

## D. Glossary

36 CFR 212	2005 Travel Management Rule which replaced CFR 295
36 CFR 261	Establishes prohibitions necessary to manage and control use on National Forest Development Trails.
36 CFR 293	Prohibits motorized use in Wilderness and Primitive Areas.
4WD Route	Full width roads or trails which are not maintained for conventional highway vehicles; 4WD travel is recommended.
Adaptive Management	A system of management practices based on clearly identified intended outcomes and monitoring to determine if management actions are meeting those outcomes; and, if not, to facilitate management changes that will best ensure that those outcomes are met or re-evaluated. Adaptive management stems from the recognition that knowledge about natural resource systems is sometimes uncertain (36 CFR 220.3).
Administrative Unit	A National Forest, a National Grassland, a purchase unit, a land utilization project, Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, Land Between the Lakes, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, or other comparable unit of the National Forest System.
Adopt-a-Trail	Trail maintenance program where individuals or group volunteer to adopt and maintain specific routes.
All Terrain Vehicle (ATV)	OHVs less than or equal to 50" with three or more low-pressure tires, handle-bar steering and a seat designed to be straddled by the operator.
All Vehicles	All vehicle types are allowed to use the road or trail (36 CFR 212).
Alluvial	Pertaining to processes or materials associated with transportation or deposition by running water.
Anadromous Fish	Species of fish that mature in the sea and migrate into streams to spawn. Salmon is an example.
Andic	Specific physical and chemical properties of soils formed in volcanic materials.
Annual Maintenance	Work performed to maintain serviceability or repair failures during the year in which they occur. Includes preventive and/or cyclic maintenance performed in the year in which it is scheduled to occur. Unscheduled or catastrophic failures of components or assets may need to be repaired as a part of annual maintenance.
Aquatic	Growing or living in or frequenting water; taking place in or on water.
Aquatic Diversity Area	A watershed generally ranging from 13,000-600,000 acres selected for special consideration and management because of relatively good water quality, free-flowing character (without dams) and/or the presence of the best remaining populations of native fish and amphibians in the Sierra Nevada.
Aquatic Ecosystem	A stream channel, lake or estuary bed, the water itself, and the biotic (living) communities that occur therein.
Arc Macro Language (AML)	AML is an ARC/INFO computer programming language.
ARC/INFO Area	The name of a Geographic Information System software program. A discrete, specifically delineated space that is smaller, and in most cases much smaller, than a Ranger District.
Area of Potential Effects (APE)	This is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist. The area of potential effects is influenced by the scale and nature of an undertaking and may be different for different kinds of effects caused by the undertaking.

Arterial Roads	Classified roads that provide service to large land areas; arterial roads are usually developed and operated for long-term land and resource management purposes and constant service.
Aspect	The direction a slope faces. For example, a hillside facing east has an eastern aspect.
Biological Diversity (Biodiversity)	The number and abundance of species found within a common environment. This includes the variety of genes, species, ecosystems, and the ecological processes that connect everything in a common environment.
Biota	The plant and animal life of a particular region.
Biotic Potential	Factors that influence the ability of an animal to utilize its environment, including: reproductive rates, dispersal ability, habitat and life requisite specificity, and adaptability. Combine, these factors assign biotic potential of the animal.
Blue Oak Woodlands	An ecosystem dominated by blue oak, valley oak, interior live oak (tree form), or Oregon white oak.
Buffer	Used in the context of GIS; a buffer is a zone of a specified distance around a feature in a coverage.
California Wildlife Habitat Relationships (CWHR)	A system of classifying vegetation in relation to its function as wildlife habitat. Tree-dominated habitat is classified according to tree size and canopy closure.
Canopy	The part of any stand of trees represented by the tree crowns. It usually refers to the uppermost layer of foliage, but it can be used to describe lower layers in a multi-storied forest.
Chief	The Chief, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture (36 CFR 212).
Classified Roads	Roads wholly or partially within or adjacent to National Forest System lands that are determined to be needed for motor vehicle access, such as State roads, County roads, privately owned roads, National Forest System roads, and roads authorized by the Forest Service that are intended for long-term use.
Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)	A codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the Executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government.
Collaboration	Managers, scientists and citizens working together to plan, implement and monitor National Forest management. The intention is to engage people who have information, knowledge, expertise and an interest in the health of National Forest ecosystems and nearby communities.
Collector Roads	Classified roads serving smaller land areas than arterial roads; collector roads collect traffic from local roads and usually connect to forest arterial roads or State and County highways. They are operated for either constant or intermittent service depending on land use and resource management objectives.
Combined Use	Designation of a highway, or a portion thereof, of high standard (passenger car) roads available for Combined Use by highway legal and non-highway legal vehicles (California Vehicle Code, Division 16.5, Chapter 1, Section 38026).
Connected Actions	Actions that: (i) automatically trigger other actions which may require environmental impact statements; (ii) cannot or will not proceed unless other actions are taken previously or simultaneously; or, (iii) are interdependent parts of a larger action and depend on the larger action for their justification (40 CFR 1508.25).
Connectivity (of Habitats)	The linkage of similar but separated vegetation stands by patches, corridors, or "stepping stones" of like vegetation. This term can also refer to the degree to which similar habitats are linked.
Coverage	A digital map or layer of data in the ARC/INFO software program.
Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)	The Council on Environmental Quality established by Title II of NEPA (40 CFR 1508.6).
Critical Aquatic Refuge (CAR)	A relatively small watershed, ranging in size from about 3,000 to 85,000 acres, that is sometimes nested within an emphasis watershed and has localized populations of rare and/or at-risk populations of native fish and/or amphibians.

