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Glossary

TERM	DEFINITION
Active channel	The portion of a stream channel commonly wetted during and above base flows, identified by a break in rooted vegetation or moss growth on rocks along stream margins (Taylor and Love 2003). The active channel is somewhat lower than bankfull and is sometimes called the ordinary high water mark.
Active floodplain	The area bordering a stream that is inundated by flows at a surface elevation defined by two times the maximum bankfull depth measured at the thalweg. (Thalweg is a line drawn to join the lowest points along the entire length of a streambed in its downward slope, defining the deepest channel, thus making the natural direction or profile of a watercourse. The thalweg is almost always the line of fastest flow in any river).
Active restoration	Deliberate activities to influence the processes needed to improve conditions. Investment of human actions of the ecosystem processes and functions. As an example, this might include seeding native grasses and planting native shrubs and trees, or thinning trees to restore fire regimes.
Activity	A measure, course of action, or treatment that is undertaken to directly or indirectly produce, enhance, or maintain a desired condition or objective on a Forest, Grassland, Prairie, or other comparable administrative unit.
Animal unit month (AUM)	The amount of oven-dry forage required by 1 animal unit for a period of 30 days. An animal unit is considered to be 1 mature cow, either dry or with calf up to 6 months in age. (Society for Range Management. 1998. (Society for Range Management 1998)
Aquatic ecological condition	The AEC is a model to evaluate the status of local populations of focal species and their habitat at the HUC12 or sub-watershed scale. The results are then aggregated to produce an ecological sustainability or viability outcome for each focal species at the subbasin (HUC 8) scale. It is described in the Process for Evaluating the Contribution of National Forest System Lands to Aquatic Ecological Sustainability (Reiss et al. 2008).
Aquatic ecosystem	Any body of water and its associated riparian area, and all organisms and non-living components within it functioning as a natural system.
Assessment	An analysis and interpretation of the social, economic, or ecological characteristics of an area using scientific principles to describe existing conditions as they affect sustainability.

TERM	DEFINITION
Biological legacy	Organisms, organic matter and biologically created patterns that persist from the pre-disturbance ecosystem and influence recovery processes in the post-disturbance ecosystem.
Canopy closure	The proportion of the sky hemisphere obscured by vegetation when viewed from a single point (Korhonen et al. 2006).
Canopy cover	The proportion of the forest floor covered by the vertical projection of tree crowns (Korhonen et al. 2006).
Capability	The potential of an area of land to produce resources, supply goods and services, and 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.
Characteristic fire	When a fire occurs within the time, space, and severity parameters of the natural fire regime of the vegetation group (Hardy, 2005). Also, see uncharacteristic fire.
Class I and II areas (air quality)	Class I areas defined under the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1977 are afforded the highest level of protection from air pollutants in the nation. All other lands in the nation are designated as Class II areas.
Coarse filter/coarse filter management	<p>Land management that addresses the needs of all associated species, communities, environments and ecological processes in a land area (see fine filter management).</p> <p>Coarse filter conservation focuses on assuring adequate representation of ecosystem diversity, and is generally accomplished by comparing the current condition of landscape structure and composition to a set of reference conditions. Management direction then addresses the landscape components that have departed from reference conditions to assure adequate representation across the plan area. A fine-filter approach may be needed if the coarse-filter does not adequately provide ecosystem conditions needed to maintain populations (Samson 2002) (see fine-filter).</p>
Coarse woody debris	Coarse woody debris consists of any woody material greater than three inches in diameter and is derived from tree limbs, boles, roots, and large (greater than 12 inches in diameter) wood fragments and fallen trees in various stages of decay. Provides living spaces for a host of organisms and serves as long-term storage sites for moisture, nutrients, and energy.
Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)	The listing of various regulations pertaining to management and administration of the Colville National Forest.

TERM	DEFINITION
Community (ecological)	A group of organisms living together; any group of interacting organisms.
Connectivity	See <i>habitat connectivity</i> .
Core area/ core habitat	A core area represents the closest approximation of a biologically functioning unit consisting of habitat that could supply all the necessary elements for every life stage (e.g., spawning, rearing, migratory and adult) and include one or more groups of bull trout (USFWS 2014)
Corridor (utility)	See <i>Transportation and utility corridors</i> .
Corridor (wildlife)	Avenues along which wide ranging animals can travel, plants can propagate, genetic interchange can occur, populations can move in response to environmental changes and natural disasters, and threatened species can be replenished from other areas.
Cover	<p>Vegetation used by wildlife for protection from predators, or to ameliorate conditions of weather, or in which to reproduce.</p> <p>Hiding cover – vegetation consisting primarily of trees, capable of hiding 90 percent of a standing adult animal from the view of a human at a distance of 200 feet or less.</p> <p>Thermal cover – cover used by animals to ameliorate chilling effects of weather, for elk, a stand of coniferous trees 40 feet or taller with an average crown closure of 70 percent or more.</p>
Critical (key) habitat	<p>Specific areas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • within the geographical area occupied by the species at the time of listing, if they contain physical or biological features essential to conservation, and those features may require special management considerations or protection; and • outside the geographical area occupied by the species if the agency determines that the area itself is essential for conservation • http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/criticalhabitat.htm
Crossing (structure)	That point in a linear feature (i.e., trail, road, stream) where the feature intersects and continues past another feature (i.e., a road crosses over or through a stream). Crossing structures are human-made structures that facilitate the ability of an animal to travel across a road and reduce the likelihood of a collision with a vehicle.
Cultural resources	Such resources as archeological, historical, or architectural sites, structures, places, objects, ideas, and traditions that are identified by field inventory, historical documentation, or other evidence and that are important to specified social or heritage groups or scientific and management endeavors.

