in a forest of distinctive form with a desired condition.

## **Silvicultural Prescription**

A document written or approved by a certified silviculturist that describes management activities needed to implement silvicultural treatment or treatment sequence. The prescription documents the results of an analysis of present and anticipated site conditions and management direction. It also describes the desired future vegetation conditions in measurable terms (FSM 2478.03). It documents a planned series of treatments designed to change current stand structure and composition to one that meets management goals. The prescription normally considers ecological, economic, and societal objectives and constraints.

## **Silviculture**

The art and science of controlling the establishment, growth, composition, health, and quality of forests and woodlands to meet the diverse needs and values of landowners and society on a sustainable basis.

## **Single Tree Selection**

An uneven-aged method where individual trees of all size classes are removed more or less uniformly throughout the stand, to promote growth of remaining trees and to provide space for regeneration.

## **Snag (Vegetation)**

Standing dead tree or standing portion from which at least the leaves and smaller branches have fallen; often called a stub if it is less than 20 feet tall (Thomas et al. 1979).

## **Soil Productivity**

The inherent capacity of a soil to support the growth of specified plants, plant communities, or a sequence of plant communities. Soil productivity may be expressed in terms of volume or weight/unit area/year, percent plant cover or other measures of biomass accumulation.

## **Special Area**

“Certain lands within the National Forest System designated administratively or by Congress for special management consideration.

## **Special Forest Products**

Special forest products include: 1) non-timber vegetative products such as mosses, fungus and bryophytes, echinacea, roots, bulbs, berries, seeds, wildflowers, beargrass, salal, ferns, and transplants of shrubs; and 2) non-convertible timber products such as Christmas trees, tree sap, boughs, bark, cones, burls, yew bark, and transplants of trees. (FSH 2409.18, Section 87.05)

## **Special Heritage Places**

Cultural properties that are highly visible, highly accessible, and highly desirable to the public. These sites are generally managed for public benefit and enjoyment.

## **Special-Use Permit**

A permit issued under established laws and regulations to an individual, organization, or company for occupancy or use of National Forest System lands for some special purpose.

## **Special Uses**

Improvements or activities owned or carried out by private individuals, corporations or other business entities on National Forest System lands under the authorization of a permit.

## **Species**

“Any member of the currently accepted and scientifically defined plant or animal kingdoms of organisms” (USDA Forest Service 2005c).

## **Species-of-Concern**

Plant and animal species for which the Responsible Official determines management actions may be necessary to prevent listing under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

May include:

1. Species identified as proposed and candidate species under the ESA.
2. Species with ranks of G-1 through G-3 on the NatureServe ranking system.
3. Intraspecific (subspecific) taxa with ranks of T-1 through T-3 on the NatureServe ranking system.
4. Species that have been petitioned for federal listing and for which a positive “90-day finding” has been made (a 90-day finding is a preliminary finding that substantive information was provided indicating that the petition listing may be warranted and a full status review will be conducted).
5. Species that have been recently delisted (these include species delisted within the past five years and other delisted species for which regulatory agency monitoring is still considered necessary).

## **Species-of-Interest**

Plant and animal species for which the Responsible Official determines management actions may be necessary or desirable to achieve ecological or other multiple-use objectives. May include:

1. Species with ranks of S-1, S-2, N1, or N2 on the NatureServe ranking system.
2. State listed threatened and endangered species that do not meet the criteria as species-of-concern.
3. Species identified as species of conservation concern in State Comprehensive Wildlife Strategies.
4. Bird species on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Birds of Conservation Concern National Priority list.
5. Additional species that valid existing information indicates are of regional or local conservation concern due to factors that may include: significant threats to

populations or habitats, declining trends in populations or habitat, rarity, restricted ranges.

6. Species that are hunted or fished and other species of public interest.
7. Invasive species.

### **Stabilization (Heritage Resources)**

The process of arresting the deterioration of a damaged heritage resource in order to prevent further damage from occurring. Stabilization may include reconstructing portions of the heritage resource.

### **Stand**

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

### **Stand-Replacing Fire**

Fire which kills all or most of the living overstory trees in a forest and initiates forest succession or regrowth. Also explicitly describes the nature of fire in grasslands and some shrublands.

### **Stipulation (Oil and Gas)**

A provision that modifies standard lease rights attached to and made a part of the lease.

### **Stocked**

Populations that have been introduced by human intervention but may not naturally reproduce.

### **Stream Health**

The condition of a stream relative to robust health for that stream type and landscape, considering indicators such as channel pattern, slope, particle size, pool frequency and depth, bank vegetation, and woody debris, which reflect the stability and habitat quality of the stream.

