

Glossary

A

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

Access management Acquiring rights and developing and maintaining facilities needed to approach, enter and make use of public lands.

Acquired land Lands in federal ownership, which were obtained by the Government through purchase, condemnation, gift, or by exchange.

Active channel As defined for purposes of the riparian standards and guidelines . . . includes stream channels*, secondary channels*, and braided channels*. For the Alluvial Fan Process Group, it also includes gravel outwash lobes, (Words marked by a * have further definitions within the glossary).

Active reforestation The use of environmental manipulations such as scarification, prescribed burning, and planting to achieve reforestation.

Activities Uses or facilities associated with interest statements (i.e., recreational gold panning, prescribed fire, new trails).

Activity fuel loading The amount of burnable debris left after logging.

ADF&G Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

ADNR Alaska Department of Natural Resources.

Adaptive management A continuous process of action-based planning, monitoring, research, evaluation, and adjustment with the objective of improving implementation and achieving desired management goals and objectives.

Administrative facilities Cabins, campgrounds, and shelters for recreation. Forest Service developed or permitted facilities used to support fieldwork. Examples: field camp, work centers, temporary field camps, sale administration camps, cabins, or work centers.

Administrative and permitted motorized access Motorized access for administrative purposes or other activities as determined by permit through Forest Supervisor or District Rangers.

Administrative site Lands used as headquarters or administrative facility by a federal agency.

AHRS See Alaska Heritage Resource Survey.

Airshed Geographical areas, which, because of topography, meteorology, and climatic conditions, share the same air mass. Air is managed by airshed.

Alaska Heritage Resource Survey (AHRs) The official list of cultural resources in the State of Alaska, maintained by the Office of History and Archaeology, Alaska Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation.

Alaska Lands Act (ANILCA) A shortened title for the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, enacted in 1980.

Allowable Sale Quantity (ASQ) The maximum quantity of timber that may be sold in each decade from suitable lands covered by the Forest Plan.

Alluvial fan A cone-shaped deposit of organic and mineral material made by a stream where it runs out onto a level plain or meets a slower stream.

Alluvium Recent soil deposits resulting from modern rivers, including the sediment laid down in riverbeds, flood plains, lakes, and at the foot of mountain slopes and estuaries.

Alpine Parts of mountains above tree growth.

Alternative An option proposed for decisionmaking.

Ambient air That air, external to buildings, encompassing or surrounding a specific region.

Ambient air quality standard The prescribed level of pollutants in the outside air that cannot be exceeded legally during a specified time in a specified geographical area.

Amenity Resource use, object, feature, quality, or experience that gives pleasure or is pleasing to the mind or senses. Amenity value typically describes those resource properties for which monetary values (or market values) are not or cannot be established.

Anadromous fish Fish, which mature and spend much of their adult life in the ocean, returning to inland waters to spawn. Salmon and steelhead are examples.

Anadromous Fisheries Habitat Assessment (AFHA) An assessment conducted in 1994 within the Tongass National Forest (published in 1995) to study the effectiveness of current procedures for protecting anadromous fish habitat and to determine the need for any additional protection.

Analysis of the Management Situation (AMS) A determination of the ability of the Forest to supply goods and services in response to society's demand for those goods and services.

ANCSA The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of December 18, 1971, Public Law 92-203, 92nd Congress, 85 Stat. 688-716.

ANILCA The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of December 2, 1980. Public Law 96-487, 96th Congress, 94 Stat. 2371-2551.

ANILCA, Section 501(b) lands Specific management direction established in Section 501(b) of ANILCA for the Copper/Rude River addition and the Copper River-Bering River portion of the Chugach National Forest.

Appropriate suppression action The planned strategy for suppression action (in terms of kind, amount, and timing) on a wildland fire which most efficiently meets fire management direction under current and expected burning conditions.

Critical protection Areas where human life or habitation are present have priority over all others. Immediate and continuous efforts are made to minimize loss of life and damage to property.

Full protection Valuable resources, such as commercial timber stands and historic structures exist; however, no human life or habitation exists in these areas. Immediate and aggressive action is taken to limit the number of acres burned.

Modified action Uninhabited area with resources of lesser value. Land managers consider tradeoff of acres burned versus suppression expenses. Fires during critical burning months are attacked, but a lower level of protection is provided when the risks of large, damaging fires is less.

Limited action Areas where the cost of fighting the fire is greater than the fire damage. Suppression efforts are limited to keeping a fire within a designated area or protecting critical sites within the areas.

Appropriation of land The act of selecting, devoting, or setting apart land for a particular use or purpose, such as appropriating land for public buildings and military reservations or other public uses (Black, 1979).

Aquaculture Maintaining, enhancing, and rehabilitating fish stocks through improvements and facilities, including the rearing of anadromous juvenile fish, generally in fresh water, for release into salt water for maturing to become available as a common property resource.

Aquatic ecosystem A stream channel, lake or estuary bed, the water itself, and the biotic communities that occur therein.

ARC/INFO ARC/INFO is the name of the Geographic Information System (GIS) software used for the Revision database.

Area of potential effects The geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may cause changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist.

Arterial road Roads usually developed and operated for long-term land and resource management purposes and constant service.

ASQ See Allowable Sale Quantity.

Atmospheric dispersion The lofting and distribution of particulate matter from wood smoke into the atmosphere over time.

Available timberlands Timberland not withdrawn from use in production of timber products as a result of administrative statute or regulation.

B

Background (BG) A term used in scenery management to describe the distant part of a viewed landscape. Background is from 3 miles to the horizon line of identified viewing points such as roads, trails, or use sites.

Bank The continuous margin along a river or stream where all upland vegetation ceases.

Bankfull width The width of the wetted channel when the water surface is at the same elevation as the active floodplain.

Base sale schedule A timber sale schedule formulated on the basis that the quantity of timber planned for sale and harvest for any future decade is equal to or greater than the planned sale and harvest for the preceding decade, and this planned sale and harvest for any decade is not greater than the long-term sustained yield capacity.

Beach fringe The area inland from salt-water shorelines, which is typically forested.

Beachlog salvage The salvage of logs that have been washed-up on beaches. Special provisions in ANILCA allow beachlog salvage in Wilderness and National Monuments if it can be conducted without roads or use of vehicles on uplands.

Benchmark An analysis of the supply potential of a particular resource, or set of resources, subject to specific management objectives or constraints. Benchmarks define the limits within which alternatives can be formulated.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) Land management methods, measures or practices selected by an agency to meet its non-point source control needs. BMPs include, but are not limited to structural and nonstructural controls and operation and maintenance procedures. BMPs can be applied before, during and after pollution-producing activities to reduce or eliminate the introduction of pollutants into receiving waters. BMPs are selected on the basis of site-specific conditions that reflect natural background conditions and political, social, economic, and technical feasibility. BMPs are found in Forest Service Handbook 2509.22.

Biogeographic provinces Ecological subdivisions of Alaska that are identified by generally distinct ecological, physiogeographic, and biogeographic features. Plant and animal species composition, climate, and geology within each province are generally more similar within than among adjacent provinces. Historical events (such as glaciers and uplifting) are important to the nature of the province and to the barriers that distinguish each province.

Biodiversity (a) Variety of life and its ecological processes; (b) The variety of organisms considered at all levels, from genetic variants belonging to the same species through arrays of genera, families, and still higher taxonomic levels, includes the variety of ecosystems, which comprise both the communities of organisms within particular habitats and the physical conditions under which they live.

Biological diversity The variety of life forms and processes, including the complexity of species, communities, gene pools, and ecological functions, within the area covered by a land management plan.

Biological potential The maximum possible output of a given resource limited only by its inherent physical and biological characteristics.

Biomass The total quantity, at a given time, of living organisms of one or more species per unit area or all of the species in a community.

BLM Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior.

Blowdown See Windthrow.

BMPs See Best Management Practices.

Board foot A unit of timber measurement equaling the amount of wood contained in an unfinished board 1 inch thick, 12 inches long and 12 inches wide.

Bole trunk of the tree A tree stem once it has grown to substantial thickness - roughly to that capable of yielding poles, sawlogs, or veneer logs.

Braided streams or channels A stream flowing in several dividing and reuniting channels resembling the strands of a braid, the cause of division being the obstruction by sediment deposited by the stream.

C

Cabins (Forest Service recreation cabins and safety shelters) Cabins and shelters for recreation cabin system.

Campgrounds (Forest Service developed campground facilities) The ability to construct or maintain campgrounds for concentrations of overnight recreational use. May range from small to large, simple to complex.

Canopy gap Natural openings created in the overstory of old-growth conifer forests from the loss of a single or small group of trees from windthrow, insects, or disease. Gaps are also created in second growth conifer stands to increase light penetration to the understory by cutting all of the trees in a small area to maintain or increase the number of understory plant species.

Catastrophic event Events resulting from a great and sudden calamity or disaster. In the case of forest stands such events may include windstorms, wildland fire, floods, snow slides, and insect outbreaks. Whether a disturbance event is called catastrophic is dependent on the context within which the event occurs, the scale of the event, and the effects of the event.

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.

Capital investment cost Costs generally associated with construction such as trails, roads, and physical structures.

Carrying capacity The estimated maximum number of animals that can be sustained over the long term within a specified area.

CFL See Commercial forest land.

CFR Code of Federal Regulations.

Channel A natural waterway of perceptible extent that periodically or continuously contains moving water. It has a definite bed and banks, which serve to confine the water.

Channel migration Movement of a stream or river channel within a flood plain area (or an alluvial fan) usually over an extended period of time.

Channel sideslope The area from the stream channel to the side-slope break. See also Side-slope break.

Channel type A means of distinguishing parts of a stream system into segments that have fairly consistent physical and biological characteristics. For descriptions, see "Channel Type Field Guide," Forest Service publication R10-MB-6.

Chargeable volume All volume that is included in the growth and yield projections for the selected management prescriptions used to arrive at the allowable sale quantity, based on required utilizations.

Class (streams) See Stream class.

Class II area (air) Geographic area having air quality exceeding the National Ambient Air Quality Standards, which is designated for a moderate degree of protection from future air quality degradation. Moderate increases in new pollution may be permitted.

Clearance, cultural resources Certification by the Forest Supervisor documenting that the requirements of 36 CFR 800 have been fully met for each undertaking.

Clearcut Harvesting method in which all trees are cleared in one cut. It prepares the area for a new, even-aged stand. The area harvested may be a patch, stand, or strip large enough to be mapped or recorded as a separate age class in planning.

CMAI See Culmination Mean Annual Increment.

CNI Chugach Natives Incorporated, now known as Chugach Alaska Corporation.

Coarse filter An approach used for wildlife conservation management and analysis, which focuses on the characteristics of entire ecosystems and landscapes. See also Fine filter.

Colluvial Soil and material produced by the disintegration and weathering of rocks, including cliff debris, material of avalanches, and alluvium. This material accumulates at the foot of a slope.

Commercial forest land (CFL) Forest land that is producing or is capable of producing crops of industrial wood and (a) has not been withdrawn by Congress, the Secretary, or the Chief; (b) existing technology and knowledge is available to ensure timber production without irreversible damage to soils productivity, or watershed conditions; and (c) existing technology and knowledge, as reflected in current research and experience, provides reasonable assurance that adequate restocking can be attained within 5 years after final harvesting.

Commercial timber harvest chargeable Contract sale of commercial timber from suitable timber base.

Commercial timber harvest non-chargeable Contract sale of commercial timber to achieve other resource objectives may be from areas not in suitable Timber base. Includes timber harvested for objectives such as wildlife, ecological needs, salvage, recreation, road corridors, and mineral development.

Commercial special forest products Sale of renewable resources other than timber. Harvest and sale of mushrooms, herbs, medicinal plants and Christmas trees and foliage.

Commodities Resources with monetary (market) or commercial value; all resource products that are articles of commerce, such as timber and minerals.

Common variety Deposits of sand, stone, gravel, and others of widespread occurrence not having distinct special value. These deposits are used generally for construction and decorative purposes and are disposed through sales and purchase under the Materials Act of 1947.

Competitive event Organized events of a temporary nature such as foot, running, horse, vehicle, or boat races, fishing contests and adventure games.

Concern level A measure of the people's concern for the scenic quality of the National Forest applied to travel routes, use areas, and water bodies.

Condemnation In real property law, the process by which property of a private owner is taken for public use, without his/her consent, but upon the award of payment for just compensation.

Confined streams Streams that are confined within their channel banks; they are controlled by stream incision, geomorphic landform characteristics, and local geological conditions.

Confluence The point where two streams meet.

Connectivity A measure of the extent that forest areas between or outside reserves provide habitat for breeding, feeding, dispersal, and movement.