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Cumulative effects	The combined effects of two or more management activities. The effects may be related to the number of individual activities, or to the number of repeated activities on the same piece of ground. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.
Decommission (roads)	Activities that result in restoration of unneeded roads to a more natural state through reestablishment of vegetation and restoration of ecological processes interrupted or adversely affected by the unneeded road (FSM 7734).
Designated Monitoring Area (DMA)	A representative Designated Monitoring Area is a monitoring site in a riparian complex that is representative of a larger area. The DMA should be placed in the most sensitive complex responsive to management influences. (MIM Technical Reference 1737-23, 2011)
Designated route	A National Forest System (NFS) road or an NFS trail on NFS lands that is designated for motor vehicle use pursuant to 36 CFR 212.1 on a motor vehicle use map.
Desired conditions	The social, economic, and ecological attributes toward which management of the land and resources of the plan area are to be directed. Desired conditions are aspirations and are not commitments or final decisions approving projects and activities, and may be achievable only over a long period (36 CFR 219.7).
Desired landscape character	Appearance of the landscape to be retained or created over time, recognizing that a landscape is a dynamic and constantly changing community of plants and animals. Combination of landscape design attributes and opportunities, as well as biological opportunities and constraints. (Landscape Aesthetics-A Handbook for Scenery Management, Agriculture Handbook Number 701, December 1995, USDA Forest Service)
Developed recreation site	Distinctly defined area where facilities are provided for concentrated public use; e.g., campgrounds, picnic areas, boating sites, and ski areas.
Diameter at breast height (d.b.h.)	The diameter of a standing tree at a point 4 feet, 6 inches from ground level.
Dispersed recreation	Outdoor recreation that takes place outside developed recreation sites.

TERM	DEFINITION
District population segment (DPS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The term “DPS” is used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to refer to regional subgroups of bull trout and is the term used in the Endangered Species Act to describe subunits of species that are eligible for listing, or to describe subgroups of species that could be delisted separately by meeting specific recovery objectives identified in a Species Recovery Plan.
Disturbance	A discrete event that changes existing plant and wildlife community composition or structure, and interrupts, changes, or resets the ongoing successional sequence.
Disturbance processes	Stresses and agents that influence ecosystem dynamics and processes operating within known resilience parameters. Stresses and agents can include invasive species, fire, changes in climate, weather events (wind, ice), pollution, and timber harvest.
Disturbance regime	Any recurrent disturbance that tends to occur in a forested area. It is often defined in terms of timing, frequency, predictability, and severity. (Puettmann et al. 2009)
Diversity	The distribution and abundance of different plant and animal communities and species within an area.
Ecological conditions	Components of the biological and physical environment that can affect diversity of plant and animal communities and the productive capacity of ecological systems. These components could include the abundance and distribution of aquatic and terrestrial habitats, roads and other structural developments, human uses, and invasive, exotic species. (36 CFR 219.16)
Ecological health (ecosystem health)	The state of an ecosystem in which processes and functions are adequate to maintain diversity of biotic communities commensurate with those initially found there.
Ecological restoration	The process of assisting the recovery of resilience and adaptive capacity of ecosystems that have been degraded, damaged, or destroyed. Restoration focuses on establishing the composition, structure, pattern, and ecological processes necessary to make terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems sustainable, resilient, and healthy under current and future conditions. (FSM 2000 Chapter 2020).
Ecosystem	An interacting system of organisms considered together with their environment; for example, marsh, watershed, and lake ecosystems.
Ecosystem diversity	The variety and relative extent of ecosystem types, including their composition, structure, and processes, within all or a part of an area of analysis. (36 CFR 219.16)

TERM	DEFINITION
Ecosystem health (ecological health)	A condition where the parts and functions of an ecosystem are sustained over time and where the system's capacity for self-repair is maintained, such that goals for uses, values, and services of the ecosystem are met. (www.icbemp.gov)
Ecosystem services	<p>Ecosystem services are the benefits people obtain from ecosystems. For example, healthy ecosystems provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The stuff of life – food, fresh water, timber, and fiber for clothing. • Protection from extreme weather, floods, fire, and disease. • Regulation of the Earth's climate. • Filtration of wastes and pollutants. • Regeneration of clean air, water, and soil. • Inspiration, recreation and spiritual sustenance, and support for a way of life. (Island Press 2007)
Edaphic	Relating to, or determined by, conditions of the soil, especially as it relates to biological systems; soil characteristics, such as water content, pH, texture, and nutrient availability that influence the type and quantity of vegetation in an area.
Effect (impact), economic	The change, positive or negative, in economic conditions, including the distribution and stability of employment and income in affected local, regional, and national economies that directly or indirectly results from an activity, project, or program.
Effect (impact), physical, biological	The change, positive or negative, in the physical or biological conditions that directly or indirectly results from an activity, project, or program.
Effect (impact), social	The change, positive or negative, in social and cultural conditions that directly or indirectly results from an activity, project, or program.
Endangered species	Any species of animal or plant that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. An endangered species must be designated by the Secretary of Interior as endangered in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

TERM	DEFINITION
Evaluation	An appraisal and study of social, economic, and ecological conditions and trends relevant to a unit. The analysis of monitoring data that produces information needed to answer specific monitoring questions. Evaluation may include comparing monitoring results with a predetermined guideline or expected norm that may lead to recommendations for changes in management, a land management plan, or monitoring plan. Evaluations provide an updated compilation of information for use in environmental analysis of future project and activity decisions.
Even-aged management	The application of a combination of actions that results in the creation of stands in which trees of essentially the same age grow together. Managed even-aged forests are characterized by a distribution of stands of varying ages (and, therefore, tree sizes) throughout the forest area. An even-aged stand of trees is one in which there are only small differences in age among the individual trees. Regeneration in a particular stand is obtained during a short period at or near the time that a stand has reached the desired age or size for regeneration and is harvested. Clearcut, shelterwood, or seed tree cutting methods produce even-aged stands.
Fine filter management	Management that focuses on the welfare of a single or only a few species rather than the broader habitat or ecosystem (see coarse filter management). Coarse and fine-filter management approaches are generally complimentary to provide ecological conditions that support ecosystem and species diversity.
Fire intensity	A general term relating to the heat energy released by a fire.
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 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. (NWCG. 2008)
Fire severity	The degree to which a site has been altered or disrupted by fire. A product of fire intensity, fuel consumption, and residence time.
Floodplain	Lowland and relatively flat area adjacent to rivers and streams, formed from river sediments that are subject to recurring flooding.

