

GLOSSARY AND ACRONYMS

Scoping Period

R5 Forest Plan Revisions

Inyo, Sequoia and Sierra National Forests

This document will evolve as new terms and acronyms emerge from discussions with the public and agency stakeholders who are seeking clarity.

CARA

Comment Analysis and Response Application: A web-based computer application that collects comments and comment responses for a particular project in an easily accessible and searchable centralized repository. Members of the public can type their comments directly into CARA by using the comment link at the following web address: <http://tinyurl.com/r5earlyadopters>.

EIS

Environmental impact statement: A document prepared under the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). An EIS represents the federal agency's evaluation of the effect of a proposed action on the environment. The documents are issued as a draft EIS (DEIS) and a final EIS (FEIS).

EPA

The United States Environmental Protection Agency.

Conservation

Measures taken to achieve preservation, maintenance or restoration goals without impairing the sustainable flow of uses, values, benefits, products, services and visitor opportunities for current and future generations.

CEQA

California Environmental Quality Act: Similar to NEPA but applies to state projects, whereas NEPA applies to federal projects. CEQA requires California state and local agencies to consider environmental protection and impacts of projects. If the potential for adverse impacts exists, then an environmental impact report may be required.

FPR

Forest plan revision.

NEPA

National Environmental Policy Act: legislation that requires federal agencies to consider the impacts to the environment in their decision-making processes by considering the environmental consequences of their proposed actions and reasonable alternatives to those actions.

NOI

Notice of Intent: A federal agency informs the public about a potential new project and begins the scoping process (invites public input) for an EIS by publishing a notice in the Federal Register.

PA

The proposed action is a plan that a federal agency intends to implement or undertake and which is the subject of an environmental analysis. The agency will analyze the proposed action and alternatives that are developed with the help of public comments during the scoping period.

2012 Planning Rule

A national rule finalized by the USDA Forest Service in 2012 that guides forest planning for all national forest system lands.

Programmatic Forest Plan

“Programmatic” plans generally pertain to broad geographic areas and focus at the program or policy level rather than site-specific action. The Forest Plan directs certain programs and activities that can and cannot occur in different areas or under different conditions on a National Forest but does not make decisions to allow any particular project. Individual projects are separately evaluated considering site-specific conditions and are designed to comply with direction contained in the Forest Plan.

ROD

Record of decision: the ROD notifies the public of the decision made on the proposed action and presents the reasons for that decision. The ROD is published in the Federal Register.

RO

USDA, Forest Service Regional Office: California and the national forests within are located in Region 5, the Pacific Southwest Region of the United States Forest Service. The Regional Office is located in Vallejo, California.

Scoping Period

This is the period of time for public comments and input regarding a proposed action. Public input helps to define the significant issues that should be studied in an environmental impact statement. During the scoping period, the public can provide written comments about the proposed action or attend public meetings to learn more about the proposed activities.

Suitability of Lands

Specific lands within a forest plan area are identified as suitable for various multiple uses or activities based on the desired conditions applicable to those lands. Lands are identified within the forest plan area as not suitable for uses that are not compatible with desired conditions for those lands. The suitability of lands need not be identified for every use or activity. Suitability identifications may be made after consideration of historic uses and of issues that have arisen in the planning process. Every forest plan must identify those lands that are not suitable for timber production.

Sustainability

Sustainability is used to describe the ability to meet the needs of the present generation, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

USDA

United States Department of Agriculture

USFS

United States Forest Service: An agency in the Department of Agriculture.

Watershed

The land area that ultimately drains into a particular waterway.

WUI

Wildland urban interface: this is the land area or space between relatively undeveloped wildland and areas and communities with human development.