Conservation system unit “The term “conservation system unit” means any unit in Alaska of the National Park system, National Wildlife Refuge System, National wild and Scenic Rivers Systems, National Trails System, national Wilderness Preservation System, or a national Forest monument including existing units, units established, designated, or expanded by or under the provisions of this Act, additions to such units, and any such unit established, designated, or expanded hereafter.” (ANILCA, Sec. 102)

Contributed funds Funds used to pay for a portion of the work or materials needed to construct a road only to the standard needed for a timber sale, which could have properly been paid for by purchaser credits, if available.

Control (Nick) points Points in streams that are not easily erodible.

Convey To pass or transmit the title to property from one to another (Black 1979).

Conveyance An instrument by which some estate or interest in lands is transferred from one person to another (Black 1979); a transfer of legal title to land.

Corridor (transportation) A linear strip of land defined for the present or future location of transportation or utility rights-of-way within its boundaries. For planning purposes, potential and proposed corridors are depicted on the Plan map to show approximate corridor routes and widths. Actual corridor routes and boundaries for new systems will be identified through site-specific transportation and/or utility project planning.

Corridor (habitat) Habitats, often linear, that facilitate dispersal and movement of wildlife between larger patches of suitable habitat. See also Connectivity.

Corridor (Wild & Scenic Rivers) Wild, scenic and recreational river corridors are generally comprised of the area within 1/4 mile either side of the ordinary high water mark of the river. River corridor boundaries may be changed as a result of specific river planning following inclusion of the River in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system.

Cost efficiency The usefulness of specified inputs (costs) to produce specified outputs (benefits). In measuring cost efficiency, some outputs, including environmental, economic, or social impacts, are not assigned monetary values, but are achieved at specified levels in the least cost manner. Cost efficiency is usually measured using present net value, although use of benefit-cost ratios and rates-of-return may be appropriate.

Created opening Openings in the Forest canopy created by silvicultural practices including shelterwood regeneration cutting, clearcutting, seed tree cutting, or group selection cutting.

Critical habitat Specific areas designated as critical by the Secretary of Interior or Commerce for the survival and recovery of species listed as Threatened or Endangered pursuant to the Endangered Species Act.

Crown The tree canopy. The upper part of a tree or woody plant that carries the main branch system and foliage.

Cubic foot Equivalent to a cube of wood with 1-foot sides. The cubic foot volume is a measure of the total sound wood in a tree and is a more accurate depiction of wood volume than the board foot measure. Forest Service policy is that cubic foot measure will be the basis for timber sales by Fiscal Year 1995 (WO Amendment 2400-92-4, 9/30/92).

Cull logs Trees that do not meet certain merchantability specifications.

Culmination of Mean Annual Increment (CMAI) The point at which a tree (or stand) achieves its highest average growth, based on expected growth according to the management intensities and utilization standards assumed in the Forest Plan.

Cultural resources See Heritage resources.

Cumulative effects See Effects.

Cumulative watershed effects (CWE) The effects on a watershed's streams and lakes which result from the incremental impact of individual actions within a watershed when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative watershed effects can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

D

Day-use facilities Recreation facilities with no overnight camping available, including visitor and information centers.

Decision criteria The rules, standards or guidelines used to evaluate alternatives. They are measurements or indicators that are designed to assist a decision maker in identifying a preferred choice from an array of possible alternatives.

Decks Cut timber, sawlogs, or cull logs that have been removed from logging units and stacked.

Degradation The general lowering of the surface of the land by erosive processes, especially by the removal of material through erosion and transportation by flowing water.

Demand The amount of goods or services that will be consumed if offered over a given range of prices at a particular point in time.

Demographic Pertaining to the study of the characteristics of populations, such as size, growth, density, distribution, and vital statistics.

Departure A timber harvest schedule which deviates from the base harvest schedule for a given alternative so as to result in a planned decline in the timber harvest schedule anytime in the future.

Design capacity The maximum theoretical amount of use or people-at-one-time that a developed recreation site was built to accommodate.

Desired Condition (DC) A portrayal of the land or resource conditions which are expected to result if goals and objectives are fully achieved (draft 36 CFR 219).

Detrimental soil disturbance The condition where established threshold values of soil properties are exceeded and result in significant change or impairment to long-term soil productivity See also Significant change and Significant impairment.

Detritus Material produced by the disintegration and weathering of rocks, that has been moved from its site of origin.

Developed recreation That type of recreation that occurs where modifications (improvements) enhance recreation opportunities and accommodate intensive recreation activities in a defined area.

Developed recreation site Relatively small, distinctly defined area where facilities are provided for concentrated public use, e.g., campgrounds, picnic areas, visitor center.

Diameter at breast height (DBH) The diameter of a standing tree at a point four feet, six inches from ground level.

Discharge velocity The speed of water outflow from a stream or river over a given period of time.

Discount rate The rate used to adjust future benefits or costs to their present value.

Dispersal The movement, usually one-way, of plants and animals from their point of origin to another location where they subsequently produce offspring.

Dispersed recreation That type of recreation use that requires few, if any, improvements and may occur over a wide area. This type of recreation involves activities related to roads, trails and undeveloped waterways and beaches. The activities do not necessarily take place on or adjacent to a road, trail, or waterway, only in conjunction with it. Activities are often day-use oriented and include hunting, fishing, boating, off-road vehicle use, and hiking, among others.

Dispersion To disperse the effects of timber harvest by distributing harvest units more or less uniformly throughout a drainage so that increased runoff and sediment from disturbed sites will be buffered by lower levels of runoff and sediment production from surrounding undisturbed lands.

Dissected landforms A physical, recognizable form or feature of the earth's surface such as a mountain, hill, or valley, having a characteristic shape that in part is the result of several shallow or deeply incised drainage channels.

Distance zone Areas of landscapes denoted by specified distances from the observer (foreground*, middleground*, background*, or unseen*). Used as a frame of reference in which to discuss landscape attributes or the scenic effects of human activities in a landscape. (Words marked by a * have further definitions within the Glossary.)

Disturbance A force that results in changes in the structure and composition through natural events such as wind, fire, flood, avalanche, or mortality caused by insect or disease outbreaks or by human caused events (e.g., timber harvest).

Diversity See Biological diversity.

Down A tree or portion of a tree that is dead and laying on the ground.

Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) The version of the statement of environmental effects required for major federal actions under Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and released to the public and other agencies for review and comment.

Duff layer The general term for vegetation material covering the mineral soils in forests including the fresh litter and well-decomposed organic material and humus.

Dust, fugitive or Fugitive dust Particulate matter composed primarily of soil which is uncontaminated by industrial activities. Examples are emissions from haul roads and wind erosion.

Dying A standing tree partially dead above ground and likely to die in the future.

E

Easement An interest or right in land owned by another that entitles its holder to a specific limited use.

Ecological amplitude The range of environmental conditions under which a species occurs, representing the species limits of tolerance.

Ecological provinces See Biogeographic provinces.

Ecosystem A complete, interacting system of organisms considered together with their environment (e.g., a marsh, a watershed, or a lake).

Ecosystem management The use of an ecological approach to land management to sustain diverse, healthy and productive ecosystems. Ecosystem management is applied at various scales to blend long-term societal and environmental values in a dynamic manner that may be modified through adaptive management.

Ecotone A transition or junction zone between two or more naturally occurring diverse plant communities (ecosystems).

Edge effect The effect of adjoining vegetative communities on the population structure along the margin, which provides for greater numbers of species and higher population densities than either adjoining community. Edge may also result in negative effects, since habitat along the edge is different than within the patch, reducing the effective area of the habitat patch.

Effect, (in cultural resources) The potential of an undertaking to alter the characteristics that may qualify a property for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

Effects include the following:

- **Direct** Results of an action occurring when and where that action takes place.
- **Indirect** Results of an action occurring at a location other than where the action takes place and/or later in time, but in the reasonably foreseeable future.
- **Cumulative** Results of collective past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions.

Electronic sites Locations of communications facilities and/or antennas. Sites include existing facilities or potential sites.

Emergent A plant rooted in shallow water and having most of its vegetation above water (cattails).

Encumbrance A claim, lien, charge, or liability attached to and binding real property (Black 1979).

Endangered species Any species of animal or plant that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Plant or animal species identified and defined in accordance with the 1973 Endangered Species Act and published in the Federal Register.

Endemic Restricted to a particular locality. For example, a particular species or subspecies may occur on only one or a very few islands.

Enhance To improve, reinforce, enrich or strengthen the existing condition, value, or beauty of a resource.

Entitlement Right to benefits, income or property that may not be abridged without due process (Black 1979).

Environmental analysis An analysis of alternative actions and their predictable short- and long-term environmental effects, incorporating the physical, biological, economic, social and environmental design arts and their interactions.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) A document prepared by a federal agency in which anticipated environmental effects of a planned course of action or development are evaluated. A federal statute (Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969) requires that such statements be prepared. It is prepared first in draft or review form, and then in a final form. An impact statement includes the following points: (1) the environmental impact of the proposed action, (2) any adverse impacts which cannot be avoided by the action, (3) the alternative courses of actions, (4) the relationships between local short-term use of the human environment and the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity, and (5) a description of the irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources which would occur if the action were accomplished.

Ephemeral channels A stream that flows in direct response to rainfall and snowmelt but not during dry seasons. Its channel is above the level of the water table.

Equipment fires Those wildland fires originating from the use of equipment in forest operations such as logging, yarding, chainsaws, land clearing, road building, etc.

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

Escapement Adult anadromous fish that escape from all causes of mortality (natural or human-caused) to return to streams to spawn.

Estuary An ecological system at the mouth of a stream where fresh water and salt water mix, and where salt marshes and intertidal mudflats are present. The landward extent of an estuary is the limit of salt-intolerant vegetation, and the seaward extent is a stream's delta at mean low water.

Evaluation A process for interpreting monitoring data and determining whether changes in management direction are warranted.

Evapotranspiration The sum total of water lost from the land by evaporation and plant transpiration. Transpiration is loss of water in vapor form from a plant.

Even-aged management The application of a combination of actions that result in the creation of stands in which trees of essentially the same age grow together. The difference in age between trees in forming the main canopy level of a stand usually does not exceed 20 percent of that age of the stand at harvest rotation age. Clearcut, shelterwood, or seed tree cutting methods produce even-aged stands.

EVOS acquired lands Lands acquired as a part of the *Exxon Valdez* oil spill restoration program.

Exchange A trading of public lands (surface or subsurface estates) that usually do not have high public value for lands in other ownerships that do have value for public use, management, and enjoyment.

Executive Order An order or regulation issued by the President or some administrative authority under his direction.

Existing Scenic Integrity level Indicates the current status of the landscape, the degree of intactness and wholeness of the landscape character, and helps locate and rank areas in need of scenic rehabilitation. It serves as a benchmark for monitoring landscapes to assess changes associated with planned management activities. Scenic Integrity Level is also a measure of the degree of visible disruption of landscape character. See Scenic Integrity Objectives for a description of the 6 levels used to describe the existing scenic integrity level.

F

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

Falldown The difference between the number of acres planned for timber harvest and those actually harvested, usually experienced as a reduction in acres. Falldown results from many factors, including unmapped unsuitable timberland, newly available information, and project-level consideration of site-specific issues and non-timber resource needs.

FEIS A Final Environmental Impact Statement document. A Final EIS is prepared after review and comment by the public on the Draft EIS.

Feasible Capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, environmental, technical, and safety factors. In evaluating feasibility, the following are considerations: 1) the effectiveness and practicality of the measures being considered; and, 2) the long- and short-term costs of the measures and the effect of those costs on long- and short-term economic viability of projects or programs.

FHIP See Forest Habitat Integrity Program.

Fine filter An approach used for wildlife conservation management and analysis that focuses on individual species and their habitat needs. See also Coarse filter.

Fire Management Action Plan A plan that provides detailed information for, and guides the implementation of, fire management activities for the approved alternative for the Forest Plan.

Fire severity How hot a fire is for how long. The hotter a fire is and the longer it burns, the more severe it is.

Fire suppression All the work of extinguishing or confining a fire, beginning with its discovery.

Fiscal year (FY) October 1 to September 30 of every year. The Fiscal Year is referred to by the calendar year, which begins on January 1. For example, October 1, 1999, to September 30, 2000, is referred to as Fiscal Year 2000.

Fish habitat improvement projects Structural and non-structural habitat improvement projects such as: fish ladders, in-stream structures, riparian thinning, pruning, seeding, stream bank restorations, fish hatcheries, lake fertilization, fish culture sites and monitoring facilities, aquaculture projects or aquaculture related shore-based facilities.

Fish passage The ability of both adult and juvenile fish to move both up and down stream.

Flash flooding A very rapid responding, relatively high streamflow overtopping the banks in any reach of a stream.

Flood plain That portion of a river valley, adjacent to the river channel, which is covered with water when the river overflows its banks at flood stages in response to a 100-year storm event.

FLPMA Federal Land Planning and Management Act

Fluvial Of, or pertaining to, streams and rivers.

