

Scale: Defined in the framework as geographic extent; for example, region, sub-regional or landscape scale.

Scenery: General appearance of a place, general appearance of a landscape, or features of a landscape.

Scenery Management: The art and science of arranging, planning, and designing landscape attributes relative to the appearance of places and expanses in outdoor settings.

Scenic Attractiveness: The scenic importance of a landscape based on human perceptions of the intrinsic beauty of landform, rockform, waterform, and vegetation pattern. Reflects varying visual perception attributes of variety, unity, vividness, intactness, coherence, mystery, uniqueness, harmony, balance, and pattern. Attractiveness is classified as: A) Distinctive, B) Typical or Common, C) Undistinguished.

Scenic Concern Level –Public value and importance of views. See Agricultural Handbook #701, Chapter 4 to further define concern levels and their use to map landscape visibility and establish Scenic Integrity Objectives. **Concern Level 1:** A travel route or site where use is high, and/or concern for the scenery is high. **Concern Level 2:** A travel route or site where use is low or moderate, and/or concern for the scenery is moderate.

Scenic Integrity: State of naturalness or, conversely, the state of disturbance created by human activities or alteration. Integrity is stated in degree of deviation from the existing landscape character in a national forest. The objectives managed for are:

Very High – Generally provides for ecological change only.

High – Human activities are not visually evident. Activities may only repeat attributes of form, line, color, and texture found in the existing attributes, qualities or traits of a landscape that give it an image and make it identifiable or unique.

Moderate - Human activities must remain visually subordinate to the attributes of the existing landscape character. They may repeat form, line, color or texture common to these characters but changes in quality size, number intensity etc. must remain visually subordinate to the attributes, qualities or traits of a landscape that give it an image and make it identifiable or unique.

Low – Human activities of vegetative and landform alterations may dominate the original, natural landscape character but should appear as natural occurrences when viewed at background distances.

Scenic Quality: The essential attributes of landscape that when viewed by people, elicit psychological and physiological benefits to individuals and therefore, to society in general.

Scenic Resource: Attributes, characteristics, and features of landscapes that provide varying responses from and degrees of benefits to humans.

Secure Areas: Areas **1/3 of a mile from a route open to motor vehicles, larger than 10 acres.**

Sensitive Species: 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

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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. Forest Service sensitive species are not "listed" under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and may not occur on all the forests within a Forest Service Region. Regional sensitive species lists undergo periodic review and are subject to change. G rankings denote global (range-wide) and state status from 1 (critically imperiled) to 5 (demonstrably secure)

Seral Stage: The series of plant community conditions that develop during ecological succession from bare ground (or major disturbance) to the climax stage. *Early seral stage* is a condition in which plants are present soon after a disturbance or at the beginning of a new successional process (seedling or saplings in a forest). Grass, herbs, or brush are abundant, diversity is high. A *mid-seral stage* is characterized in a forest setting has almost full crown closure in pole-to medium-sized trees. Understory vegetation and species diversity is less due to tree shading. A *late seral stage* is a condition with mature trees, often of old forest character. Tree growth has slowed, mortality has increased, understory forage is minimal, structural diversity may be high, and species diversity is generally less.

Short Interval Fire-Adapted Ecosystems: Those plant and animal communities that depend on frequently occurring wildland fires to cycle nutrients, control pathogens, maintain species composition, population, and distribution in healthy resilient condition across broad landscapes.

SILC 3: Satellite imagery land cover classification system (SILC) was started in the early 1990s to create regional land cover type, tree size, and tree canopy GIS databases for Montana and Idaho. The University of Montana developed the system with Region One of the U.S. Forest Service, the USGS Gap Analysis Program (GAP), and the state of Montana (Wildlife Spatial Analysis Lab. University of Montana. <http://ku.wru.umt.edu/project/silcpage/index.shtml>. For the SIC3 2001 second west-central Montana classification see Metadata link: [SILC3REGIONZ Region Gird Metadata](#). This land cover grid is suited for analysis at the regional, sub-regional, and landscape levels. It is not for use at scales finer than 1:100,000.