Critical Habitat	Areas designated for the survival and recovery of federally listed threatened or endangered species.
Critical Refuge	A relatively small watershed, ranging in size from about 3,000 to 85,000 acres, that is sometimes nested within an emphasis watershed and has localized populations of rare and/or at-risk populations of native fish and/or amphibians.
Cryptogamic Soil Crusts (Microbiotic Soil Crusts)	Arid and semi-arid soil surface communities consisting of green algae, cyanobacteria, diatoms, non-lichenized fungi, lichens, bryophytes, bacteria, protozoans in various combinations. They stabilize soil surfaces, concentrate certain mineral and organic nutrients, alter water infiltration while consistently reducing sedimentation, and facilitating seed germination and seedling establishment.
Cumulative Impact	The impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time (40 CFR 1508.7).
Decommission	Activities that result in the stabilization and restoration of unneeded roads or trails to a more natural state (FSM 7703.2(1)).
Deferred Maintenance	Maintenance that was not performed when it should have been or when it was scheduled and which, therefore, was put off or delayed for a future period. When allowed to accumulate without limits or consideration of useful life, deferred maintenance leads to deterioration of performance, increased costs to repair, and decrease in asset value. Deferred maintenance needs may be categorized as critical or non-critical at any point in time. Continued deferral of non-critical maintenance will normally result in an increase in critical deferred maintenance. Code compliance (e.g. life safety, ADA, OSHA, environmental, etc.), Forest Plan Direction, Best Management Practices, Biological Evaluations other regulatory or Executive Order compliance requirements, or applicable standards not met on schedule are considered deferred maintenance.
Degradation	Reduction in quality. The process whereby the water quality and chemical, physical or biological integrity of a water body is decreased. Habitat quality can be changed by certain management activities. If the quality is reduced then habitat degradation has occurred.
Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)	A detailed written statement as required by section 102(2) (C) of the NEPA (40 CFR 1508.11) that is released to governmental agencies and the general public for review and comment.
Demographic Stochasticity	Random fluctuations in birth and death rates.
Designated Road, Trail or Area	A National Forest System road, trail or area that is designated for motor vehicle on a motor vehicle use map (36 CFR 212).
Desired Future Conditions	Land or resource conditions that are expected to result based on goals and objectives.
Digital Elevation Model (DEM)	A digital GIS file typically used to represent terrain relief.
Early Forest Succession	The biotic (or life) community that develops immediately following the removal or destruction of vegetation in an area. For example, grasses may be the first plants to grow in an area that was burned.
Ecology	The interrelationships of living things to one another and to their environment, or the study of these interrelationships.
Ecosystem	An arrangement of living and non-living things and the forces that move them. Living things include plants and animals. Non-living parts of ecosystems may be rocks and minerals. Weather and wildfire are two of the forces that act within ecosystems.
Endangered Species	Those plant or animal species that are in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of their range. Endangered species are identified by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