Foodfish Fish consumed by humans.

Footslope The inner, gently inclined surface at the base of a hill or mountain slope. The surface profile is dominantly concave, and is the transition zone between upslope erosional sites and downslope depositional sites.

Forbs A grouping/category of herbaceous plants that are not included in the grass, shrub or tree groupings/categories; generally smaller flowering plants.

Foreground A term used in scenery management to describe viewed landscapes within ½ mile of identified viewing points such as roads, trails, or use sites.

Forest Access Management Plan The plan for the system of access roads, trails, and airfields needed for the protection, administration, and utilization of the National Forests and other lands administered by the Forest Service, or the development and use of resources upon which communities within or adjacent to the National Forests are dependent (36 CFR 212.1). The plan also addresses permanent or temporary road closures necessary for resource protection or public safety.

Forest Facility Master Plan The plan, which depicts the development and management of the Forest's facilities. This includes current volume of business and projections for the future, locations for needed skills to perform program work, existing administrative sites and proposed locations of new sites, and management strategies concerning consolidation or sharing services between units (FSM 7312.1).

Forest Habitat Integrity Program A method of classifying watersheds based on specific resource attributes. The program was developed by the State of Alaska in 1983 based on VCU values developed for the 1979 Tongass Land Management Plan.

Forest health An expression of the relationship among biotic and abiotic influences on the forest (i.e., insects, diseases, atmospheric deposition, silvicultural treatments, harvesting practices, natural disturbance process) and the ability to achieve management objectives for a given forest unit now or in the future, and sustain long-term site productivity.

Forest Plan Source of management direction for an individual Forest specifying activity and output levels for a period of 10-15 years developed to meet the requirements of 36CFR 219. Management direction in the plan is based on the issues identified at the time of the plan's development.

Forest Service recreational cabins Government cabins and shelters for the recreation cabin system.

Forested land 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.

Forested wetland A wetland whose vegetation is characterized by an overstory of trees that are 20 feet or taller.

Forestwide Standards and Guidelines A set of rules and guidance that directs management activities and establishes the environmental quality, natural renewable and depletable resource requirements, conservation potential, and mitigation measures that apply to several land use designations.

Fragmentation An element of biological diversity that describes the natural condition of habitats in terms of the size of discrete habitat blocks or patches, their distribution, the extent to which they are interconnected, and the effects of management on these natural conditions. Also the process of reducing the size and connectivity of stands within a forest.

Free Use Permit A permit that allows the removal of timber or other resources from public lands free of charge.

Free Use Timber Harvest Refers to the green or dried timber that residents may harvest free of charge for personal use, and not for sale, from National Forests in Alaska. The amount of material granted to any one person in one year shall not exceed 10,000 board feet of saw timber and 25 cords of wood or an equivalent volume in other forms (36 CFR 223.10).

FSH Forest Service Handbook.

FSM Forest Service Manual.

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

Fuel loading The volume of the available or burnable fuels in a specified area.

Full Service Management Management of developed recreation facilities to provide optimum maintenance, public contacts, and patrolling for public safety and management purposes.

Function A term in ecology referring to the interactions and influences between plant and animal species within an area (how each species uses its environment), and to natural processes of change or disturbance (such as wind or aging).

G

Geographic Information System (GIS) Computer software that links geographic information (where things are) with descriptive information (what things are like).

Geographic provinces Subdivisions of Southeast Alaska used to define natural diversity, including areas with distinctive regional climate, physiography, and geology.

Glacial rivers and streams Rivers and streams that receive their main flow characteristics from the presence and activities of ice and glaciers and their meltwater.

Goal A concise statement that describes a desired future condition normally expressed in broad, general terms that are timeless, in that there is no specific date by which the goal is to be achieved.

Goods and services The various outputs and on-site uses produced from forest resources.

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

Group selection A harvesting method in which trees are removed in small groups at a time.

Guideline A preferred or advisable course of action that may be followed to achieve forest goals but are optional. Deviations from guidelines would be analyzed during project level analysis and documented in a project decision document but do not require a Forest Plan amendment.

Guyline circle Guylines are cables to brace the tower (spar) used in cable logging systems. Using the tower as the center, the guyline circle is the area between the tower and where the guylines are anchored. For safety reasons, this area is usually cleared of all trees.

H

Habitat The sum total of environmental conditions of a specific place occupied by a wildlife or plant species or a population of each species.

Habitat capability The estimated maximum number of fish or wildlife that can be supported by the amount and distribution of suitable habitat in an area.

Habitat conservation area See Old growth habitat reserve.

Hardened dispersed camping sites Dispersed camping sites where minimal site improvements have been done to protect resources such as gravelling a trail or tent site, installing a fire ring.

Hardrock minerals In general, includes those minerals, which are mined and processed for the recovery of metals such as gold, silver, lead, zinc and copper. Mineral entry can be in the form of location under the U.S. Mining Laws or the Mineral Leasing Act of March 4, 1917.

Hard snags/soft snags Terminology used to describe the state of the decay process in dead trees. Hard snags are dead trees that have little decay and are generally still hard wood. Soft snags are dead trees that have a considerable amount of decay and are generally soft, broken wood.

Haul out Areas used by marine mammals for resting and other social/biological activities, which occur in the intertidal zone.

HCA See Habitat conservation area.

Helicopter landings Helicopter landings associated with permitted special uses. Would include heli-hiking, heli-skiing, helicopter sightseeing tours that are permitted through special uses permits.

Heritage resources The physical remains of districts, sites, structures, buildings, networks, events, or objects used by humans in the past. They may be historic, prehistoric, architectural, or archival in nature. Heritage resources are non-renewable aspects of our national heritage.

Historic property Any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object included in, or eligible for inclusion in, the National Register of Historic Places. The term includes artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties.

Horizontal distance Distance measured in a flat (horizontal) manner at zero angle.

Hunter day One hunter day is equivalent to one person hunting for any length of time during a 24-hour period.

Hydrologic cycle The complete cycle through which water passes, commencing as atmospheric water vapor, passing into liquid and solid form as precipitation, thence along or into the ground surface, and finally again returning to the form of atmospheric water vapor by means of evaporation and transpiration. Also called Water Cycle.

I

IDT See Interdisciplinary Team.

Ignition The initiation of combustion.

Implementation For cultural resources, that point in an undertaking when the proponent has full and complete authorization to proceed with the undertaking.

Improvements Includes any structures of a permanent nature placed upon the land, which tend to increase its value.

Industrial wood All commercial roundwood products, except fuelwood.

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

Interests Desires of people. See also Interest statement.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM) A process for selecting strategies to regulate forest pests in which all aspects of a pest-host system are studied and weighed. A basic principle in the choice of strategy is that it be ecologically compatible or acceptable. Range of methods used to manage or reduce infestations of forest pests and diseases. Might include silvicultural treatments; harvest, thinning, pruning, burning, chemical or biological treatments.

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

Interception The process by which precipitation is caught and held by foliage, twigs, and branches of trees, shrubs, and other vegetation, and lost by evaporation, never reaching the surface of the ground. Interception equals the precipitation on the vegetation minus stemflow and throughfall.

Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) A group of individuals with different training assembled to solve a problem or perform a task. The team is assembled out of recognition that no one scientific discipline is sufficiently broad to adequately solve the problem. Through interaction, participants bring different points of view and a broader range of expertise to bear on the problem.

Interest A general term to denote a right, claim, title, or legal share in real estate (Black 1979).

Interest statement Interest statements and situation statements are defined as issues with respect to NEPA and/or NFMA. They are a summary of all the public issues and concerns. For some of these, the solutions were apparent and there were little differences in a solution, most everyone agreed on a desired outcome. These were the basis for multiple use goals and objectives and Forestwide standards and guidelines. For those interests for which there was a range of possible solutions resulting from differing beliefs and values, situation statements were developed.

Interior old-growth forest The region of a forested stand that has a stable microclimate relative to light, wind, humidity, moisture regime, etc. Natural forest ecotones "seal" a forest's edge and stabilize these microclimate features. Ecotones created by management such as the old growth - clearcut edge may have "edge" effects that extend into a forest for several hundred feet (estimated 2-3 tree heights) before stable "interior forest" conditions are achieved and microclimatic effects of the edge are no longer evident.

Inventoried roadless areas Areas identified in a set of inventoried roadless area maps, contained in Forest Service Roadless Area Conservation, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, dated November 2000, which are held at the National headquarters office of the Forest Service, or any update or revision of those maps. For more information about roadless area conservation go to: <http://roadless.fs.fed.us>.

Invertebrate population That population of creatures without a backbone. Context would depict whether land invertebrates, shore invertebrates, or water invertebrates.

Invertebrates Animals without a backbone.

IPM See Integrated Pest Management.

Irretrievable commitments Applies to losses of production or use of renewable natural resources for a period of time. For example, timber production from an area is irretrievably lost during the time an area is allocated to a no-harvest prescription. If the allocation is changed to allow timber harvest, timber production can be resumed. The production lost is irretrievable, but the action is not irreversible.

Irreversible commitments Decisions causing changes, which cannot be reversed. Often applies to nonrenewable resources such as minerals and cultural resources.

Issue A point, matter, or section of public discussion or interest to be addressed or decided. A subject or question of widespread public interest relating to management of the National Forest System. For the purposes of Forest Plan revision on the Chugach National Forest these were further divided into interest statements and situation statements.

K

L

Lacustrine wetland Includes permanently flooded lakes and reservoirs, intermittent lakes, and tidal lakes with ocean-derived salinities of less than 0.5 percent. Typically, there are extensive areas of deep water and there is considerable wave action.

Land allocation The decision to use land for various resource management objectives to best satisfy the issues, concerns and opportunities and meet assigned forest output targets.

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

Landscapes (Chugach) The three primary land areas on the Chugach National Forest: Kenai Peninsula, Prince William Sound and Copper River Delta.

Landscape character Particular attributes, qualities, and traits of a landscape that give it an image and make it identifiable or unique. Also referred to as the Existing Landscape Character.

Landscape character goals (also Desired Landscape Character) Elements within a management prescription designed to maintain or modify the existing landscape character to a desired future state.

Land use prescriptions Specific management direction applied to a defined area of land (land use designation as defined in the Revision) to attain multiple use and other goals and objectives.

Land Utilization Project (LUP) A unit designated by the Secretary of Agriculture for conservation and utilization under Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (USDA Forest Service, undated, Land Areas of the National Forest System).

Landform Any physical, recognizable form or feature of the earth's surface, having a characteristic shape, and produced by natural causes. Major forms included are plains, plateaus, and mountains; minor forms are hills, valleys, slopes, eskers, and dunes.

Landslides The moderately rapid to rapid downslope movement of soil and rock materials that may or may not be water-saturated.

Large woody debris (LWD) Any piece of relatively stable woody material, having a diameter of four inches or greater and a length greater than three feet, that intrudes into a stream channel. Formerly called large organic debris.

Leasable minerals Generally includes minerals such as coal, oil, gas, phosphate, sodium, potassium, oil shale, sulfur, and geothermal steam. In addition, on the Chugach National Forest, in the Copper River Addition (ANILCA, Section 502), it also includes minerals such as gold, silver, copper, lead and zinc which are traditionally available under the 1872 Mining Law and were withdrawn by Section 502 of ANILCA.

Lease An authorization (usually long-term) to possess and use public lands or minerals for a fixed period of time.

Leave strips The result of timber harvest activities where blocks of timber are left after harvest has occurred.

Locatable minerals Includes Public Domain minerals commonly known as "hard rock" minerals, such as gold, silver, lead, zinc, copper, and mercury. They are open for location and entry under the United States Mining Laws.

Lodges or resorts Development of major or minor commercial lodge or resort facilities on National Forest System lands.

Log transfer facilities (LTF) Formerly referred to as Terminal Transfer Facilities, Log Transfer Facilities include the site and structures used for moving logs and timber products from land-based transportation forms to water-based transportation forms (or vice versa).

Logging slash The wood residue left on the ground after harvesting. It includes unused logs, uprooted stumps, broken or uprooted stems, tops, branches, and leaves.

Logging systems:

Tractor A system of log transportation in which logs are pulled from the woods to a landing by means of a crawler tractor, skidder, or similar ground-based equipment.

High-lead A system of cable logging in which the working lines are elevated at the landing area by a rigged wooden tree or portable steel spar.

Skyline A system of cable logging in which all or part of the weight of the logs is supported during yarding by a suspended cable.

Balloon A system of cable logging in which the weight of the logs is counteracted by the lift provided by a lighter-than-air balloon.

Helicopter A system of transporting logs from the woods to a landing as an external load on a helicopter.

Long-term sustained yield timber capacity (LTSY) The highest uniform wood yield from suitable-scheduled lands that may be sustained in perpetuity consistent with the Forest Plan.

LTF See Log transfer facilities.

LTSY See Long-term sustained yield timber capacity.