Three of the SILC3 west-central Montana Landsat scenes were re-classified for sagebrush canopy cover classes for the Dillon Resource Area Office of the BLM in early 2002. In SILC3 all xeric shrublands and sagebrush types were classified as one combined type and had no canopy cover information. For this project five Sagebrush/Xeric Shrubland canopy cover classes were added to the map legend and a new classification was run for the three SILC3 scenes. (Wildlife Spatial Analysis Lab) For more information on the SILC3 sagebrush reclassification go to: [Southwest Montana Sagebrush Canopy Cover Classification](#).

Ski Touring: Includes all types of backcountry skiing from cross country with a focus on covering terrain, seeing the sights and being away from well traveled routes to climbing snow covered mountains to ski downhill. It does not include lift-assisted skiing.

Snowmobile: A motorized vehicle capable of use over snow or ice driven by a combination of cleats, belts, tracks, and skis.

Soil Classification: Systematic arrangement of soils into groups or categories on the basis of their characteristics; the USDA soil classification system divided from Orders to Suborders, Great Groups, Subgroups, Family, and Type or Series Naming convention at the upper levels is based on Greek and Latin root words; at the series level naming is based on geographic place names.

Soil Function: Primary soil functions are: (1) the sustenance of biological activity, diversity, and productivity, (2) soil hydrologic function, (3) filtering, buffering, immobilizing, and detoxifying organic materials, and (4) storing and cycling nutrients and other materials.

Special Interest Area: An area important for cultural, biological, or geological features or values.

Special-Use Authorization: A permit, lease, or easement that authorizes the use or occupancy of National Forest System lands for certain purposes other than grazing, forest products, or minerals. (36 CFR 251.51)

Species: A unit of classification of plants and animals consisting of the largest and most inclusive array of sexually reproducing and cross-fertilizing individuals, which share a common gene pool.

Species Viability: A species consisting of self-sustaining and interacting populations that are well distributed through the species' range. Self-sustaining populations are those that are sufficiently abundant and have sufficient genetic diversity to display the array of life history strategies and forms to provide high likelihood for their long-term persistence and adaptability over time.

Stand: A community of trees or other vegetation uniform in composition, constitution, spatial arrangement, or condition to be distinguishable from adjacent communities.

Stand Composition: The representation of tree species in a forest stand, expressed by some measure of dominance (i.e., % volume, number, basal area).

Standard: A particular action, level of performance, or threshold specified by the Forest Plan for resource protection or accomplishment of management objectives. Unlike "guidelines" which are optional, standards specified in the Forest Plan are mandatory.

Stream Channel Stability: A classification system that utilizes ocular estimates of various channel, bank, and riparian area.

Stream Order: 1st order stream is a headwater stream. A 3rd order stream is the third branch from the 1st order stream.

Subpopulation: A geographically distinct segment of a larger population.

Succession: The replacement in time of one plant community with another r. The prior plant community (or successional stage) creates conditions that are favorable for the establishment of the next stage.

Successional Stage: A stage or recognizable condition of a plant community, which occurs during its development from bare ground to climax.

Suitability for Wild and Scenic Rivers: Evaluation of eligible rivers for inclusion into the national Wild and Scenic River System by determining the best use of the river corridor and the best method to protect the outstandingly remarkable values within the river corridor.

Summer: Season of use is **May 16 through December 1.**

Summer Backcountry: *Semi-primitive motorized* recreation settings. (See ROS)

Sustainability: The ability to maintain a desired condition or flow of benefits over time.

T

TE&S: Threatened, Endangered and Sensitive in reference to species.

Temporal: Related to time.

Terrestrial: Pertaining to the land.

Threatened Species: A U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service designation of a plant or animal species likely to become endangered throughout all or a specific portion of its range within the foreseeable future.

Timber Harvest: Timber harvest is an activity or tool by which trees are removed from the forest for numerous management purposes, one of which may be timber production.

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.

Traditional Cultural Property: An site eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places because of its association with cultural practices or beliefs of a living community that are rooted in that community's history and are important in maintaining the continued cultural identify of the community.

Trail: A commonly used term denoting a pathway for purposes of travel by foot, stock, or trail vehicles. (FSM 2353.05 – Trails)

Trail Vehicles: Off Highway Vehicles less than or equal to 50 inches with three or more low-pressure tires, handle-bar steering and a seat designed to be straddled by the operator

U

Uncharacteristic Wildfire Effects: An increase in wildfire size, severity and resistance to control, and the associated impact to people and property, compared to that which occurred in the native system.

Understory: Vegetation (e.g., trees or shrubs) growing under the canopy formed by taller trees.