### **Stream Type**

A class of stream reach having a discrete combination of valley geomorphology and climate, flow regime, stream size, and channel morphology; and differing from other stream types in its ability to support aquatic biota and respond to management.

### **Successional Stages (Seral Stages)**

The different structural and compositional phases of vegetation development of forests, grasslands, and prairies that occur over time and include the major developmental or seral stages within a particular environment.

### **Suppression**

See Fire Suppression and Insect and Disease Suppression

**Sustainability**

The capacity of forests, ranging from stands to eco-regions, to maintain their health, productivity, diversity, and overall integrity, in the long run, in the context of human activity use.

**Sustained Yield**

The amount of renewable resources that can be produced continuously at a given intensity of management.

**System Road**

See *Forest System Road*.

**System Trail**

Trails wholly or partly within or adjacent to and serving, the National Forest and other areas administered by the Forest Service that have been included in the Forest Transportation Atlas. Generally less than 50 inches wide.

**T****Tailings (Minerals)**

The parts or a part of any incoherent or fluid material separated as refuse or separately treated as inferior in quality or value; leaving; remainders; dregs. The sand, gravel, and cobbles that pass through the sluices in hydraulic mining were formerly generally designated as tailings, but of late years in state and U.S. legislative documents, they have been called mining debris or simply debris.

**Temporary Road**

A road necessary for emergency operations or authorized by contract, permit, lease, or other written authorization, generally for less than five years, that is not a forest road and that is not included in a forest transportation atlas.

**Terrestrial Ecosystem**

“An ecosystem with a true soil substrate. Producers are usually large green plants (angiosperms or gymnosperms), and autotrophic consumers include insects, spiders, birds, and mammals. Heterotrophic consumers include soil arthropods, annelids, and nematodes” (Odum 1971:19, also see Johnston and others 2001). See also *Aquatic Ecosystem* and *Riparian Ecosystem*.

**Thermal Cover (Wildlife)**

Cover used by animals to ameliorate the effects of weather.

**Thinning**

An intermediate treatment made to reduce stand density of trees primarily to improve growth, enhance forest health, or to recover potential mortality. Two types of thinning may be done:

- ♦ **Pre-commercial, Noncommercial:** Removing trees that are too small to make a merchantable product.
- ♦ **Commercial:** Removing trees that have reached sufficient size to be manufactured into a product and to improve tree spacing and promote more rapid growth.

### **Threatened Species**

Any species likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range and that has been designated in the Federal Register by the Secretary of Interior as such (FSM 2670.5).

### **Timber**

A general term applied to tree stands that provide a wood-fiber product.

### **Timber Harvest**

The removal of trees for wood fiber use and other multiple-use purposes.

### **Timber Production**

The purposeful growing, tending, harvesting, and regeneration of regulated crops of trees to be cut into logs, bolts, or other round sections for industrial or consumer use (36 CFR 219.16). In addition, managing land to provide commercial timber products on a regulated basis with planned, scheduled entries.

### **Timber Sale Program Quantity (TSPQ)**

The estimated output of timber from the plan area. The estimate is displayed as an average annual cubic foot output for a decade. It includes projected outputs from lands generally suitable for timber harvest. The projected timber outputs reflect past and projected budget levels and organizational capacity to achieve the desired conditions and objectives in the plan (36 CFR 219.12 and FSM 1921.12).

### **Timber Stand Improvement (TSI)**

The elimination or suppression of the less desirable vegetation in favor of the more desirable tree growth, such as thinning, cleaning, weeding, and release cuttings.

### **Title Claim**

A claim of land as a person's own, based on any reasonable evidence that establishes the person's actual use of the land as though the person had obtained ownership in fee (FSH 5509.1105). A claim of land as a person's own, based on any reasonable evidence that establishes the person's actual use of the land as though the person had full title thereto from the time the person obtained ownership of the abutting land (36 CFR 254.31).

### **Trail**

Trails wholly or partly within or adjacent to and serving, the National Forests and other areas administered by the Forest Service that have been included in the Forest Transportation Atlas, generally less than 50 inches wide..

**Trailheads**

The parking, signing, and other facilities available at the beginning of a trail.

**Transportation System**

All roads needed to manage and administer Forest resources. A road network.

**Transportation/Utility Corridor**

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

**Treated Area**

Area on which management, like timber harvesting or prescribed burning, occurs.

**Two-Aged Silvicultural System**

A planned sequence of treatments designed to regenerate or maintain a stand with two age classes.

**U****Understory (Vegetation)**

The lowest layer of vegetation in a forest or shrub community composed of grass, forbs, shrubs and trees less than 10 feet tall. Vegetation growing under the tree canopy.