LWD See Large woody debris.

M

Major culvert A culvert that provides an opening of more than 35 square feet in a single installation or in a multiple installation in which the smallest opening is more than 19 square feet.

Managed stand A stand of trees in which stocking level control is applied to achieve maximum growth.

MAI See Mean Annual Increment.

Management area Combinations of adjacent Value Comparison Units having common management direction.

Management concern An issue, problem or a condition that constrains the range of management practices identified by the Forest Service in the planning process.

Management direction A statement of multiple-use and other goals and objectives, the associated land use prescriptions, and standards and guidelines for attaining them.

Management ignited prescribed fire Use of prescribed fire to accomplish resource objectives. Reduce fuel loading. Improve wildlife habitat. Prepare seedbeds.

Management indicators Plant or animal species, communities, or special habitats selected for emphasis in planning, and which are monitored during forest plan implementation to assess the effects of management activities on their populations and the populations of other species with similar habitat needs which they may represent.

Management practices The activities applied to a defined area of land (land use designation as defined in the Revision) to attain multiple-use and other goals and objectives.

Management prescription Management practices and intensity selected and scheduled for application on a specific area (e.g., a land use designation) to attain multiple-use and other goals and objectives.

Management requirement Standards for resource protection, vegetation manipulation, silvicultural practices, even-aged management, riparian areas, soil and water and diversity, to be met in accomplishing National Forest System goals and objectives (see 36 CFR 219.17).

Mariculture The cultivation of plants and animals in saltwater, with no freshwater component. Mariculture does not include anadromous fish farming.

Marine systems Of, or belonging to, or caused by, the sea.

Marine transfer facilities Facilities to load and unload passengers, materials, or cargo to and from salt water boats.

Maritime climate Weather conditions controlled by an oceanic environment characterized by small annual temperature ranges and high precipitation.

Mass-wasting A general term for a variety of processes by which large masses of earth material are moved by gravity either slowly or quickly from one place to another.

MBF Thousand Board Feet.

MCF Thousand Cubic Feet.

Mean Annual Increment (MAI) The total increment to a given age in years, divided by that age.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) An agreement between the Forest Service and others agencies resulting from consultation between agencies that states specific measures the agencies will follow to accomplish a large or complex project. A memorandum of understanding is not a fund obligating document.

Microclimate The temperature, moisture, wind, pressure, and evaporation (climate) of a very small area that differs from the general climate of the larger surrounding area.

Middleground (Mg) A term used in scenery management to describe viewed landscapes from ½ mile to 3 miles of identified viewing points such as roads, trails, or use sites.

Mineral development The activities and facilities associated with extracting mineral deposits.

Mineral entry Filing a mining claim on public land to obtain the right to mine any minerals it may contain. Also the filing for a mill site on federal land for the purpose of processing off-site minerals. Also includes filing a lease application for minerals available for leasing.

Mineral entry withdrawal Public lands withdrawn from entry under the General Mining Laws and/or the mineral leasing laws. The exclusion of the right of exclusive possession of locatable mineral deposits by the locator and mineral development work. This may include areas required for administrative sites by the Forest Service or areas of high public use.

Mineral exploration The search for valuable minerals.

Mineral lease A lease that authorizes the development and production of leasable minerals from public lands.

Mineral production The extraction of mineral deposits.

Mineral rights The rights of one who owns the mineral estate (subsurface).

Mineral soils Soils consisting predominantly of, and having its properties determined by, mineral matter. These soils usually contain less than 20 percent organic matter, but can contain an organic surface layer up to within 20 inches of the surface.

Mineral withdrawal A formal designation by the Secretary of the Interior, which precludes entry or disposal of mineral commodities under the mining and/or mineral leasing laws.

Minerals activities – locatable The ability to prospect or develop locatable minerals resources such as gold, silver, or copper that are subject to minerals laws regarding claims and long-term development.

Minerals activities – saleable The ability to develop common mineral resources such as gravel or rock resources. These mineral resources may be sold by the Forest or used for forest development activities.

Mining claims A geographic area of the public lands held under the general mining laws in which the right of exclusive possession is vested in the locator of a valuable mineral deposit.

Mitigate To lessen or make minimal the severity. For cultural resources, to lessen or minimize an adverse effect upon a cultural resource listed on or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The two categories of mitigation most often used are project modification and data recovery.

Mixed conifer In Southcentral Alaska, mixed conifer stand composition varies by geographic landscape, usually consisting of mountain hemlock, Sitka spruce, black spruce and/or white (Lutz) spruce on the Kenai Peninsula. In Prince William Sound and Copper River areas, mixed conifer stands usually include western hemlock, mountain hemlock, and Sitka spruce species while some individual sites also contain an Alaskan yellow-cedar component.

MBF Thousand Board Feet.

MMBF Million Board Feet.

MMCF Million Cubic Feet.

Modal Relating to the statistical mode.

Mode changes Facilities where changes in transportation occur. Examples: Trailheads, ferry terminals, train depots.

Model An idealized representation of reality developed to describe, analyze, or understand it; a mathematical representation of the relationships under study (e.g., FORPLAN, wildlife habitat capability models).

Moderately well-drained soil Water in these soils is removed from them somewhat slowly, so that the profile is wet for a small, but significant, part of the time.

Moisture regime The variation of moisture content in a specified portion of soil during the year.

Monitoring Gathering information and observing results of management activities to provide a basis for the periodic evaluation of the Forest Plan.

Mop-up Following suppression activities to stop the spread of the fire, the business of extinguishing the fire is called mop-up.

Motorized access for subsistence Access for customary and traditional activities for rural users.

Motorized recreation Recreation activities involving motorized methods for access and transport or in support of an activity. Examples include snowmachine use, ATV/OHV use, etc.

MOU See Memorandum of Understanding.

Multiple-aged stands An intermediate form of stand structure between even- and uneven-aged stands. These stands generally have two or three distinct tree canopy levels occurring within a single stand.

Multiple use The management of all the various renewable surface resources of the National Forest System so that they are used in the combination that will best meet the needs of the American people; harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources, each with the other, without impairment of the productivity of the land, with consideration being given to the relative values of the various resources.

N

National Cooperative Soil Survey (NCSS) A program consisting of a joint effort of cooperating federal agencies, land-grant universities, and other state and local agencies to map soils, collect soil data, interpret the maps and data, and promote their use. Federal leadership is provided by the National Resource Conservation Service.

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) An act declaring a National policy to encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment, to promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and the biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man, to enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the Nation and to establish a Council on Environmental Quality.

National Fire Management Analysis System (NFMAS) A broad umbrella process to help fire managers identify the most efficient fire program meeting the direction in the Forest plan. This includes information for the planning record on program composition, annual programmed costs, emergency fire fighting costs, expected resource impacts, and net value change. Because of a low wildland fire rate, Region 10 does not use NFMAS but bases outyear budgets on historical needs and inflation.

National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan A plan developed to meet the requirements of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974, as amended by the National Forest Management Act of 1976, that guides all natural resource management activities and establishes management standards and guidelines for the National Forest System lands of a given National Forest.

National Forest Management Act (NFMA) A law passed in 1976 that amends the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act and requires the preparation of Forest Plans.

National Forest System (NFS) Land Federal lands that have been designated by Executive order or statute as National Forests, National Grasslands, or Purchase Units, or other lands under the administration of the Forest Service.

National Register of Historic Places A register of cultural resources of national, state, or local significance, maintained by the Department of the Interior.

National Wild and Scenic River system Rivers with outstanding scenic, recreational, geological, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values designated by Congress under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act for preservation of their free-flowing condition.

Native selection Application by Native corporations formed under authority of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 (ANCSA - Public Law 92–203, 85 Stat. 688) and by Native individuals (under Section 14(h)(5), ANCSA) to the USDI Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for conveyance of a portion of lands withdrawn under ANCSA in fulfillment of Native entitlements established under ANCSA. Native village corporations had three years from the date of ANCSA (December 18, 1971) to make their selections and regional corporations had four years. Native individuals who met the criteria had two years from the date of ANCSA to make application under Section 14(h)(5). BLM regulations allowed Native corporations formed under ANCSA to select in excess of their entitlements to ensure sufficient land would be available to meet full entitlement. Remaining lands in excess of entitlement, which have been selected but not conveyed, will revert back to unencumbered National Forest System land status after full entitlement is reached.

Net public benefit The overall long-term value to the nation of all outputs and positive effects (benefits) less all associated inputs and negative effects (costs) whether they can be quantitatively valued or not. Net public benefits are measured by both quantitative and qualitative criteria rather than a single measure or index.

Net sawlog volume Trees suitable in size and quality for producing logs that can be processed into lumber. In Southeast Alaska, depending on the market, the volume may be processed as pulp or lumber.

Net willingness-to-pay The amount that a person would have paid for an activity above and beyond what the person actually did pay for that activity.

New FS built roads New road construction by the Forest Service for any purpose. Prescription may specify type. Roads are a general term denoting a way with at least two wheel tracks for purposes of travel by vehicles greater than 50 inches in width.

New roads built by others New road construction by anyone other than the Forest Service, or others for accessing private land, mineral claims, or leaseholdings. Prescription may specify type.

New trails New trail construction. Prescription may specify limits.

No Action Alternative The most likely condition expected to exist in the future if current management direction were to continue unchanged.

No adverse effect When the effect on a cultural resource would not be considered harmful to those characteristics that qualify the property for inclusion in the National Register.

Non-chargeable volume All volume that is not in the growth and yield projections for the selected management prescription used to arrive at the allowable sale quantity.

Noncommercial species Tree species that have no economic values at this time nor anticipated timber value within the near future.

Non-declining even flow A policy governing the volume of timber removed from a National Forest, which states that the volume planned for removal in each succeeding decade will equal or exceed that volume planned for removal in the previous decade.

Nonforest land Land that has never supported forests and lands formerly forested but now developed for such nonforest uses as crops, improved pasture, etc.

Nonmarket value Products derived from National Forest resources that do not have a well-established monetary (market) value, for example, wilderness, wildlife. (Noncash economic benefits.)

Nonmotorized recreation Recreation activities involving nonmotorized methods of access or transport or support for an activity. Examples are hiking, biking, cross-country skiing, dog sledding, etc.

Nonmotorized recreation use – summer The ability of people to recreate during the summer season without motorized equipment (nonmotorized definition, but no distinction between summer and winter).

Nonmotorized recreation use – winter The ability of people to recreate during the winter season without motorized equipment (nonmotorized definition, but no distinction between summer and winter).

Nonpoint source (pollution) Unlike point sources of water pollution, nonpoint sources are diffuse and can come from any land area. Nonpoint sources of water pollution originate from many undefinable sources such as agricultural and urban runoff, runoff from construction activities, and runoff from forestry practices. Nonpoint source pollutants are generally carried over or through the soil and ground cover via storm flow processes. The following activities are potential nonpoint sources of pollution; reforestation and subsequent cultural treatment, thinning, prescribed burning, pest and fire control, harvest operations, surface drainage, and road construction and maintenance from which there is natural runoff. Best Management Practices are recognized as control mechanisms for nonpoint source pollution.

Nunatak An isolated hill or peak that projects through the surface of a glacier.

O

Objectives The precise steps to be taken and the resources to be used in achieving goals.

Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Any vehicle that is restricted by law from operating on public roads for general motor vehicle traffic. Includes motorbikes, minibikes, trailbikes, snowmobiles, dune buggies, all terrain vehicles, and four-wheel drive, high clearance vehicles (FSM 2355.01). Sometimes referred to as Off Road Vehicle or ORV; or All Terrain Vehicle (ATV).

Old-growth forest Ecosystems distinguished by the later stages of forest stand development that differs significantly from younger forests in structure, ecological function, and species composition. Old-growth forest is characterized by a patchy, multi-layered canopy; trees that represent many age classes; large trees that dominate the overstory, large standing dead (snags) or decadent trees; and higher accumulations of large down woody material. The structure and function of an old-growth ecosystem will be influenced by its stand size and landscape position and context.

Old-growth associated species Plant and animal species with habitat relationships that exhibit a strong association with old-growth forests.

Old-growth habitat reserve A contiguous unit of old-growth forest habitat to be managed to maintain the integrity of the old-growth forest ecosystem.

Open road density The length of forest development roads open for public access and use per unit area of land; usually expressed as miles of open road per square mile of land.

Operation and maintenance costs Costs associated with operating and maintaining facilities, program management, and support costs associated with management of other resources.

ORACLE A relational database management system software package.

Order three inventory A level of soil surveys made for extensive land uses that do not require precise knowledge of small areas or detailed soils information. Such survey areas are usually dominated by a single land use and have few subordinate uses. This information can be used in planning for range, forest, recreational areas, and similarly extensive land uses and in community planning.