TERM	DEFINITION
Focal species	<p>Those species whose abundance, distribution, health, and trend over time and space are indicative of the functioning of the larger ecological system (Committee of Scientists. 1999. USDA Forest Service).</p> <p>Focal species serve an umbrella function in terms of encompassing habitats needed for other species, are sensitive to the changes likely to occur in the area, or otherwise serve as an indicator of ecological sustainability. The long-term sustainability of the focal species is assumed to be representative of a group of species with similar ecological requirements and this group is assumed to respond in a similar manner to environmental change.</p>
Forage	<p>All browse and non-woody plants available to livestock or wildlife for grazing or harvestable for feed.</p>
Forb	<p>Any herb other than grass.</p>
Forest health	<p>The perceived condition of a forest derived from concerns about such factors as its age, structure, composition, function, vigor, presence of unusual levels of insects and disease, and resilience to disturbance. Perception and interpretation of forest health are influenced by individual and cultural viewpoints, land management objectives, spatial and temporal scales, the relative health in stands that comprise the forest, and the appearance of the forest at a point in time.</p>
Forest land	<p>Land at least 10 percent occupied by forest 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 pasture, residential or administrative areas, improved roads of any width and adjoining road clearing, and power line clearings of any width. (36 CFR 219.16)</p>
Forest products, commercial use (non-timber harvest)	<p>The sale of special forest products to commercial entities.</p>
Forest products, firewood, commercial use	<p>The sale of firewood, a type of special forest product, to commercial entities.</p>
Forest products, firewood, permitted personal use	<p>The collection of firewood, a type of special forest product, for personal, non-commercial use.</p>

TERM	DEFINITION
Forest road or trail	A road or trail wholly or partly within or adjacent to and serving the National Forest System that the Forest Service determines is necessary for the protection, administration, and utilization. (Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 212—Administration of the Forest Transportation System, section 212.1.)
Fuels	Any material that will carry and sustain a forest fire, primarily natural materials, both live and dead.
Goods and services	The various outputs, including on-site uses, produced from forest and rangeland resources.
Grazing allotment	Area designated for the use of a certain number and kind of livestock for a prescribed period of time.
Grizzly bear core habitat	An area of secure habitat within a bear management unit that contains no motorized travel routes or high use non-motorized trails during the non-denning season and is more than 0.3 miles (500 meters) from a drivable road. Core areas do not include any gated roads but may contain roads that are impassible due to vegetation or constructed barriers. Core areas strive to contain the full range of seasonal habitats that are available in the bear management unit.
Grizzly bear management unit (GBMU)	<p>Areas established for use in grizzly bear analysis. GBMUs generally (a) approximate female home range size; and (b) include representations of all seasonal habitat components.</p> <p>A subunit of the Selkirk Grizzly Bear Recovery Area. Each BMU is intended to approximate the size of a female grizzly bear home range, include some portion of all seasonal habitats, and not cross political boundaries of land management agencies. Boundary lines follow natural features such as rivers, streams, and watershed boundaries; and man-made features such as roads, ownership and Public Land Survey System (PLSS) section lines. A project analysis unit upon which direct, indirect and cumulative effects analyses are performed.</p>
Groundwater-dependent system (ecosystem)	An area that requires access to groundwater to maintain its community of plants, animals, and processes. Examples include springs, seeps, fens, and wetlands.
Guidelines	Information and guidance for project and activity decision making to help achieve desired conditions and objectives in the plan area.
Habitat capability	The estimated ability of an area, given existing or predicted habitat conditions, to support a wildlife, fish, or plant population. It is measured in terms of potential population numbers.

TERM	DEFINITION
Habitat connectivity	A measure of the ability of organisms to move among separated patches of suitable habitat (Hilty et al. 2006), and is important for providing the long-term viability of populations (Hanski 2002), and for allowing species to respond to changing climate (Heller and Zavleta 2009). Landscape features influence how of if a species can move. These may include natural features such as topography or land cover, or human created features such as highways or roads.
Habitat effectiveness	A measurement of the effect of human access on wildlife and wildlife habitat. In this proposal habitat effectiveness is analyzed as an index of the amount of habitat that is impacted by human access for a given species. Generally, two types of indices (measures) are used to assess the impacts of roads and trails on wildlife habitats: (1) the density of travel routes (e.g., miles of route/square miles of habitat) or (2) the zone of influence. The zone of influence refers to the distance on each side of a road or trail within which habitat use by a species of interest is affected by the human use that occurs on the road or trail. Both density and zone of influence are determined by species-species research (see Gaines et al. 2003 for a review).
Heritage resources	Archaeological and historic sites, structures, buildings, artifacts, sacred sites, and traditional cultural properties identified through research, field inventory, and historic documentation that are important to the American public and American Indian Tribes.
High quality habitat	Habitat that completely satisfies a species life history (e.g., food, shelter, security) requirements.
Historical range of variability	Refers to the dynamic behavior and functioning of ecosystems before dramatic changes occurred with European settlement, generally considered to be the mid-1800s for this area (Aplet and Keeton 1999). The historical range of variability provides a framework to determine changes to ecosystem attributes that have occurred between historical and current conditions and recognizes that ecosystems experience a range of conditions across which processes are resilient and self-sustaining
Horizontal cover	That portion of a tree or shrub that grows horizontally (parallel to the ground) out from the main trunk/stem of the plant (i.e., a tree bough) and provides cover up to approximately 5 to 7 feet above the ground. Horizontal cover refers to the stems/boughs that are used by snowshoe hares and are subsequently considered foraging habitat for lynx.

TERM	DEFINITION
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Hydrologic unit (HU) system

A nested-hierarchical classification of hydrologic units (watersheds) delineated national by the United States Geological Survey with six levels of classification of successively smaller hydrologic units. Individual hydrologic units are denoted numerically by a unique hydrologic unit code, with the number of digits within the code based on the level of classification, and both a general hydrologic unit name, and a specific name. The following table shows the classification, names, # of digits in the code, level of classification, average size, and an example of name and number of at each level of classification from the hydrologic hierarchy of the Ninemile subwatershed.

Hydrologic Unit (HU) name	# of digits in HUC	HU Level	Average Size (sq. miles)	Example Name	Example Number
Region	2	1st	180,000	Pacific Northwest Region	17
Subregion	4	2nd	17,000	Upper Columbia Subregion	1702
Basin	6	3rd	10,000	Upper Columbia Basin	170200
Subbasin	8	4th	700	Sanpoil Subbasin	17020004
Watershed	10	5th	227 (40,000-250,000 acres)	Upper Sanpoil Watershed	1702000401
Subwatershed (SWS)	12	6th	40 (10,000-40,000 acres)	Ninemile Subwatershed	170200040107

Hydrologically connected road

A segment of road that is connected to the natural stream channel network via surface flow (Flanagan et al. 1998). Roads that are hydrologically connected deliver water, sediment, and chemicals generated on the road surface directly to the stream channel network.

