

Land Management Plan for the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests
Administrative Change #4
CHANGE PAGES
October 31, 2017

This Administrative Change to the 2015 Land Management Plan for the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests implements changes to the plan to clarify definitions of transportation-related terms given in chapter 4 (Suitability) and in the Glossary.

These change pages may be used to replace the original pages in the printed document. In all cases, pages with changes are paired with their overleaf pages to enable two-sided printing. An updated electronic version (PDF) of the Land Management Plan will be posted to the Forests' website at a later date. Pages which have been changed are identified in the page footers, and the date of the change (October 31, 2017) has been included.

^b Tree cutting for research purposes is allowed.

^c Trees may be cut in the Primitive Area or Wilderness Management Areas with nonmotorized equipment (e.g., axe, bucksaw) and primarily for trail maintenance (FSM 2323.13f, 2323.53, 2326).

^d Tree cutting is not suitable in segments classified as wild except where needed in association with a primitive recreation experience such as to clear trails (FSH 1909.12 Chapter 82.51).

Motorized Uses Suitability

This section describes the suitability of areas for motorized uses, including motorized travel and new designated motorized areas, roads, trails, or temporary roads intended for motorized vehicles.

Table 1 below displays areas that are suitable and not suitable for motorized travel. **Motorized travel** is defined as movement using machines that use a motor, engine, or other nonliving power sources other than a vehicle operated on rails or a wheelchair or mobility device, including one that is battery powered, that is designed solely for the use by a mobility impaired person for locomotion and that is suitable for use in an indoor pedestrian area.



Figure 1. A forest user rides along the Saffel Canyon OHV Trail

This plan provides the framework to guide future changes to the transportation system. Once the final decision of this plan has been made, potential changes to the forests' transportation system will be evaluated under this framework and through implementation of the Travel Management Rule (36 CFR § 212). Upon completion of travel management planning, the associated motor vehicle use map (MVUM) would be printed. The MVUM would display the roads, trails, and areas that are designated for motorized vehicle use. Travel management planning is not a static process. Based on public input, monitoring, and site-specific analysis, the MVUM could be adjusted. The annual reissuing of the MVUM would reflect any changes made through the NEPA process. Use inconsistent with those designations, and inconsistent with this plan, would be prohibited.

Table 1. Suitability of motorized travel on the Apache-Sitgreaves NFs

Area	Motorized Travel Suitable	Motorized Travel Not Suitable
On NFS roads, NFS motorized trails, or designated motorized areas	X	
Off of NFS roads, NFS motorized trails, or designated motorized areas (unless exempted ^a)		X

^a Per the Travel Management Rule (36 CFR § 212 Subpart B), the following vehicles and uses are exempted: (a) aircraft; (b) watercraft; (c) over-snow vehicles²; (d) limited administrative use by the Forest Service; (e) use of any fire,

² Use by over-snow vehicles is governed by Subpart C of the Travel Management Rule, which states that “use by over-snow vehicles on National Forest System roads and National Forest System trails and in areas on National Forest lands may be allowed, restricted,

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military, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle for emergency purposes; (f) authorized use of any combat or combat support vehicle for national defense purposes; (g) law enforcement response to violations of law, including pursuit; (h) motor vehicle use that is specifically authorized under a written authorization issued under Federal law or regulations; and (i) use of a road or trail that is authorized by a legally documented right-of-way held by a State, county, or other local public road authority.

Table 2 displays management areas and other places that are suitable and not suitable for future consideration of a new designated (motorized) area, [National Forest System road](#), designated (motorized) [NFS trail](#), or temporary road construction. An **area** is a discrete, specifically delineated space that is smaller, and in most cases much smaller, than a Ranger District. **Designated roads, trails, or areas** are those that are designated for motor vehicle use pursuant to 36 CFR § 212.51 on a motor vehicle use map. **Trails** are divided into two categories—greater than 50 inches and less than 50 inches—to accommodate a variety of vehicles. **Temporary roads** are roads necessary for emergency operations or are authorized by contract, permit, lease, or other written authorization; they are not a NFS road or trail and not included in a forest transportation atlas. Temporary roads are removed or rehabilitated following completion of the activity for which they were built.

Table 2. Suitability for new designated motorized areas, NFS roads, NFS motorized trails, and temporary road construction on the Apache-Sitgreaves NFs

Management Area	New Designated Motorized Area		NFS Road and NFS Motorized Trail > 50"		NFS Motorized Trail < 50"		Temporary Road	
	Suitable	Not Suitable	Suitable	Not Suitable	Suitable	Not Suitable	Suitable	Not Suitable
General Forest	X		X		X		X	
Community-Forest Intermix	X		X		X		X	
High Use Developed Recreation Area		X	X		X		X	
Energy Corridor		X	X			X	X	
Wild Horse Territory	X		X		X		X	
Wildlife Quiet Area		X		X		X	X	
Natural Landscape		X		X		X	X	
Recommended Research Natural Area		X		X		X		X
Research Natural		X		X		X		X

or prohibited.

restrictions to prevent disturbance to owls during the breeding season (March 1 through August 31).