Order four inventory A soil survey level made for extensive land uses that require general information for broad statements concerning land-use potential and general land management. This information can be used in locating, comparing, and selecting suitable areas for major kinds of land use in regional land-use planning, and in selecting areas for more intensive study and investigation.

Ordinary high water mark The mark along the bank or shore up to which the presence and action of the nontidal water are common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to leave a natural line impressed on the bank or shore and indicated by erosion, shelving, changes in soil characteristics, destruction of terrestrial vegetation, or other distinctive physical characteristics. (Consult 11 AAC 53.900 — Alaska Code.)

Organic soils Soils that contain a high percentage (greater than 15 percent) of organic matter throughout the soil depth.

ORV Off Road Vehicle. See Off Highway Vehicle.

Other forest land Unproductive forest land incapable of yielding crops of industrial wood because of adverse site conditions.

Outfitter/Guide capacity allocation Capacity allocated to Outfitter Guide Services when recreation user capacity has been reached.

Output The measurable goods, end products, or services resulting from management activities that are purchased, consumed, or used directly by people.

Overflow High runoff, which overflows natural stream and river banks. Also known as flooding.

Overlooks Development of scenic vista along roads and trails. Includes tree cutting, turnouts, and trail hardening and widening. May include Nature viewing sites or structures.

Overmature The stage at which a tree declines in vigor and soundness, for example, height growth has usually stopped and probability of mortality is high.

Overselection Unconveyed lands selected in excess of entitlement. Overselections by the State of Alaska are authorized in Section 906 (f), ANILCA. They are authorized for Native Corporations organized under ANCSA in Federal Regulations (43 CFR 2650).

Overstory The portion of trees in a forest that forms the upper most layer of foliage.

P

Palustrine wetland Includes all nontidal wetlands dominated by trees, shrubs, persistent emergents, emergent mosses or lichens and all such wetlands that occur in tidal areas where salinity due to ocean derived salts is below 0.5 percent.

PAOT See Persons-at-one-time.

Partial cut Any cutting in which only part of the stand is harvested. This may include thinning, selection, shelterwood, or an overstory removal.

Parts per million (PPM) A measurement of concentration indicating the quantity of a substance per unit volume of a solution.

Party size A component of the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum system and recreation settings. Identifies the maximum number of people allowed in a single group in a given recreation setting.

Patented mining claim A patent is a document that conveys title to land. When patented, a mining claim becomes private property and is land over which the United States has no property rights, except as may be reserved in the patent. After a mining claim is patented, the owner does not have to comply with requirements of the General Mining Law or implementing regulations.

Payments to states A fund consisting of approximately 25 percent of the gross annual timber receipts received by the National Forests in that state. This is returned to the state for use on roads and schools.

Peak flow The highest discharge of water recorded over a specified period of time at a given stream location. Often thought of in terms of spring snowmelt, summer, fall or winter rainy season flows. Also called maximum flow.

Peatland A wetland type (also called “muskeg”) in Southeast Alaska that has developed over thousands of years in depressions, or flat areas on gentle to steep slopes. These bogs have poorly drained, acidic, organic soils materials that support vegetation that can be either sphagnum moss or herbaceous plants or sedges, rushes, and forbs or may be a combination of sphagnum moss and herbaceous plants. These vegetation types may have a lesser abundance of shrubs and stunted trees.

Permitted fixed-wing flightseeing landings Landings of fixed-wing aircraft used in conjunction with permitted special uses activities

Personal use timber harvest Personal use refers to the green or dried timber that residents may harvest free of charge for personal use, and not for sale, from National Forests in Alaska. The amount of material granted to any one person in one year shall not exceed 10,000 board feet of saw timber and 25 cords of wood or an equivalent volume in other forms (36 CFR 223.10).

Personal use special forest products Harvest of spruce roots, herbs, medicinal plants, or other renewable resource items for personal use.

Persons-At-One-Time (PAOT) Used to measure how many people at one time can use a recreation facility.

Plan of Operations A plan of operations is required from anyone whose proposed operations, under the 1872 Mining Law, would cause, “significant surface disturbance.” (see 36 CFR 228, Subpart A)

Plan period The period of time a Forest Plan is in effect, normally 10 years, but no longer than 15 years.

Planning area The area of the National Forest System controlled by a decision document.

Planning horizon The overall time period considered in the planning process, which spans all activities covered in the analysis or plan and all future conditions and effects of proposed actions that would influence the planning decisions. Generally one decade.

Planning period The time interval within the planning horizon that is used to show incremental changes to yields, costs, effects, and benefits.

Planning records A system that records decisions and activities that result from the process of developing a forest plan, revision, or significant amendment.

Planning units Logical areas identified on alternative maps to apply management prescriptions.

Plant association Climax forest plant community type representing the endpoint of succession.

Plant communities An assemblage of plants that, in general, occur together on similar site conditions.

Point source (pollution) A point at which pollution is added to a system, either instantaneously or continuously. An example is a smokestack.

Pole An immature tree between 5 and 9 inches diameter breast height.

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

Pond log value Selling value minus manufacturing costs. Pond log values are the price a timber buyer would pay for a log at the mill site.

Poorly drained soils Water in these soils is removed so slowly that the soil remains wet for a large part of the time. The water table is commonly at or near the surface during a considerable part of the year.

Population The actual number of animals or plants present in an area at a certain time that share a common gene pool.

Population viability Probability that a population will persist for a specified period of time across its range despite normal fluctuations in population and environmental conditions.

Positive control The condition that exists when fish and other mobile species are enclosed in an escape-proof barrier for rearing and other clams (bivalves) or aquatic plants are managed for cultivation in unenclosed water.

Potential yield The maximum, perpetual, sustained-yield harvest attainable through intensive forestry on regulated areas considering the productivity of the land, conventional logging technology, standard cultural treatments, and interrelationships with other resource uses and the environment.

Power generation or transmission Hydropower dams, sub stations, transformer sites.

PPM See Parts per million.

Practicable In reference to the Alaska Coastal Management Program, consistent with enforceable policies of approved management programs unless compliance is prohibited based upon the requirements of existing law applicable to the federal agency's operations.

Present Net Value (PNV) The difference between the discounted value (benefits) of all outputs to which monetary values or established market prices are assigned and the total discounted costs of managing the planning area.

Prescribed fire A fire burning under planned conditions to accomplish specific land and resource objectives.

Preservation A technique of conservation that maintains the resource in or on the ground in perpetuity.

Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) The process incorporated in the Clean Air Act which requires emission limitations for certain new or modified sources. See also Class II Area.

Primary succession Vegetation development initiated on newly formed soils or upon surfaces exposed for the first time (as by landslides or retreating glaciers) that have, as a consequence, never borne vegetation before. Any succession beginning on a bare area not previously occupied by plants or animals.

Primitive I ROS class See Recreation Opportunity Spectrum.

Primitive II ROS class See Recreation Opportunity Spectrum.

Priority use A Forest Service commitment to the holder of a permit for outfitting and guiding to give priority consideration to granting the holder a specific amount of available future use.

Process group A combination of similar channel types based on major differences in landform, gradient and channel shapes. (A full description of process groups is located in Appendix D of the Forest Plan.)

Productive old-growth Old-growth forest capable of producing at least 20 cubic feet of wood fiber per acre per year, or having greater than 8,000 board feet per acre.

Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement The document disclosing the environmental consequences of a program or plan which guides or prescribes the use of resources, allocates resources, or establishes rules and policies in contrast to disclosure of the environmental consequences of a site-specific project.

Programmed timber harvest Timber harvest that occurs on suitable forested lands and that is chargeable to (contributes to) the Allowable Sale Quantity.

Project One or more site-specific activities designed to accomplish a specific on-the-ground purpose or result.

Proponent An agency, institution, or individual applying to perform an activity on National Forest System lands under authority of a mining plan of operation, contract, license, special use authorization, or other agreement.

PSD See Prevention of Significant Deterioration.

Public issue A subject or question of widespread public interest relating to management of the National Forest System. For the purposes of Forest Plan revision on the Chugach National Forest these were further divided into interest statements and situation statements.

Public participation Meetings, conferences, seminars, workshops, tours, written comments, responses to survey questionnaires, and similar activities designed and held to obtain comments from the public about Forest Service planning.

Purchase unit A unit designated by the Secretary of Agriculture or previously approved by the National Forest Reservation Commission for purposes of Weeks Law acquisition (USDA Forest Service, undated, Land Areas of the National Forest System).

R

Rare plants Plant species with potential conservation concerns, including all plants recognized by the Regional Forester as sensitive, plants designated by the Alaska Natural Heritage Program as G1-G3 S1-S2 that are known from or suspected on the Chugach National Forest, and plants that may be common elsewhere but are suspected to be at the edge of their range or disjunct on the Chugach National Forest.

Real dollar value A monetary value, which compensates for the effects of inflation.

Real Estate (exchange, acquisition) Land available for exchange, allow acquisition of inholdings,

Reburial and reinterment The replacement of disinterred human remains into the ground or otherwise disposing of such remains in a manner likely to approximate the wishes of the deceased (e.g., placement in burial caves, legal cemeteries, surface mortuary structures, or cremation where traditionally practiced).

Reconstruction Road or trail construction activities that take place on an existing road or trail and raise the standard of the road or trail. This can include relocation of the facility in a completely new location.

Recreation capacity The number of people that can take advantage of the supply of a recreation opportunity during an established use period without substantially diminishing the quality of the recreation experience or the resources.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) A system for planning and managing recreation resources that categorizes recreation opportunities into eight classes. Each class is defined in terms of the degree to which it satisfies certain recreation experience needs based on the extent to which the natural environment has been modified, the type of facilities provided, the degree of outdoor skills needed to enjoy the area and the relative density of recreation use. The seven classes are:

Primitive I An unmodified environment generally greater than 5,000 acres in size and located generally at least 3 miles from all roads and other motorized travel routes. A very low interaction between users (generally less than 3 group encounters per day) results in a very high probability of experiencing solitude, freedom, closeness to nature, tranquility, self-reliance, challenge, and risk. Evidence of other users is low. Restrictions and controls are not evident after entering the land unit. Motorized use is rare.

Primitive II An unmodified environment generally greater than 5,000 acres in size and located generally at least 3 miles from all roads and other motorized travel routes. A very low interaction between users (generally less than 3 group encounters per day) results in a very high probability of experiencing solitude, freedom, closeness to nature, tranquility, self-reliance, challenge, and risk. Evidence of other users is low. Restrictions and controls are not evident after entering the land unit. Motorized use is rare. Motorized activities are allowed for traditional and subsistence activities.

Semi-primitive Nonmotorized A natural or natural-appearing environment generally greater than 2,500 acres in size and generally located at least 1/2 mile (greater or less depending on terrain and vegetation, but no less than 1/4 mile) but not further than 3 miles from all roads and other motorized travel routes. Concentration of users is low (generally less than 10 group encounters per day), but there is often evidence of other users. There is a high probability of experiencing solitude, freedom, closeness of nature, tranquility, self-reliance, challenge, and risk. There is a minimum of subtle on-site controls. No roads are present in the area.

Semi-primitive Motorized A natural or natural-appearing environment generally greater than 2,500 acres in size and generally located within 1/2 mile of primitive roads and other motorized travel routes used by motor vehicles; but not closer than 1/2 mile (greater or less depending on terrain and vegetation, but no less than 1/4 mile) from better-than-primitive roads and other motored travel routes. Concentration of users is low (generally less than 10 group encounters per day), but here is often evidence of other users. There is a moderate probability of experiencing solitude, closeness to nature, and tranquility along with a high degree of self-reliance, challenge and risk in using motorized equipment. Local roads may be present, or along saltwater shorelines there may be extensive boat traffic.

Semi-primitive Groups A natural or natural-appearing environment generally smaller than 50 acres in size and generally located within Semi-primitive Nonmotorized or Semi-primitive Motorized areas. Concentration of users may be high (large groups of up to 100 people for short times) and evidence of users is present. There is a low probability of experiencing solitude, closeness to nature, and tranquility. Some site improvements may be present for resource protection when large groups are on-site, a moderate probability at other times. No roads are present and there may be noticeable boat traffic along saltwater shorelines.

Roaded Natural Resource modification and utilization are evident, in a predominantly naturally appearing environment generally occurring within ½ mile (greater or less depending on terrain and vegetation, but no less than ¼ mile) from better-than-primitive roads and other motorized travel routes. Interactions between users may be moderate to high (generally less than 20 group encounters per day), with evidence of other users prevalent. There is an opportunity to affiliate with other users in developed sites but with some chance for privacy. Self-reliance on outdoor skills is only of moderate importance with little opportunity for challenge and risk. Motorized use is allowed.

Roaded Modified Vegetative and landform alterations typically dominate the landscape. There is little on-site control of users except for gated roads. There is moderate evidence of other users on roads (generally less than 20 group encounters per day), and little evidence of others or interactions at campsites. There is opportunity to get away from others but with easy access. Some self-reliance is required in building campsites and use of motorized equipment. A feeling of independence and freedom exists with little challenge and risk. Recreation users will likely encounter timber management activities.