Indicator

A measure or measurement of an aspect of a sustainability criterion. A quantitative or qualitative variable that can be measured or described and, when observed periodically, shows trends. Indicators are quantifiable performance measures of outcomes or objectives for attaining criteria designed to assess progress toward desired conditions.

Inner gorge

An area where a stream has incised into a hillslope or valley bottom where surface materials may be unstable or erodible. The top of the inner gorge occurs where the slope of the wall breaks to <50 percent.

Instream flow

Water flowing in a stream channel. Instream flow is used to designate a specific stream flow measured in cubic feet per second (cfs) at a particular location for a defined time for protection and preservation of fish, wildlife, recreation, and other non-consumptive water uses in a waterway.

TERM	DEFINITION
Interdisciplinary team (ID Team)	A group of people that collectively represent several disciplines and whose duty is to coordinate and integrate the planning activities.
Invasive species	Non-native species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. Non-native species are any species, including its seeds, eggs, spores, or other biological material capable of propagating that species, that is not native to that ecosystem (with respect to a particular ecosystem). (EO13112)
Inventoried roadless area	Areas identified in a set of inventoried roadless area maps, contained in the Forest Service Roadless Area Conservation, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, dated November 2000, and any subsequent update or revision of those maps through the land management planning process. (36 CFR 294.11)
Issue	Issues may be considered as: (1) A potential factor for determining need for change for a plan; (2) Specific resource concerns about a proposed action under NEPA (FSM 1950); (3) Points of contention or disagreement; or (4) A subject or question of widespread public interest about management of the National Forest System.
Key habitat (grizzly bear)	Vegetation components that are crucial for grizzly bear survival, such as Whitebark pine, riparian habitats, berry-producing shrub fields, natural meadows, and forest cover.
Key watershed	Key watersheds are a network of watersheds designated at the subwatershed scale (6 th field, HUC12), to serve as strongholds for important aquatic resources or having the potential to do so. They are areas crucial to threatened or endangered fish and aquatic species of concern and/or interest, and/or areas that provide high quality water important for maintenance of downstream populations. Management emphasizes minimizing risk and maximizing restoration or retention of ecological health.
Landscape	A heterogeneous land area composed of interacting ecosystems evaluated at a broad scale to facilitate understanding of process, composition, structure, and pattern. In most cases this will be at a scale of a 5 th field HUC, at 10's of thousands of acres, to provide an understanding of coarse filter broad scale interplay and dynamics of soils, climate, fire, insects, hydrology, genetics, large home range wildlife, and vegetation.
Landscape character	Particular attributes, qualities, and traits of a landscape that give it an image and make it identifiable and unique. (Agricultural Handbook Number 701)
Large woody debris	Large pieces of relatively stable woody material located within the bankfull channel and appearing to influence bankfull flows.

TERM	DEFINITION
Life history requirements	Habitat and other environmental conditions need to support the series of living phenomena exhibited by an organism in the course of its development from inception to death. This includes seasonal behaviors and daily routines of juvenile and adults of the species.
Lynx analysis unit (LAU)	An area of at least the size used by an individual lynx, from about 25 to 50 square miles. A project analysis unit upon which direct, indirect and cumulative effects analyses are performed.
Listed species (TE)	Listed species (TE) are those listed by the U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service as threatened or endangered under the ESA (FSH 1909.12, 43.22a).
Maintenance level (roads)	Maintenance levels define the level of service provided by, and maintenance required for, a specific road. Maintenance levels must be consistent with road management objectives and maintenance criteria. The objective maintenance level is the maintenance level to be assigned at a future date considering future road management objectives, traffic needs, budget constraints, and environmental concerns. The objective maintenance level may be the same as, or higher or lower than, the operational maintenance level. (FSH 7709.59)
Management area	A specifically identified area on National Forest System lands to which specific plan components (desired conditions, objectives, identification of suitable and unsuitable land uses, or special designations) are applied.
Management direction	A statement of multiple-use and other goals and objectives, the associated management prescriptions, and standards and guidelines for attaining them.
Management indicator species (MIS)	A species selected because its welfare is presumed to be an indicator of the welfare of other species using the same habitat. A species whose condition can be used to assess the impacts of management actions on a particular area.
Management practice	A specific activity, measure, course of action, or treatment.
Management prescription	Management practices and intensity selected and scheduled for application on a specific area to attain multiple-use and other goals and objectives.
Mechanized	Wheeled forms of transportation (including non-motorized carts, wheelbarrows, bicycles and any other non-motorized, wheeled vehicle).

TERM	DEFINITION
Mechanical transport	Any contrivance for moving people or material in and over land, water, or air, having moving parts that provides a mechanical advantage to the user and that is powered by a living or non-living power source. This includes, but is not limited to, sailboats, hang gliders, parachutes, bicycles, game carriers, carts, and wagons. It does not include wheelchairs when used as necessary medical appliances. It also does not include skis, snowshoes, rafts, canoes, sleds, travois, or similar primitive devices without moving parts. (FSM 2320.3)
Minerals – leasable	Coal, oil, gas, phosphate, sodium, potassium, oil shale, Sulphur, and geothermal resources.
Minerals - locatable	Those hardrock minerals that are mined and processed for the recovery of metals. They also may include certain nonmetallic minerals and uncommon varieties of mineral materials, such as valuable and distinctive deposits of limestone or silica.
Minimum impact suppression tactics (MIST)	The concept of minimum impact suppression tactics is to use the minimum amount of forces necessary to effectively achieve fire management protection objectives. It implies a greater sensitivity to the impacts of suppression tactics and their long-term effects, when determining how to implement an appropriate suppression response. Fire managers and firefighters select tactics that have minimal impact to values at risk. These values are identified in approved Land or Resource Management Plans. Standards and guidelines are then tied to implementation practices which result from approved Fire Management Plans. Minimum impact suppression tactics is not intended to represent a separate or distinct classification of firefighting tactics but rather a mindset of how to suppress a wildfire while minimizing the long-term effects of the suppression action on other resources. The principle of fighting fire aggressively but providing for safety first will not be compromised in the process and when selecting an appropriate suppression response, firefighter safety must remain the highest concern.
Mitigation measures	Modifications of actions taken to: (a) avoid impacts by not taking a certain action or parts of an action; (b) minimize impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation; (c) rectify impacts by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; (d) reduce or eliminate impacts over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; or, (e) compensate for impacts by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.
Monitoring	A systematic process of collecting information to evaluate changes in actions, conditions, and relationships over time and space or progress toward meeting desired conditions or plan objectives.