**Uneven-aged Stand**

A stand of trees of three or more distinct age classes, either intimately mixed or in groups.

**Uneven-aged 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 of particular size 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 and group selection.

**Use of Wildland Fire**

Either wildland fire use or prescribed fire applications to meet resource objectives. See also *Fire Use*, *Prescribed Fire*, *Wildland Fire*, and *Wildland Fire Use*.

**User Created Trail (Unauthorized Road or Trail)**

A road or trail that is not a forest road or trail or a temporary road or trail and that is not included in a forest transportation atlas.

## V

### **Valid Existing Rights (Minerals)**

Legal interest that attaches to a land or mineral estate and that cannot be divested from the estate until that interest expires or is relinquished.

### **Values at Risk (Fire Management)**

Any or all natural resources, improvements or other values that may be jeopardized if a fire occurs (compare Resource Values-at-risk).

### **Vegetation Management Projects**

Activities which change the composition and structure of vegetation to meet specific objectives, using such means as prescribed fire and timber harvest. For the purposes of this amendment, the term does not include removing vegetation for permanent developments like mineral operations, ski runs, roads and the like, and does not apply to fire suppression or to wildland fire use.

### **Vegetative Management, Vegetative Manipulation, Vegetative Treatment**

Any activities undertaken to modify the existing condition of the vegetation.

### **Viewshed**

Total visible area from a single observer position or the total visible area from multiple observer positions. Viewsheds are accumulated seen areas from highways, trails, campgrounds, towns, cities, or other view locations. Examples are corridors, feature or basin viewsheds.

## W

### **Water Influence Zone**

The land next to streams and lakes where vegetation plays a major role in sustaining the long-term integrity of aquatic ecosystems (Hynes 1970, Odum 1971). Includes the geomorphic floodplain, riparian ecosystem, and inner gorge.

### **Water Rights**

Property right granted by the State of Colorado to divert or store a specified quantity of water for a defined beneficial use.

### **Watershed**

Those lands that comprise a continuous hydrologic unit that drains into a specific stream. The hydrologic unit contains upslope land areas that all drain toward only one stream (see *Hydrologic Unit Code*).

### **Water Yield**

- ◆ The runoff from a watershed, including groundwater outflow.
- ◆ The measured output of water, usually measured in acre-feet.

**Weed**

See *Noxious Weeds*.

**Wetlands**

“Lands transitional between terrestrial and aquatic systems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water. Wetlands must have one or more of the following three attributes: (1) at least periodically, the land supports predominantly hydrophytes; (2) the substrate is predominantly undrained hydric soil; [or] (3) the substrate is non-soil and is saturated with water or covered by shallow water at some time during the growing season of each year” (Cowardin and others 1979). “Those areas that are inundated by surface or ground water with a frequency sufficient to support and that, under normal circumstances, do or would support a prevalence of vegetation or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction.” Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, fens, and similar areas such as sloughs, potholes, wet meadows, river overflows, mud flats, and natural ponds (USDA Forest Service 2004).

**Wild and Scenic Rivers**

Rivers or sections of rivers designated by Congressional actions under the 1968 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as wild, scenic or recreational by an act of the legislature of the state or states through which they flow.

**Wilderness**

See *Designated Wilderness*.

**Wildfire**

An unplanned, unwanted wildland fire, including unauthorized human-caused fires, escaped wildland fire use events, escaped prescribed fire projects, and all other wildland fires where the objective is to put the fire out.

**Wildland Fire**

Any non-structure fire that occurs in the wildland. Three distinct types of wildland fire have been defined and include wildfire, wildland fire use, and prescribed fire. See also *Prescribed Fire*, *Wildfire*, and *Wildland Fire Use*.

**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.

**Wildland Fire Use**

The application of the appropriate management response to naturally-ignited wildland fires to accomplish specific resource management objectives in pre-defined designated areas outlined in Fire Management Plans. Operational management is described in the Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP). See also *Fire Use*, *Prescribed Fire*, *Use of Wildland Fire*, and *Wildland Fire*.

**Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)**

Areas where structures and other human developments meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels. The WUI was mapped on the GMUG to include communities-at-risk (as identified in the Federal Register FR Vol. 66, No. 3, Pages 751-754, January 4, 2001), other private lands, powerlines and pipelines, electronic transmission sites, guard stations, and developed campgrounds, each buffered by one mile.

**Winter Range**

The area, usually at lower elevations, used by deer and elk during the winter months.

**Windthrow**

The act of trees being uprooted by the wind.

**X**

**Y**

**Z**