Rural The natural environment is substantially modified by land use activities. Opportunity to observe and affiliate with other users is important as is convenience of facilities. There is little opportunity for challenge and risk and self-reliance on outdoor skills is of little importance. Recreation facilities designed for group use are compatible. Users may have more than 20 group encounters per day.

Urban Urbanized environment with dominant structures, traffic lights and paved streets. May have natural appearing backdrop. Recreation places may be city parks and large resorts. Opportunity to observe and affiliate with other users is very important as is convenience of facilities and recreation opportunities. Interaction between large numbers of users is high. Outdoor skills, risk, and challenge are unimportant except for competitive sports. Intensive on-site controls are numerous.

Maximum ROS class This is the most developed Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) class that is allowed in the prescription. Less developed ROS classes may occur in the prescription, but no greater development than the maximum ROS Class is allowed.

Recreation places Identified geographical areas having one or more physical characteristics that are particularly attractive to people engaging in recreation activities. They may be beaches, streamside or roadside areas, trail corridors, hunting areas of the immediate area surrounding a lake, cabin site or campground.

Recreation Visitor Day (RVD) A measure of recreation use of an area. One recreation visitor day consists of 12 hours of recreation use of a site or area. Recreation visitor days are used to measure recreation production or output capacity.

Recreational gold panning Hand and small sluice operations.

Reforestation The natural or artificial restocking of an area usually to produce timber and other wood products, but also to protect watersheds, prevent soil erosion, and improve wildlife, recreation and other natural resources. Natural reforestation includes site preparation to reduce competing vegetation and provide a mineral seed bed for seed provided by seed trees. Artificial reforestation is the planting of seedlings, cuttings or seeds by hand or mechanical means and may include site preparation.

Regeneration treatment Treatments and activities that relate to the re-establishment of stands of trees. Includes planting, seeding, and preparing the ground for seeding from adjacent stands where ground preparation is not necessary.

Regulated volume The quantity of timber in the allowable sale quantity that is based on the growth and yield projections for growing stock.

Rehabilitation Actions taken to protect or enhance site productivity, water quality, or other values for a short period of time.

Research design A statement of work to be done toward a particular goal. The research design details what will be done, how it will be done, what is required to do it, and why it is important or useful to do the work .

Research Natural Area (RNA) An area in as near a natural condition as possible, which exemplifies typical or unique vegetation and associated biotic, soil, geologic, and aquatic features. The area is set aside to preserve a representative sample of an ecological community primarily for scientific and educational purposes; commercial and most public uses are not allowed.

Reserve A general term for an area of land recognized for, and managed to preserve or maintain, specific natural features. Wilderness is one common example. In the context of wildlife or fish habitat management, or biological diversity, an area set aside for the maintenance and perpetuation of its habitat or ecosystem features. See also Old-growth habitat reserve and Non-development LUD's.

Reserved right Mineral rights retained by a grantor in a deed conveying land to the United States.

Reserve trees Live or dead trees that are retained for various resource objectives such as wildlife, structural diversity, etc.

Resident fish Fish that are not migratory and complete their entire life cycle in fresh water.

Resource projects On-the-ground field projects to meet land management objectives (soil improvement projects, timber harvest, prescribed fire, etc.)

Resource values The tangible and intangible worth of forest resources.

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

Restoration The long-term placement of land back into its natural condition or state of productivity.

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

Riffles Shallow rapids in an open stream, where the water surface is broken by waves caused by wholly or partially submerged obstructions.

Right-of-Way An easement, license, or permit to pass through another person's land. It does not grant an estate of any kind, only the right to use.

Riparian area The area including a stream channel, lake or estuary bed, the water itself, and the plants that grow in the water and on the land next to the water.

Riparian corridor The floodplain and associated riparian soils, vegetation, and wetlands.

Riparian ecosystem Land next to water where plants that are dependent on a perpetual source of water occur.

Riparian management area Land areas delineated in the Forest Plan to provide for the management of riparian resources. Specific standards and guidelines, by stream process group, are associated with riparian management areas. Riparian management areas may be modified by watershed analysis.

Riverine wetland A category in wetland classification which includes all wetlands and deepwater habitats contained within a channel, with two exceptions: (1) wetlands dominated by trees, shrubs, persistent emergents, emergent mosses or lichens; and, (2) habitats with water containing ocean-derived salts in excess of 0.5 percent.

RNA See Research Natural Area.

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

Classified Roads Roads wholly or partially within or adjacent to National Forest System lands that are determined to be needed for long-term motor vehicle access, including state roads, county roads, privately owned roads, National Forest System roads, and other roads authorized by the Forest Service.

Unclassified Roads Roads on National Forest System lands that are not managed as part of the forest transportation system, such as unplanned roads, abandoned travelways, and off-road vehicle tracks that have not been designated and managed as a trail; and those roads that were once under permit or other authorization and were not decommissioned upon the termination of the authorization.

Temporary Roads Roads authorized by contract, permit, lease, other written authorization, or emergency operation not intended to be part of the forest transportation system and not necessary for long-term resource management.

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

Road density The number of road miles per square mile of land area.

Roadless area An area of undeveloped public land within which there are no improved roads maintained for travel by means of motorized vehicles intended for highway use.

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

Maintenance Level 1 Assigned to intermittent service roads during the time they are closed to vehicular traffic. The closure period is one year or longer. Basic custodial maintenance is performed.

Maintenance Level 2 Assigned to roads open for use by high clearance vehicles. Passenger car traffic is not a consideration.

Maintenance Level 3 Assigned to roads open and maintained for travel by a prudent driver in a standard passenger car. User comfort and convenience are not considered priorities.

Maintenance Level 4 Assigned to roads that provide a moderate degree of user comfort and convenience at moderate travel speeds.

Maintenance Level 5 Assigned to roads that provide a high degree of user comfort and convenience. Normally, roads are double-laned and paved, or aggregate surfaced with dust abatement.

Road management objectives Define the intended purpose of an individual road based on management area direction and access management objectives. Road management objectives, design criteria, operation criteria, and maintenance criteria.

ROS See Recreation Opportunity Spectrum.

ROS inventoried A general inventory of the physical, social and managerial setting for recreation, based on remoteness from modern human development and activity, modification of the land, and social factors such as crowding. See also Recreation Opportunity Spectrum.

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

Rotation age The age of a stand when harvested at the end of a rotation.

RPA Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act.

RPA Assessment and Program The RPA Assessment is prepared every ten years and describes the potential of the nation's forests and rangelands to provide a sustained flow of goods and services. The RPA Program is prepared every five years to chart the long-term course of Forest Service management of the National Forests, assistance to state and private landowners, and research. They are prepared in response to Sections 3 and 4 of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (RPA) (16 U.S.C. 1601).

Rural development Rural Development is the management of human, natural, technical, and financial resources needed to improve living conditions, provide employment opportunities, enrich the cultural life, and enhance the environment of rural America. In the National Forest System, rural development is accomplished through partnerships.

S

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

Salvage harvest Removal of dead or dying trees resulting from insect and disease epidemics or wildfire.

Saturated soils Soil condition where all the spaces between soil particles are filled with water.

Sawlogs (Sawtimber) That portion of a tree that is suitable in size and quality for the production of dimension lumber, collectively known as sawtimber.

Scenery Management System (SMS) A methodology to objectively assess scenic resources and develop management objectives to manage the scenery resource into the future.

Scenic attractiveness An indicator of the inherent scenic beauty of a landscape based on human perceptions of the intrinsic beauty of landform, rockform, waterform, and vegetation pattern. Attributes of variety, unity, vividness, intactness, coherence, mystery, uniqueness, harmony, balance and pattern can enhance scenic attractiveness. There are three Scenic Attractiveness classes:

Class A – Distinctive

Class B – Typical

Class C – Undistinguished

Scenic classes A classification of scenic landscapes describing the relative importance or value of a particular landscape for scenery.

Scenic Integrity Objective (SIO) Identifies the specific management direction for managing scenery in relation to the Landscape Character. The SIO establishes the maximum degree of deviation allowed in the Landscape Character. These following descriptions are used to describe the existing scenic integrity level. There are six Scenic Integrity Objectives:

Very High The valued landscape character is intact with only minute if any deviations. The existing landscape character and sense of place is expressed at the highest possible level.

High The valued landscape character appears intact. Deviations may be present but must repeat the form, line, color, texture and pattern common to the landscape character so that they are not evident.

Moderate The valued landscape character appears slightly altered. Noticeable deviations must remain visually subordinate to the landscape character being viewed.

Low The valued landscape character appears moderately altered. Deviations begin to dominate the valued landscape character being viewed, but they borrow valued attributes such as size, shape, edge effect, and pattern of natural openings, changes in vegetation types, or architectural styles outside the landscape being viewed. They should not only appear as valued character outside the landscape being viewed, but compatible or complementary to the character within.

Very Low The valued landscape character appears heavily altered. Deviations may strongly dominate the valued landscape character. They may not borrow from valued attributes such as size, shape, edge effect, pattern of natural openings, changes in vegetation type, or architectural styles within or outside the landscape being viewed. However, deviations must be shaped by and blend with the natural terrain so that elements such as unnatural edges, roads, landings, and structures do not dominate the composition.

Unacceptably Low The valued landscape character being viewed appears extremely altered. Deviations are extremely dominant and borrow little if any form, line, color, texture, pattern, or scale from the landscape character. Landscapes at this level of integrity need to be rehabilitated. This level should only be used to inventory existing integrity. It must not be used as a management reference.

Minimum SIO The minimum Scenery Integrity Objective to be achieved by the prescription. Greater scenic integrity objectives may be achieved, but it may not be degraded below the minimum SIO.

Scoping Determination of the significant issues to be addressed in an environmental impact statement.

Scree An accumulation of loose stones or rock debris lying on a slope or at the base of a cliff.

Scrub-shrub wetland Wetlands dominated by woody vegetation less than 20 feet tall. The species include true shrubs, young trees, and trees or shrubs that are small or stunted because of environmental conditions such as poor soil drainage.

Second growth Forest growth that has regenerated naturally or has been planted after some drastic interference (for example, clearcut harvest, serious fire, or insect attack) with the previous forest growth.

Secondary channel Lateral channel with an axis of flow roughly parallel to the mainstem and fed by the mainstem.

Secondary stream production Results from consumption by animals of materials produced in primary production in streams; this includes production of macroinvertebrates and some fish species.

Secondary succession The process of reestablishing vegetation after normal succession is disrupted by fire, cultivation, lumbering, windthrow, or any similar disturbance.

Sediment Solid material, both mineral and organic, that is in suspension, is being transported, or has been moved from its site of origin by air, water, gravity, or ice and has come to rest on the earth's surface either above or below sea level.

Seed tree Small number of seed-bearing trees left singly or in small groups after timber harvest to provide seed for regeneration of the site.

Selection cutting A silvicultural system used to create or maintain uneven-aged stands, usually by the periodic removal of groups of trees or individual trees. It is undertaken to provide periodic harvests while maintaining full residual stand growth rates. It attempts to develop a balanced uneven-aged stand structure, including the encouragement of regeneration by providing the cultural measures needed for tree growth and seedling establishment. The selection system refers to the programs used to create or maintain the stand, while the selection method refers to the way in which the stand is regenerated. The cutting usually involves a mixture of regeneration and improvement cuts. Note that selection cutting is not the same thing as selective cutting (logging). See also Selective cutting.

Selective cutting A system in which groups of trees or individual trees are removed periodically from the forest based on economic criteria aimed at maximizing logging revenues rather than the need to ensure satisfactory regeneration or to maintain stand growth rates and quality of timber production. The term is often used synonymously with selection cutting, but this is seldom correct, since the management goals of the two systems differ. Selective cutting provides periodic revenues from the forest but is not specifically designed to improve the growing conditions of the trees remaining. The practice of selective cutting has historically resulted in the selection of all the biggest and best trees for cutting, leaving behind a silvicultural slum of damaged trees and degraded ecosystem functions. See also High grade and Selection cutting.

Sensitive species Plant or animal species, which are susceptible or vulnerable to habitat alterations or management activities resulting in a viability concern for the species long-term persistence. Sensitive species may be those species 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 consideration to assure viable populations and to prevent their being placed on federal or state lists.

Sensitive travel route A road system or marine waterway that receives a moderate to high degree of use by the public, both Alaskan residents and tourists.

Sensitivity zone A body of land, which has been classified on the basis of cultural and environmental data, as having a high, medium, or low likelihood for containing cultural resources.

Settlement sale The disposition of timber or other national forest products, cut, damaged or destroyed in conjunction with an authorized occupancy of a right-of-way or other use of National Forest Land. In wilderness it would be the sale of timber removed from an inholding access road or privately developed hatchery site. Also, the compensation of the United States for property taken or rendered unusable for other purposes incidental to some lawful use of National Forest land. When timber has a value, clearing the land for some use other than growing timber constitutes a forced sale.