TERM	DEFINITION
Motor Vehicle Use Map	A map reflecting designated roads, trails, and areas on an administrative unit or a ranger district of the National Forest System (36 CFR 212.1).
National Forest System (NFS)	All national forest lands reserved or withdrawn from the public domain of the United States; all national forest lands acquired through purchase, exchange, donation, or other means; the national grasslands and land utilization projects administered under Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (50 Stat. 525, 7 U.S.C. 1010-1012), the Midewin Tallgrass Prairie, and other lands, waters, or interests therein which are administered by the Forest Service or are designated for administration through the Forest Service as a part of the system. (16 U.S.C. 1608)
National visitor use monitoring program (NVUM)	To gain a better understanding of the recreation use, importance of, and satisfaction associated with national forest recreation opportunities, the Forest Service embarked on the national visitor use monitoring project (NVUM) in the late 1990s. Each survey is conducted over the course of one year (October 1 – September 30) and includes questions regarding visitor use (activities), expenditures on recreation activities, and user satisfaction associated with the activities, settings, and infrastructure used while visiting the Forest.
Objectives	Concise projections of measurable, time-specific intended outcomes. The objectives for a plan are the means of measuring progress toward achieving or maintaining desired conditions. Like desired conditions, objectives are aspirations and are not commitments or final decisions approving projects and activities. (36 CFR 219.7)
Occupied habitat	An area that is currently being used by a species for one or more parts of its life history (such as nesting, foraging, roosting, denning). This area will receive repeat use and the animal is not simply travelling through to somewhere else.
Off-highway vehicle (OHV)	Any motor vehicle designed for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other natural terrain. (36 CFR 212.1)
Open motorized trail	Trails that are passable by motorcycles or all-terrain vehicles and are not legally restricted.
Overstory	That portion of the trees in a forest of more than one story, forming the upper or uppermost canopy layer.
Outstandingly remarkable value (wild and scenic rivers)	A river-related value that is a rare, unique, or exemplary feature that is significant at a comparative regional or national scale.

TERM	DEFINITION
Patch (patch size)	<p>A patch is a relatively uniform area of vegetation that differs from its surroundings (NCSSF 2005). Patch size is influenced by disturbance history, vegetation dynamics, topographic position, and soils.</p> <p>For fisheries, a patch or patch size is the connected length of stream available to the focal species. Habitat patches within the subbasin are delineated by aggregating all connected stream kilometers of occupied habitat.</p>
Plan area	The National Forest System lands covered by a plan. (36 CFR 219.16)
Plan components	Broad guidance in a plan that identifies desired conditions, objectives, standards, guidelines, suitability of areas, and special areas.
Plan set of documents	The complete set of documentation supporting the land management plan. It may include, but is not limited to, evaluation reports, documentation of public involvement, the plan including applicable maps, applicable plan improvement documents, applicable NEPA documents, and the monitoring program for the plan area.
Planned fire (planned ignition)	An intentionally ignited fire with the intent to achieve specific objectives. A planned fire is generally covered under a NEPA decision document specifying a specific location, burning conditions, operational and management objectives, and monitoring measures. Includes all prescribed fire including pile burning slash piles. Also, see <i>unplanned fire</i> .
Planning period	The time interval within the planning horizon that is used to show incremental changes in yields, costs, effects, and benefits (generally 15 to 20 years).
Population (ecological)	Organisms of the same species that occur in a particular place at a given time.
Population viability	The likelihood of continued existence of a well-distributed population or species for a specific period. For most scientific analyses, the period is 100 years. For example, high viability is a high likelihood of continued existence of well-distributed populations for a century or longer.
Potential wilderness area	Inventoried lands within National Forest System lands that satisfy the definition of wilderness found in section 2(c) of the 1964 Wilderness Act. (FSH 1909.12, chapter 70, 01/31/2007)
Primitive recreation	Those recreation activities that are non-motorized and do not involve mechanical transport. Examples include hiking, horseback riding, hunting, canoeing, and cross-country skiing.

TERM	DEFINITION
Project	An organized effort to achieve an objective identified by location, activities, outputs, effects, times, and responsibilities for execution.
Project design	The process of developing specific information necessary to describe the location, timing, activities, outputs, effects, accountability, and control of a project.
Proper functioning condition	Proper functioning condition is a concept used to assess natural habitat forming processes of riparian and wetland areas (Pritchard et al. 1998). Systems in a properly functioning condition are dynamic and resilient to disturbance to structure, composition and processes of their biological and physical components. Primary elements typically include hydrologic characteristics, physical structure/form, vegetative characteristics, water quality and quantity, and aquatic/riparian biological community characteristics. The general methodology to assess properly functioning condition provides an integrated measure of condition and can be used at a variety of scales from individual reaches to watersheds.
Public access	Usually refers to a road or trail route over which a public agency claims a right-of-way for public use.
Public involvement (public participation)	A Forest Service process designed to broaden the information base upon which agency approvals and decisions are made by: (a) informing the public about Forest Service activities, plans, and decisions, and (b) encouraging public understanding about and participation in the planning processes that lead to final decision making.
Public issue	A subject or question of widespread public interest relating to management of the National Forest System.
Public participation	See <i>public involvement</i> .
Range allotment	A designated area containing land suitable and available for livestock grazing use upon which a specified number and kind of livestock are grazed under an approved allotment management plan. It is the basic management unit of the range resource on National Forest System lands administered by the Forest Service.
Rangeland	Land on which the indigenous vegetation (climax or natural potential) is predominately grasses, grass-like plants, forbs, or shrubs, and is managed as a natural ecosystem. If plants are introduced, they are managed similarly. Rangeland includes natural grasslands, savannas, shrub lands, many deserts, tundras, alpine communities, marshes, and meadows.