Mosaic – Mix of recurring patterns of forested and non-forested areas at the identified scale (e.g., landscape, watershed, mid-scale). Patterns are variable and may change over time.

Motorized travel – Movement using machines that use a motor, engine, or other nonliving power sources other than a vehicle operated on rails or a wheelchair or mobility device, including one that is battery powered, designed solely for the use by a mobility-impaired person for locomotion and that is suitable for use in an indoor pedestrian area.

Motor vehicle use map (MVUM) – The MVUM displays designated roads, trails, and areas on an administrative unit or a ranger district of the National Forest System.

National Forest System (NFS) – As defined in the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-378), the “National Forest System” includes 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 use projects administered under Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (50 Stat. 525, 7 USC 1010-1012); and other lands, waters, or interests therein administered by the Forest Service or are designated for administration through the Forest Service as part of the system.

National Forest System road (NFSR) – A road 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 of the National Forest System and the use and development of its resources. A forest road other than a road which has been authorized by a legally documented right-of-way held by a state, county, or other local public road authority (36 CFR § 212.1).

National Forest System trail – A 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 of the National Forest System and the use and development of its resources. A forest trail other than a trail which has been authorized by a legally documented right-of-way held by a state, county, or other local public road authority (36 CFR § 212.1).

Native species – A species which is a part of the original fauna or flora in the area in question.

Natural disturbance regime – The historic patterns (frequency and extent) of fire, insects, wind, landslides, floods, and other natural processes in an area.

Natural fire regime – The fire regime that existed prior to human facilitated interruption of frequency, extent, or severity.

Naturalized – A species or subspecies that is not native to an area, but one which has adapted to that area and has a stable or expanding population. In some cases, species move into a new area by themselves, but in most instances they are human-associated introductions.

Natural potential condition – (pertaining to watershed conditions) Conditions that are referred to as pristine and show little or no influence from human actions. Watersheds that are properly functioning have terrestrial, riparian, and aquatic ecosystems that capture, store, and release water, sediment, wood, and nutrients within their range of natural variability for these processes. When watersheds are functioning properly, they create and sustain functional terrestrial, riparian, aquatic, and wetland habitats that are capable of supporting diverse populations of native aquatic- and riparian-dependent species (Forest Service, 2011).

Nonindustrial wood – Includes aspen, junipers, piñon pines, Chihuahuan pine, oaks, and any industrial species cut from non-suitable timberlands. Wood cut as nonindustrial may be used as firewood and/or biomass. Sometimes referred to as non-ASQ species.

Nonmotorized travel – Movement not relying on machines that use a motor, engine, or other nonliving power source (e.g., walking, canoeing, horseback riding).

Nonpoint source pollution (NPS) – NPS refers to water pollution affecting water quality from diffuse sources, such as polluted runoff from agricultural areas draining into lakes, wetlands, rivers, and streams. NPS can be contrasted with point source pollution, where discharges occur to a body of water at a single location, such as discharges from a chemical factory or urban runoff from a roadway or storm drain. NPS may derive from many different sources with no specific solution to rectify the problem, making it difficult to regulate.

Noxious weed – Any plant or plant product that can directly or indirectly injure or cause damage to crops (including nursery stock or plant products), livestock, poultry, or other interests of agriculture, irrigation, navigation, the natural resources of the United States, the public health, or the environment. The term typically describes species of plants that have been determined to be undesirable or injurious in some capacity. Federal noxious weeds are regulated by USDA-Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service under the Plant Protection Act of 2000, which superseded the Federal Noxious Weed Act of 1974. When the species are native, they are not considered invasive species by the Federal Government.

Old growth – In southwestern forested ecosystems, old growth is different than the traditional definition based on northwestern infrequent fire forests. Due to large differences among Southwest forested PNVTs and natural disturbances, old growth forests vary extensively in tree size, age classes, presence, and abundance of structural elements, stability, and presence of understory (Helms, ed., 1998). Old growth refers to specific habitat components that occur in forests and woodlands—old trees, dead trees (snags), downed wood (coarse woody debris), and structure diversity (Franklin and Spies, 1991; Helms, ed., 1998; Kaufmann et al., 2007). These important habitat features may occur in small areas, with only a few components, or over larger areas as stands or forests where old growth is concentrated (Kaufmann et al., 2007). In the Southwest, old growth is considered “transitional” (Oliver and Larson, 1996), given that the location of old growth shifts on the landscape over time as a result of succession and disturbance (tree growth and mortality). Some species, notably certain plants, require “old forest” communities that may or may not have old growth components but have escaped significant disturbance for lengths of time necessary to provide the suitable stability and environment. See appendix B for a more detailed description.

Old growth components – Include old trees, dead trees (snags), downed wood (coarse woody debris), and structural diversity