Shelterwood harvest The removal of a stand of trees through a series of cuttings designed to establish a new crop with seed and protection provided by a portion of the stand.

SHPO See State Historic Preservation Officer.

Side-slope break The abrupt change (usually decreases) in slope gradient defining the upper limit of channel incision.

Significant change (Soils) Change in productivity of the land as indicated by changes in soil properties that are expected to result in a reduced productive capacity over the planning horizon. Based on available research and current technology, a guideline of 15 percent reduction in inherent soil productivity potential is used as a basis for setting threshold values for measurable or observable soil properties or conditions. The threshold values, along with areal extent limits, will serve as an early warning signal of reduced productive capacity. A more stringent basis than 15 percent can be used where appropriate and documented.

Significant impairment (Soils) Changes in the productivity of the land as indicated by changes in soil properties which would result in significant changes in the inherent productive capacity that last beyond the planning horizon.

Significant surface disturbance (Mining operations) changing the above-ground environment so much that returning that site to the condition it was in before the change is difficult or impossible. Road construction, use of mechanical earthmoving equipment including backhoes and bulldozers, construction of buildings, and cutting of timber are all examples of activities that are considered to cause significant disturbance to surface resources. An evaluation of proposed operations must be made on a case-by-case basis to determine if disturbance is considered significant. For example, a mining activity in an alpine area may result in significant disturbance that takes years to reclaim while the same activity conducted at a lower elevation where natural conditions are not as severe may result in a disturbance that would take only a few months to successfully reclaim.

Silvicultural system A management process whereby forests are tended, harvested, and replaced resulting in a forest of distinctive form. Systems are classified according to the method of carrying out the process. See also Single-tree selection, Shelterwood cutting, Group selection, Even-aged management, Uneven-aged management, Two-aged management, and Clearcut.

Silviculture The science and art of growing and tending crops of forest trees to attain the desired level of marketable and unmarketable products.

Single-tree selection A cutting method to develop and maintain uneven-aged stands by removal of selected trees from specified age classes over the entire stand area in order to meet a predetermined goal of age distribution and species in the remaining stand.

Site index A measure of the relative productive capacity of an area for growing wood. Measurement of site index is based on height of the dominant trees in a stand at a given age.

Site preparation Removing unwanted vegetation and debris from a site and preparing the soil before reforestation.

Site-potential tree height The average height of a given species of tree when mature on a given site.

Site productivity Production capability of specific areas of land.

Situation statements Situation statements are defined as issues with respect to NEPA and/or NFMA. They represent one or more interests in which there is either a conflict or range of improvements within the interest or between one or more interests. The situation statements express the conflict or range of solutions and try to identify the problem. The situation statements represent fundamental mutual differences in how the public felt the land should be managed. They reflect deeply held values for which there exists a broad range of alternative ways to address the differences. The situation statements identify the major interests that can be addressed through management prescriptions and land use allocations. Interests were developed from the public comments received. Different alternatives address these different situations to varying degrees.

Size class For the purposes of forest planning, size class refers to the three intervals of tree stem diameter used for classification of timber in the Forest Plan database. Less than five-inch diameter = seedling/sapling. Five to seven-inch diameter = pole timber. Greater than seven-inch diameter = sawtimber.

Skyline logging See "Logging systems".

Slash Debris left after logging, pruning, thinning, or brush cutting, and large accumulations of debris resulting from windstorms. It includes logs, bark, branches, and stumps.

Slope distance Distance measured along the contour of the ground.

Slough A section of an abandoned river channel containing stagnant water and occurring on a flood plain or delta.

Smolt A young silvery-colored salmon or trout that moves from freshwater streams to saltwater.

Snag A non-living standing tree usually greater than 5 feet tall and 6 inches in diameter at breast height. The interior of the snag may be sound or rotted.

Soft snag A snag composed primarily of wood in advanced stages of decay and deterioration; particularly in the sapwood portion; generally not merchantable.

Soil and watershed improvement projects Included are landslide stabilization, stream bank stabilization, roadside seeding, application of Best Management Practices, culvert maintenance, improving soil quality by mechanical treatments, chemical or other soil additives, irrigation or vegetative manipulation.

Soil conservation practices Practices that are mechanisms used to protect soil quality while managing for other resource goals and objectives. They can be administrative, preventive or corrective measures. They are identified during project planning and design.

Soil drainage The rapidity and extent of the removal of water from the soil, in relation to additions especially by surface runoff and by flow through the soil to underground spaces.

Soil productivity The capacity of a soil, in its normal environment, to produce a specific plant or sequence of plants under a specific system of management.

Soil quality standards Standards that are a combination of 1) “threshold” values for severity of soil property alteration, or significant change in soil properties conditions, and 2) areal extent of disturbance.

Soil Resource Inventory (SRI) An inventory of the soil resource based on landform, vegetative characteristics, soil characteristics, and management potentials.

Somewhat poorly drained soil Water in the soil is removed from the soil slowly enough to keep it wet for significant periods but not all of the time.

Special habitats Structural elements of ecosystems. These may include, but are not limited to: snags, spawning gravels, fallen trees, aquatic reefs, caves, seeps, and springs.

Special interest areas A designation for areas possessing unique or unusual scenic, historic, prehistoric, geodesic scientific, or other characteristics.

Special use authorization A permit, term permit, temporary permit, lease, or easement that allows occupancy or use of, or rights and privileges on National Forest System lands.

Special use permit Permits and granting of easements (excluding road permits and highway easements) authorizing the occupancy and use of land.

Specified road Those roads including related transportation facilities and appurtenances, listed in timber sale contracts for construction or reconstruction by the timber purchaser in accordance with locations and specifications provided by the Forest Service. Those Forest Development roads planned for recurrent land management uses and for which the timber sale contract specifies the location, standards, and specifications.

Split lines The process of separating the direction of timber harvest yarding into opposite directions.

SRI See Soil Resources Inventory.

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

Stand A group of trees occupying a specific area and sufficiently uniform in composition, age arrangement, and condition as to be distinguishable from the trees in adjoining areas.

Standard A course of action or level of attainment required by the forest plan to promote achievement of goals and objectives.

State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) The official appointed or designated pursuant to Section 101(b)(1) of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, to administer the State Historic Preservation Program.

State selection (from National Forest System lands) Application by Alaska Department of Natural Resources to the USDI Bureau of Land Management for conveyance of a portion of the 400,000 acre state entitlement from vacant and unappropriated National Forest System lands in Alaska, under authority of Section 6(a) of the Alaska Statehood Act of 1959 (Public Law 85-508, 72 Stat. 340). For lands to be conveyed, state selections must be approved by the USDA Forest Service, Regional Forester, Alaska Region under criteria of the statehood Act. Until approved by the Regional Forester, the state application is not considered a valid selection. The state can select up to 25 percent in excess of its remaining entitlement.

Stewardship harvest Timber harvested to benefit other resources such as, wildlife habitat improvement, fuels reduction, and ecosystem diversity.

Stream bed The substrate plane bounded by the stream banks, over which the water column moves. Also called the stream bottom.

Stream bank The portion of the channel cross-section that restricts lateral movement of water at normal water levels. The bank often has a gradient steeper than 45 degrees and exhibits a distinct break in slope from the stream bottom. An obvious change in substrate may be a reliable delineation of the bank.

Stream class A means to categorize stream channels based on their fish production values. There are four stream classes on the Tongass National Forest. They are:

Class I Streams and lakes with anadromous or adfluvial fish habitat; or high quality resident fish waters listed in Appendix 68.1, Region 10 Aquatic Habitat Management Handbook (FSH 2609.24), June 1986; or habitat above fish migration barriers known to be reasonable enhancement opportunities for anadromous fish.

Class II Streams and lakes with resident fish populations and generally steep (6-15 percent) gradient (can also include streams from 0-5 percent gradient) where no anadromous fish occur, and otherwise not meeting Class I criteria. These populations have limited fisheries values and generally occur upstream of migration barriers or have other habitat features that preclude anadromous fish use.

Class III Perennial and intermittent streams with no fish populations but which have sufficient flow or transport sufficient sediment and debris to have an immediate influence on downstream water quality or fish habitat capability. These streams generally have bankfull widths greater than 5 feet and are highly incised into the surrounding hillslope.

Class IV Intermittent, ephemeral, and small perennial channels with insufficient flow or sediment transport capabilities to have an immediate influence on downstream water quality or fish habitat capability. These streams generally are shallowly incised into the surrounding hillslope.

Non-streams Rills and other watercourses, generally intermittent and less than 1 foot in bankfull width, little or no incisement into the surrounding hillslope, and with little or no evidence of scour.

Streamflow The discharge of water from a watershed that occurs in a natural stream channel.

Stream order First order streams are the smallest unbranched tributaries; second order streams are initiated by the point where two first order streams meet; third order streams are initiated by the point where two second order streams meet, and so on.

Structure A term in ecology referring to the arrangement of plant communities or ecosystems across a landscape and how they are connected, and to variations in tree heights and diameters within a stand or between stands.

Subsistence Section 803 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act defines subsistence use as, “the customary and traditional uses by rural Alaska residents of wild renewable resources for direct, personal or family consumption as food, shelter, fuel, clothing, tools, or transportation; for the making and selling of handicraft articles out of nonedible byproducts of fish and wildlife resources taken for personal or family consumption; for barter, or sharing for personal or family consumption; and for customary trade.”

Subspecies An aggregate of similar populations of a species generally inhabiting a geographic subdivision of the range of the species and differing taxonomically (e.g., different size or color) from other populations of the species.

Substrate The size of rock in the bed (bottom) of rivers and streams.

Suitable forest land Forest land for which technology is available that will ensure timber production without irreversible resource damage to soils, productivity, or watershed conditions, and for which there is reasonable assurance that such lands can be adequately restocked, and for which there is management direction that indicated that timber production is an appropriate use of that area.

Summer use period Recreational use during the summer months, generally April 30 until the Wednesday before Thanksgiving.

SUP destination lodges Development of commercial lodge facilities on National Forest System lands under a special use permit.

SUP fixed-wing flightseeing landings Landings of fixed-wing aircraft used in conjunction with permitted special uses activities.

SUP helicopter landings Helicopter landings associated with permitted special uses. Would include heli-hiking, heli-skiing, or helicopter sightseeing tours that are permitted through special uses permits.

SUP Hut-to-Hut type recreation cabins Cabins and shelters constructed for lodging in conjunction with permitted special uses recreation activities.

SUP recreation equipment storage/cache Equipment stored or cached on National Forest lands used in conjunction with permitted special uses activities.

Suppression The act of extinguishing or confining a fire.

Surface rights All rights in the surface of the land except oil, gas, and other mineral or subsurface rights.

Suspended sediment The very fine soil particles that remain in suspension in water for a considerable period of time without contact with the stream or river channel bottom.

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

T

Temporary facility Any structure or other human-made improvement that can be readily and completely dismantled and removed from the site when the authorized use terminates.

Temporary roads Low-level roads constructed for a single purpose and short-term use. Once use of the road has been completed, it is obliterated, and the land it occupied is returned to production.

Tentatively suitable forest land Forest land that is producing or is capable of producing crops of industrial wood and: (a) has not been withdrawn by Congress, the Secretary of Agriculture or the Chief of the Forest Service; (b) existing technology and knowledge is available to ensure timber production without irreversible damage to soils productivity, or watershed conditions; (c) existing technology and knowledge, as reflected in current research and experience, provides reasonable assurance that it is possible to restock adequately within 5 years after final harvest; and (d) adequate information is available to project responses to timber management activities.

Terrestrial ecosystems Plant communities that are not dependent on a perpetual source of water to grow.

Thinning The practice of removing some of the trees in a stand so that the remaining trees will grow faster due to reduced competition for nutrients, water, and sunlight. Thinning may also be done to change the characteristics of a stand for wildlife or other purposes. Thinning may be done at two different stages:

Precommercial Removing trees that are too small to make a merchantable product to improve tree spacing and promote more rapid growth.

Commercial Removing trees that have reached sufficient size to be manufactured into a product to improve tree spacing and promote more rapid growth.

Threatened species A plant or animal species likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Threatened species are identified and defined in accordance with the 1973 Endangered Species Act and published in the Federal Register.

Threshold The point or level of activity beyond which an undesirable set of responses begins to take place within a given resource system.

Tiering Elimination of repetitive discussions of the same issue by incorporating by reference the general discussion in an environmental impact statement of broader scope. For example, a project environmental assessment could be tiered to the Forest Plan EIS.

Timber A general term for the major woody growth of vegetation in a forest area.

Timber classification Forested land is classified under each of the land management alternatives according to how it relates to the management of the timber resource. The following are definitions of timber classifications used for this purpose.