TERM	DEFINITION
Reach	A relatively homogenous section of stream having a repetitious sequence of habitat types and relatively uniform physical attributes such as channel slope, habitat width, habitat depth, streambed substrate and degree of interaction with its floodplain. (PNW Region 6 Stream Inventory Handbook [2010 version 2.1])
Record of decision (ROD)	A document separate from but associated with an environmental impact statement that states the decision; identifies all alternatives, specifying which were environmentally preferable; and states whether all practicable means to avoid environmental harm from the alternative have been adopted, and if not, why not. (40 CFR 1505.2)
Recovery unit (bull trout)	Bull trout recovery units are the major units for managing recovery efforts; each recovery unit is described in a separate chapter in the recovery plan. Most recovery units consist of one or more major river basins. Several factors were considered in identifying recovery units, for example, biological and genetic factors, political boundaries, and ongoing conservation efforts. In some instances, recovery unit boundaries were modified to maximize efficiency of established watershed groups, encompass areas of common threats, or accommodate other logistic concerns. Recovery units may include portions of mainstem rivers (e.g., Columbia and Snake rivers) when biological evidence warrants inclusion. Biologically, bull trout recovery units are considered groupings of bull trout for which gene flow was historically or is currently possible. (USFWS 2013).
Recreation opportunity	An opportunity for a user to participate in a preferred activity within a preferred setting, in order to realize those satisfying experiences which are desired.
Recreation opportunity spectrum	A framework of land delineations that identifies a variety of recreation experience opportunities categorized into classes on a continuum. The spectrum's continuum has been divided into six major classes for Forest Service use: Urban (U), Rural (R), Roaded Natural (RN), Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized (SPNM), Semi-primitive Motorized (SPM), and Primitive (P). (FSM 2311)
Recreation residence	A privately owned dwelling within an established recreation residence tract or group on National Forest System land, authorized for maintenance and use under a special use permit. A vacation structure authorized for the purpose of facilitating the use and enjoyment of related National Forest land and recreation resources by holders, their families, and guests. A recreation residence is not intended for use as the primary or permanent residence of the owner. (FSM 2340.5)

TERM	DEFINITION
Recreation sites	Specific places in the Forest other than roads and trails that are used for recreational activities. These sites include a wide range of recreational activities and associated development. These sites include highly developed facilities like ski areas, resorts, and campgrounds. It also includes dispersed recreation sites that have few or no improvements but show the effects of repeated recreation use.
Reforestation	The natural or artificial restocking of an area with forest trees; most commonly used in reference to artificial restocking.
Refugia	Locations and habitats that support populations of organisms that are limited to small fragments of their previous geographic range (i.e., endemic populations). (FEMAT)
Regional Forester	The official responsible for administering a single Forest Service region.
Regulated timber production	The technical (rather than legal or administrative) aspect of controlling forest stocking, periodic harvests, growth, and yields to meet management objectives including sustained yield. This control can be done either by area, volume of growing stock, or basal area measures. A regulated forest reaches sustained yield when the volume cut periodically equals the amount of net volume growth for that same period.
Rehabilitation	A short-term management alternative used to return existing visual impacts in the natural landscape to a desired visual quality.
Resilience	The capacity of a system to absorb disturbance and reorganize while undergoing change so as to still retain essentially the same function, structure, identity, and feedbacks. (FSM 2000, Chapter 2020)
Responsible official	The official with the authority and responsibility to oversee the planning process and to approve plans, plan amendments, and plan revisions. (36 CFR 219.16)
Restoration	The process of assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged, or destroyed. It is an intentional activity that initiates or accelerates the recovery of an ecosystem with respect to its health, integrity, and sustainability.
Reviewing officer	The supervisor of the responsible official. The reviewing officer responds to objections made to a plan, plan amendment, or plan revision prior to approval. (36 CFR 219.16)

TERM	DEFINITION
Riparian area	Areas adjacent to rivers, streams, seeps, springs, and wetlands that are shaped and maintained by water table height, flooding, scour, and soil deposition. Riparian areas provide habitat for aquatic and upland plants and animals, and provide shade, bank stability, and runoff filtration
Riparian-dependent resources	Resources that owe their existence to the riparian area
Riparian ecosystem	An ecosystem whose components are directly or indirectly attributed to the influence of surface and groundwater (www.icbemp.gov), located adjacent to rivers, streams, and other hydrologic features. Riparian ecosystems encompass both the river and adjacent floodplain, and provide the transition between the aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem.
Riparian Habitat Conservation Area / Riparian management area	Lands along permanently flowing streams, ponds, lakes, wetlands, seeps, springs, intermittent streams, and unstable sites that may influence these areas where management activities are designed to maintain, restore or enhance the ecological health of aquatic and riparian ecosystems and dependent resources.
Road	A motor vehicle route over 50 inches wide, unless identified and managed as a trail.
Road construction	FSM 7705 defines road construction or reconstruction together as the supervising, inspecting, actual building, and incurrence of all costs incidental to the construction or reconstruction of a road (36 CFR 212.1).
Road decommissioning	Activities that result in restoration of unneeded roads to a more natural state <i>see decommissioning</i> . (FSM 7734)
Road maintenance	Ongoing upkeep of a road necessary to maintain or restore the road in accordance with its road management objectives. (FSM 7714)
Roadless area	<i>See inventoried roadless area</i>
Scenic integrity objective (SIO)	The scenic integrity objectives serve as the desired conditions for the scenic resources and represent the degree of intactness of positive landscape attributes. SIOs are categorized into 5 levels. The highest scenic integrity ratings are given to those landscapes where valued landscape attributes will appear complete with little or no visible deviations evident. Lower SIOs are given to those landscapes where modifications to the landscape will be more evident.

TERM	DEFINITION
Self-sustaining population	Populations that are sufficiently abundant, interacting, and well distributed in the plan area, within the bounds of their life history and distribution of the species and the capability of the landscape, to provide for their long-term persistence, resilience and adaptability over multiple generations.
Sensitive species	Those species of plants or animals that have appeared in the Federal Register as proposed for classification and are under consideration for official listing as endangered or threatened species, that are on an official state list, or that are recognized by the Regional Forester as needing special management to prevent their being placed on federal or state lists.
Seral stage	A biotic community that is a developmental, transitory stage in an ecological succession.
Sidecast	Placement of unconsolidated excavated material from road construction and maintenance over the downhill side of the road.
Silvicultural practices	Activities that control the establishment, composition, structure, and function of forested ecosystems.
Slope distance	A measure of distance along a slope.
Snag	A standing dead tree usually greater than 5 feet in height and 6 inches in diameter at breast height (d.b.h.).
Source water protection area habitat	Source water is untreated water from streams, rivers, lakes or underground aquifers that provides public drinking water. A source water protection area is the land area contributing to a public water system where potential contamination could affect drinking water supply. Those characteristics of macrovegetation that contribute to stationary or positive population growth. Distinguished from habitats associated with species occurrence: such habitats may or may not contribute to long-term population persistence (Wisdom et al. 2000).
Special areas	Areas in the National Forest System designated for their unique or special characteristics. (36 CFR 219.7)
Special forest products	Products collected from National Forest System lands that include, but are not limited to, bark, berries, boughs, bryophytes, bulbs, burls, Christmas trees, cones, ferns, firewood, forbs, fungi (including mushrooms), grasses, mosses, nuts, pine straw, roots, sedges, seeds, transplants, tree sap, wildflowers, fence material, mine props, posts and poles, shingle and shake bolts, and rails. Special forest products do not include sawtimber, pulpwood, non-sawlog material removed in log form, cull logs, small roundwood, house logs, telephone poles, derrick poles, minerals, animals, animal parts, insects, worms, rocks, water, and soil (36 CFR part 223 Subpart G).

TERM	DEFINITION
Special use authorization	A permit, term permit, lease, or easement that allows occupancy, use, rights, or privileges of National Forest System land.
Species-at-risk	All ESA listed TES , SOC and SOI form a suite of species recognized as potentially sensitive to management actions from which focal species are chosen to serve as surrogates for assessing current conditions and potential effects of alternatives to other aquatic vertebrate and invertebrate species, and other species-at-risk. The criteria, established in FSH 1909.12 Chapter 43.22, determine how species–at-risk are sorted.
Species of concern (SOC)	Species of concern are species for which the responsible official determines if management actions may be necessary to prevent listing under the ESA. Identified species of concern may include entities such as distinct population segments or evolutionarily significant units that may be listed under the ESA.
Species of interest (SOI)	Species-of-interest (SOI) are species for which the responsible official determines that management actions may be necessary or desirable to achieve ecological or other multiple-use objectives (FSH 1909.12, 43.22c).
Species viability	A viable population is one for which the number and distribution of reproductive individuals would “insure its continued existence”. (1982 Planning rule)
Standards	Constraints upon project and activity decision-making explicitly identified in a plan as ‘standards.’ Standards are established to help achieve the desired conditions and objectives of a plan and to comply with applicable laws, regulations, Executive orders, and agency directives (36 CFR 219.7(a)(3). A standard differs from a guideline in that a standard is a strict design criteria, allowing no variation, whereas a guideline allows variation if the result would be equally effective. (FSH 1909.12)
Stewardship	Natural resource management emphasizing careful and conscientious use and conservation of resources and ecosystems in a sustainable manner.
Structural Stage	Tree structure is classified into five general groups based on diameter and canopy cover. The diameter is based on the quadratic mean diameter in inches of trees whose heights are in the top 25 percent of all tree heights in the stand. This generally means that the diameters of the larger co-dominant trees in a stand are used to define the structure class.
Structural Stage – Early	Trees less than 10 inches d.b.h. ⁶ or canopy cover less than 10 percent
Structural Stage – Mid Open	Trees 10 to 20 inches d.b.h., canopy cover between 10 and 40 percent

⁶ d.b.h. = diameter at breast height.

TERM	DEFINITION
Structural Stage – Mid Closed	Trees 10 to 20 inches d.b.h., canopy cover 40 percent or greater
Structural Stage – Late Open	Trees 20 inches or greater d.b.h., canopy cover between 10 and 40 percent
Structural Stage – Late Closed	Trees 20 inches or greater d.b.h., canopy cover 40 percent or greater
Subbasin	A watershed with a drainage area of approximately 800,000 to 1,000,000 acres, equivalent to a 4th-field hydrologic unit code (HUC8). Hierarchically, subwatersheds are contained within a 5 th -field watershed, which are contained within subbasins. (ICBEMP) See <i>Hydrologic Unit System</i>
Subwatershed	A watershed with a drainage area of 10,000 to 40,000 acres, equivalent to a 6th-field Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC12). Hierarchically, subwatersheds are contained within 5 th -field watersheds, which are contained within subbasins. (ICBEMP)) See <i>Hydrologic Unit System</i>
Succession	<p>The sequential replacement over time of one plant community by another, in the absence of major disturbance. The different stages of succession are often referred to as seral stages. Developmental stages are as follows:</p> <p>Early seral: Communities that occur early in the successional path and generally have less complex structural developmental than other successional communities. Seedling and sapling size classes are an example of early seral forests.</p> <p>Mid-seral: Communities that occur in the middle of the successional path. For forests, this usually corresponds to the pole or medium saw timber-size growth stages.</p> <p>Late-seral: Communities that occur in the later stage of the successional path with mature, generally larger individuals, such as mature forests.</p>
Suitable habitat	Habitat that currently has both the fixed and variable attributes for a given species habitat requirements. Variable attributes change over time and may include seral stage, cover type and overstory canopy cover.
Suitability	The appropriateness of a particular area of land for applying certain resource management practices, as determined by an analysis of the existing resource condition and the social, economic, and environmental consequences and the alternative uses foregone. A unit of land may be suitable for a variety of individual or combined management practices.
Surrogate species	Intended to represent ecological conditions that generate sustainable ecosystems

TERM	DEFINITION
Sustainability	Meeting needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Sustainability is composed of desirable social, economic, and ecological conditions or trends interacting at varying spatial and temporal scales embodying the principles of multiple-use and sustained-yield.
Thermal cover	Cover used by animals to lessen the effects of weather; for elk, a stand of coniferous trees 12 meters (40 feet) or more tall with an average crown closure of 70 percent or more; for deer, cover may include saplings, shrubs, or trees at least 1.5 meters (5 feet) tall) with 75 percent crown closure.
Threatened species	Any species of animal or plant that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range and which has been designated in the Federal Register by the Secretary of Interior as a threatened species.
Timber harvest	The removal of trees for wood-fiber use and other multiple-use purposes.
Timber harvest as a tool	Areas where timber harvest is allowed to be used to reach multiple-use objectives, but regulated timber production is not a suitable use.
Timber harvest, scheduled production	Lands where regulated timber production is suitable.
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.
Transportation and utility corridor	A parcel of land, without fixed limits or boundaries, which is used as the location for one or more transportation or utility right-of-ways. (36 CFR 219.3)
Transportation system	The system of National Forest System roads, national forest trails and airfields on National Forest System lands. (36 CFR 212.1)
Travel management	Travel management decisions include adding a route to or removing a route from the forest transportation system, constructing an National Forest System road or National Forest System trail, acquiring an National Forest System route through a land purchase or exchange, decommissioning a route, approving an area for motor vehicle use, or changing allowed motor vehicle classes or time of year for motor vehicle use. (FSM 7715)
Unauthorized roads or trails	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. (36 CFR 212.1)