Nonforest Land that has never supported forests and land formerly forested where use for timber production is precluded by development or other uses.

Forest land Land at least 10-percent stocked (based on crown cover) by forest trees of any size, or formerly having had such tree cover and not currently developed for nonforest use.

Suitable land Land to be managed for timber production on a regulated basis.

Unsuitable Forest land withdrawn from timber utilization by statute or administrative regulation (for example, wilderness), or identified as inappropriate for timber production in the Forest planning process.

Commercial forest Forest land tentatively suitable for the production of continuous crops of timber and that has not been withdrawn.

Timber dispersion When an opening created from a final timber harvest is no longer considered an opening for the purpose of scheduling adjacent timber harvest. This is often expressed as the maximum amount of disturbance in a watershed at any given time.

Timber harvest schedule The quantity of timber planned for sale and harvest, by time period, from the area of land covered by the Forest Plan.

Timberlands Forest lands producing or capable of producing crops of industrial wood. Areas qualifying as timberland can produce more than 20 cubic feet per acre per year of industrial wood at culmination of mean annual increment.

Timber production The purposeful growing, tending, harvesting, and regeneration of trees for industrial or consumer use.

Timber Stand Improvement (TSI) All noncommercial intermediate cuttings and other treatments to improve composition, condition, and volume growth of a timber stand.

Top filing The filing of a future selection application by the State of Alaska, subject to valid existing rights, for lands which are not available for selection on the date of filing. If otherwise valid, these applications become an effective selection, without further action by the state, upon the date included lands become available for selection. Top filings for the State of Alaska are authorized by Section 906(e), ANILCA.

Total stream discharge Total water outflow from stream or river.

Traditional activities Traditional activities refer to activities in Conservation System Units as specified in the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, Section 1110.

The Forest Service Manual (FSM 2326.1-6) defines traditional activities to include, but are not limited to, recreation activities such as fishing, hunting, boating, sightseeing, and hiking. Such uses are subject to reasonable regulation to protect natural and other values of wilderness from damage. Traditional activities, which are legal, shall be allowed to continue in Wildernesses where such use has occurred, and no proof of pre-existing use will be required in order to use a snowmachine, motorboat, or airplane. No permits will be required in order to use a snowmachine, motorboat, or airplane. No permits will be required by the general public to use these specific types of motorized transport or nonmotorized surface transportation methods for traditional activities that are otherwise allowed in areas not specifically closed to their use.

Traffic Service Level (TSL) Describes a road's significant traffic characteristics and operating conditions. The levels reflect a number of factors, such as speed, travel time, traffic interruptions, freedom to maneuver, safety driver comfort, convenience, and operating costs. These factors, in turn, affect design elements such as number of lanes, turnout pacing, lane widths, type of driving surface, sight distances, design speed, clearance, horizontal and vertical alignment, curve widening, and turnarounds.

TSL A Reflects transportation efficiency and mobility with few interruptions to flow and a stable smooth driving surface.

TSL B Generally would have alignment more influenced by topography, more interruptions but still usually a stable smooth driving surface.

TSL C One could expect much more sinuous alignment to reduce construction costs with a surface that may not be stable under all traffic or weather conditions.

TSL D Generally constructed for a single purpose and traffic is discouraged for other purposes; surface and alignment is rough and irregular; very low speeds are anticipated to be able to safely negotiate the road.

Transportation and Utility System (TUS) Significant corridors, with their associated sites used to accommodate public transportation and energy transmission needs.

Avoidance Area An area where the establishment and use of transportation or utility corridors and sites is not desirable given the land use designation emphasis. A search for "windows" should be exhausted before TUS facilities are considered in avoidance areas. When practical, these areas should be avoided through site-specific analysis during project-level planning. Avoidance areas often include congressionally and administratively designated areas. Although special environmental and procedural considerations may be required for these areas, these special designations do not preclude consideration and use as a TUS. Avoidance areas are designated through the allocation of lands to management prescriptions specifically identified as TUS avoidance areas in their standards and guidelines.

Exclusion Area A large area (large enough to cause significant barriers), which legislatively precludes transportation and utility systems. Due to special authorities provided in Title XI, ANILCA, there will be no exclusion areas on the Tongass.

Window An area potentially available for the location of transportation or utility corridors and sites.

Transportation/Utility corridor A linear strip of land identified for the present location of transportation or utility rights-of-way within its boundaries (USDA Forest Service, Region 6 memo dated December 2, 1987 from Director of Lands and Minerals to Director of Planning).

Trust A right of property, real or personal, held by one party for the benefit of another.

TSI See Timber Stand Improvement.

TSL See Traffic Service Level.

TTRA Tongass Timber Reform Act of 1990.

Turbidity An expression of the optical property that causes light to be scattered and absorbed rather than transmitted in straight lines through a water sample; turbidity in water is caused by the presence of suspended matter such as clay, silt, finely divided organic and inorganic matter, plankton, and other microscopic organisms.

TUS See Transportation and Utility System.

Two-aged management A silvicultural method in which the majority of the trees in a harvest unit are cut in one entry, and the rest are left as residual trees, either singly or in patches. The residual trees remain unharvested to provide structural diversity and older-aged trees within the second-growth stand. See “Two-aged System” in the Forest Products Forestwide standards and guidelines for guidance.

Type conversion The act of converting a plant community from one vegetative type to another. In forestry, it is the act of changing the existing dominant tree species from one type to another.

U

Unconfined streams Streams that, due to lack of stream incision, and effects of geomorphic landform characteristics and local geologic conditions, result in streams overflowing their banks, changing flows to other channels, and establishing new channels during flood conditions.

Understory vegetation Grass, small trees, shrubs, and other plants found beneath the overstory (the trees comprising the forest).

Undertaking In cultural resources, any project, activity, or program that can result in changes in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties are located in the area of potential effects. The project, activity, or program must be under the direct or indirect jurisdiction of a federal agency or be licensed or assisted by a federal agency. Undertakings include new and continuing projects, activities, or programs and any of their elements not previously considered under Section 106, National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

Uneven-aged management The application of actions needed to maintain high-forest cover, recurring regeneration of desirable species, and the orderly growth and development of trees through a range of diameter or age classes. Cutting methods that develop and maintain uneven-aged stands are single-tree and group selection.

Unprogrammed timber harvest Timber harvest that occurs on unsuitable forested lands and is not chargeable to (does not contribute to) the Allowable Sale Quantity.

Unseen Areas of the landscape that are seldom seen or infrequently viewed by the public. It is recognized that all landscapes are viewed from the air.

Unsuitable lands Forest land not managed for timber production because: 1) Congress, the Secretary, or the Chief has withdrawn it; 2) it is not producing or capable of producing industrial wood; 3) technology is not available to prevent irreversible damage to soils productivity, or watershed conditions; 4) there is no reasonable assurance, based on existing technology and knowledge, that it is possible to restock lands within 5 years after final harvest; 5) there is, at present, a lack of adequate information about responses to timber management activities; or, 6) timber management is inconsistent with or not cost efficient in meeting the management requirements and multiple-use objectives specified in the Forest Plan.

Unsuppressed A wildland fire that has not been controlled.

Upland Not immediately adjacent to a stream.

Utility corridor Corridors for transmission lines, cables, pipelines, and major highways.

Utility systems Hydropower dams, sub-stations, transformer sites, corridors for transmission lines, cables, pipelines, etc. and roads or trails for installation and maintenance.

Utility volume Logs that do not meet minimum requirements for sawtimber but are suitable for the production of usable chips.

Utilization standards Standards guiding the use and removal of timber. They are measured in terms of diameter at breast height (DBH), top of the tree inside the bark (top DIB), and the percentages of "soundness" of the wood.

V

Valid Having legal strength or force, executed with proper formalities, incapable of being rightfully overthrown or set aside (Black 1979).

Vegetation management Projects that alter the vegetation composition, such as: thinning, pruning, clear-cutting, prescribed fire, planting, and fertilization to improve forest health or biodiversity. Improving stand conditions of young stands in non-timber development prescriptions.

Vegetation release The freeing of vegetation (grass, forbs, brush, trees) by eliminating the competition for nutrients, water, and sunlight. Once competition for these items has been eliminated, subdued, or stagnated, vegetation will display vigor and growth.

Veneer log A log considered suitable in size and quality for producing veneer, which is a thin sheet of wood of uniform thickness.

Very poorly drained soils Water is removed from the soil so slowly that the water table remains at or on the surface the greater part of the time. Soils of this drainage class usually occupy level or depressed sites and are frequently ponded.

Viable population For forest planning purposes a fish or wildlife population that has the estimated number and distribution of reproductive individuals to insure its continued existence is well distributed in the National Forest.

Viewing sites Development of scenic vistas along roads and trails. Includes tree cutting, turnouts, and trail hardening and widening. May include Naturewatch viewing sites or structures.

Viewshed An expansive landscape or panoramic vista seen from a road, marine water way or specific viewpoint.

V-notches A deeply incised valley along some waterways that would look like a "V" from a frontal view. These abrupt changes in terrain features are often used as harvest unit or yarding boundaries.

Volume class Average stand volume usually given as net board feet per acre. Scribner Rule, on the Tongass and Chugach National Forests.

Volume strata Divisions of old-growth timber volume derived from the interpreted timber type data layer (TIMTYP) and the common land unit data layer (CLU). Three volume strata (low, medium, and high) are recognized in the Forest Plan for each Administrative Area.

W

WAA See Wildlife analysis area.

WARS Wilderness attribute rating system (RARE II).

Watershed The area that contributes water to a drainage or stream. Portion of the forest in which all surface water drains to a common point. Watersheds can range from tens of acres that drain a single small intermittent stream to many thousands of acres for a stream that drains hundreds of connected intermittent and perennial streams.

Third order watershed. A watershed where there are (generally) two major branches to the mainstream of the watershed. See also Stream order.

Fourth order watershed. A watershed that contains at least two third order watersheds.

Watershed analysis A systematic procedure for characterizing and evaluating ecological processes within a watershed, for use in ecosystem management and project planning. Forest Plan Appendix J characterizes watershed analysis from an aquatic perspective.

Water table The upper surface of the ground water or that level below which the soil is saturated with water.

Well-drained soils Water is removed from the soil readily, but not rapidly.

Wetlands Areas that are inundated by surface or ground water with a frequency sufficient, under normal circumstances, to support a prevalence of vegetative or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction. Wetlands generally include peatlands, muskegs, marshes, bogs, sloughs, potholes, river overflows, mud flats, wet meadows, seeps, and springs.

Wild and Scenic Rivers Rivers or sections of rivers designated by congressional actions under the 1968 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Wild and scenic rivers may be classified and administered under one or more of the following categories:

Wild River areas 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.

Scenic River areas 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.

Recreational River areas 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 Areas designated by congressional action under the 1964 Wilderness Act or subsequent acts. Wilderness is defined as undeveloped federal land retaining its primeval character and influence without permanent improvements or human habitation. Wilderness areas are protected and managed to preserve their natural conditions, which generally appear to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of human activity substantially unnoticeable; have outstanding opportunities for solitude or for a primitive and confined type of recreation; include at least 5,000 acres or are of sufficient size to make practical their preservation, enjoyment, and use in an unimpaired condition; and may contain features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historic value as well as ecologic and geologic interest. On the Chugach National Forest, a Wilderness Study Area was designated by ANILCA.

Wildland fire (Wildfire) Any wildland fire not designated and managed as a prescribed fire within an approved prescription. All wildland fires will be given an appropriate suppression action.

Wildlife analysis area A division of land used by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game for wildlife analysis (WAA).

Wildlife habitat improvement projects Projects that provide more favorable habitat condition for wildlife including, structural and non-structural habitat improvement projects such as: prescribed fire, willow cutting, aspen harvests, fertilization, nest islands, road obliteration, interpretive signing, interpretive facilities, and wildlife viewing facilities.

Windfirm Trees not likely to be blown over by the wind. These are usually trees that have been exposed to the wind throughout their life and have developed a strong root system or trees that are protected from the wind by terrain features or other trees.

Windthrow The act of trees being uprooted by the wind. Sitka spruce and hemlock trees are shallow rooted and susceptible to windthrow. There are generally three types of windthrow - endemic where individual trees are blown over; catastrophic where a major windstorm can destroy hundreds of acres; and management related, where the clearing of trees in an area make the adjacent standing trees vulnerable to windthrow.

Windthrow management area A managed area designed to minimize windthrow within an adjacent no-harvest area.

Winter range An area, usually at lower elevation, used by big game during the winter months; usually smaller and better-defined than summer ranges.

Winter use period Recreational use during the winter months, generally the Wednesday before Thanksgiving until April 30.

Withdrawal The withholding of an area of federal land from settlement, sale, location, or entry under some or all of the general land laws for the purpose of limiting activities under those laws in order to maintain other public values in the area.