TERM	DEFINITION
Uncharacteristic fire	<p>Any fire that occurs outside the time, space, and severity parameters of the natural fire regime for the vegetation group.</p> <p>RCW 76.06.020(16), "ecologically atypical for a forest or vegetation type or plant association and refers to fire, insect or disease events that are not within a natural range of variability."</p> <p>WDNR. 2012. Staff Report: Forest Health Technical Advisory Committee. Washington State Department of Natural Resources.</p>
Understory reinitiation	<p>Establishment of tree regeneration as older trees occupy less than full growing space.</p>
Uneven-aged management	<p>The application of a combination of actions that results in the creation or maintenance of stands with several different ages of trees. Managed uneven-aged forests are characterized by a distribution of tree ages throughout the forest area. An uneven-aged stand of trees is one in which there are differences in age among the individual trees. Group selection, variable density thinning, and shelterwood with reserves are methods that produce uneven-aged stands (Helms 1998)</p>
Unplanned fire	<p>Any unplanned non-structural fire. Any unplanned fire may be concurrently managed for one or more objectives and those objectives can change as the fire spreads across the landscape, encountering new fuels, weather, social conditions, and governmental jurisdictions. Current policy requires that all arson fires be suppressed.</p>
Unroaded	<p>Unroaded areas are large and contiguous areas, usually over 5,000 acres, with no Forest Service System roads. They provide a recreational setting without Forest Service System roads.</p>
Utility and transportation corridors	<p>See <i>Transportation and utility corridors</i>.</p>
Variable density thinning	<p>A type of variable retention harvest system that retains structural elements and biological legacies (snags, logs, trees) from the harvested stand for incorporation into the new stand to achieve various ecological objectives (Helms 1998)</p>

TERM	DEFINITION
Vegetation management	<p>Activities designed primarily to promote the health of forest vegetation in order to achieve desired results. When vegetation is actively managed, it means that it is manipulated or changed on purpose by humans to produce desired results. Where active management of vegetation is required, techniques are based on the latest scientific research and mimic natural processes as closely as possible. Vegetation management is the practice of manipulating the species mix, age, fuel load, and/or distribution of wildland plant communities within a prescribed or designated management area in order to achieve desired results. It includes prescribed burning, grazing, chemical applications, biomass harvesting, and any other economically feasible methods of enhancing, retarding, modifying, transplanting, or removing the aboveground parts of plants.</p>
Watershed	<p>The area of land where all contributing water drains to a single defined outlet point. (FEMAT, IX-39). Watersheds occur and are categorized at various scales, described in the Hydrologic Unit system definition.</p> <p>A watershed is also the 5th field hydrologic unit within the Hydrologic Unit system. Fifth-field watersheds classified by the Hydrologic Unit system are approximately 250,000 acres. Hierarchically, 5th-field watersheds, are contained within subbasins, and contain subwatersheds.</p>
Watershed condition class	<p>Watershed condition is the state of physical and biological characteristics and processes within a watershed that affect the hydrologic and soil functions supporting aquatic ecosystems (Potyondy and Geier 2010). Three classes are used to describe watershed condition (FSM 2521.1):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class 1: Functioning properly--watersheds exhibit high geomorphic, hydrologic, and biotic integrity relative to their natural potential condition; • Class 2: Functioning at risk--watersheds exhibit moderate geomorphic, hydrologic, and biotic integrity relative to their natural potential condition; • Class 3: Impaired function--watersheds exhibit low geomorphic, hydrologic, and biotic integrity relative to their natural potential condition. <p>Change in watershed condition class through focused restoration activities is the nationally consistent measure to demonstrate improvement in watershed condition on NFS lands.</p>

TERM	DEFINITION
Wetlands	<p>Areas that are inundated by surface or ground water with a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas.</p>
Wild and scenic rivers	<p>Those rivers or sections of rivers designated as such by congressional action under the 1968 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as supplemented and amended, or those sections of rivers designated as wild, scenic, or recreational by an act of the Legislature of the State or States through which they flow. Wild and scenic rivers may be classified and administered under one or more of the following categories:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wild River Areas-- Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America. 2. Scenic River Areas-- Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments, with watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads. 3. Recreational River Areas-- Those rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shorelines, and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.
Wilderness	<p>An area of National Forest System land designated by Congress and wilderness is defined in sec. 2(c) of the Wilderness Act (16 U.S.C. 1131-1136). The term wilderness is applied to all National Forest System lands included in the National Wilderness Preservation System. (FSM 2320.5)</p>
Wilderness resource spectrum (WRS)	<p>A spectrum of wilderness conditions including finer gradations of naturalness and solitude mapped as pristine, primitive, semi-primitive, and transition. WRS is a kind of zoning where different management prescriptions apply.</p>
Wildland-urban interface (WUI)	<p>Wildland-urban interface (WUI) is defined as “the line, area, or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels” (NWCC 2012). In applying Title I of Healthy Forests Restoration Act (HFRA) (P.L. 108-148), this term means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An area within or adjacent to an at-risk community identified in recommendations to the Secretary in a Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP), <p>or, in the case of any area for which a CWPP is not in effect:</p>

TERM	DEFINITION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="574 264 1419 642">• An area extending ½ mile from the boundary of an at-risk community; an area within 1 ½ miles of the boundary of an at-risk community including any land that has a sustained steep slope that creates the potential for wildland fire behavior endangering the at-risk community, has a geographic feature that aids in creating an effective firebreak, such as a road or ridgetop, or is in Condition Class 3, as documented by the Secretary in the project-specific environmental analysis; and an area that is adjacent to an evacuation route for an at-risk that the Secretary determines (in cooperation with the at-risk community) requires hazardous fuel reduction to provide safer evacuation. <p data-bbox="526 674 1419 772">When not using Title I of the HFRA, use the definition of wildland-urban interface community from the Federal Register, January 4, 2001, pages 752 to 753.</p>
Winter Range	The area available to and used by wildlife (big game) during the winter season (Dec 1 to April 30). Generally, lands below 4,000 feet in elevation, on south and west aspects, that provides forage and cover.