Endemic	An organism that evolved in and is restricted to a particular locality. The Little Kern golden trout found only in the Sierra Nevada region is an example.
Environmental Justice	The state (or condition) which all populations are provided the opportunity to comment before decisions are rendered on, are allowed to share in the benefits of, are not excluded from, and are not affected in a disproportionately high and adverse manner by government programs and activities affecting human health or the environment.
Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)	A detailed written statement as required by section 102(2) (C) of NEPA (CFR 1508.11).
Environmentally Preferable Alternative	The alternative that will best promote the national environmental policy as expressed in NEPA section 101 (42 USC 4321). Ordinarily, the environmentally preferable alternative is that which causes the least harm to the biological and physical environment; it also is the alternative which best protects and preserves historic, cultural, and natural resources. In some situations, there may be more than one environmentally preferable alternative (36 CFR 220.3).
Environmental Stochasticity	Random variation in environmental attributes such as temperature, precipitation, and fire frequency.
Ephemeral Stream	Streams that flow only as the direct result of rainfall or snowmelt. They have no permanent flow.
Equivalent Roded Acres	A standardized unit of measure for land disturbance. A road prism is considered the reference to which other types of land disturbing activities are measured. A road is given an ERA coefficient of 1.0 (1 acre of road is equal to 1.0 ERA). Other disturbances such as logging, site preparation and wildfires are equated to a road surface by ERA coefficients that reflect their relative level of contribution to changes in runoff and sediment regimes in the watershed.
Escarpment	A long, more or less continuous cliff or relatively steep slope produced by erosion or by faulting.
Executive Order 11644	Directs federal agencies to establish policies and provide for procedures that will ensure that the use of off-road vehicles on public lands will be controlled and directed so as to protect the resources of those lands, to promote the safety of all users of those lands, and to minimize conflicts among the various uses of those lands.
Fauna	The animal life of an area.
Flora	The plant life of an area.
Focal Species	A species of concern.
Forest Road or Trail	A road or trail wholly or partly within or adjacent to and serving the National Forest system that the Forest Service determines is necessary for the protection, administration, and utilization of the National Forest System and the use and development of its resources (36 CFR 212).
Forest Transportation Atlas	A display of the system of roads, trails, and airfields of an administrative unit.
Forest Transportation Facility	A forest road or trail or an airfield that is displayed in a forest transportation atlas, including bridges, culverts, parking lots, marine access facilities, safety devices, and other improvements appurtenant to the forest transportation system (36 CFR 212).
Forest Transportation System	The system of National Forest System roads, National Forest System trails, and airfields on National Forest System lands (36 CFR 212).
Fuelbreak	A system of linear or mosaic patch treatments of forest or shrub vegetation designed and treated to reduce fire spread, intensity, and create barriers to fire spread.
Fuels	Plants and woody vegetation, living and dead that are capable of burning.
Fuels Management	The planned manipulation and/or reduction of living and dead forest fuels for forest management and other land use objectives.

Fuels Treatment	The treatment of fuels that left untreated would otherwise interfere with effective fire management or control. For example, prescribed fire can reduce the amount of fuels that accumulate on the forest floor.
Fuelwood	Wood cut into short lengths for burning in a fireplace, woodstove or fire pit.
Functional Classification	The grouping of roads by the character of service they provide (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), A Policy on Geometric Design of Highways and Streets, 2001).
Geographic Information Systems (GIS)	A computer system capable of storing, manipulating, analyzing, and displaying geographic information.
Green Sticker Vehicle (non-highway legal)	A motor vehicle built since 2003 that is in compliance with the 1998 California Air Resources Board off highway vehicle exhaust pursuant to California Vehicle Code Book Division 16.5 prior to 2003 and also registered pursuant to California Section 38160. Currently, the registration identification for California comes in the form of a green sticker. These driven cycles, sand buggies, dune buggies, all terrain vehicles (ATV), or any motor vehicle commonly referred to as a jeep or four wheel drive (4WD).
Habitat	The area where a plant or animal lives and grows under natural conditions.
Herbaceous	A plant having little or no woody tissue.
Heritage Program	The comprehensive Forest Service program of responsibilities with regard to historic preservation. A pro-active program to manage prehistoric and historic cultural resources and cultural traditions for the benefit of the public through preservation, public use, and research.
High Clearance Vehicle	All sport utility vehicles (SUVs), light trucks, motorcycles, and other highway-legal vehicles designed for operation on rough terrain. These vehicles are also OHVs.
Highway	Highway is a way or a place of whatever nature publicly maintained and open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel (CA Vehicle Code Section 360). However, the 38000 Division of the California Vehicle Code (the Off Highway Motor Vehicle section) states that for purposes of this division (38000) the term "highway" does not include fire trails, logging roads, service roads regardless of surface composition, or other roughly graded trails and roads upon which vehicular travel by the public is permitted (CA Vehicle Code 38001).
Highway Legal Only	Full width roads open to highway legal vehicles only.
Highway Vehicle	Any motor vehicle that is licensed or certified under State law for general operation on all public roads within the State. <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Passenger Vehicle: All passenger vehicles such as sedans, and other typical low clearance vehicles less than 10,000 GVW licensed to operate on public roads</li><li>2. High Clearance Vehicle: All sport utility vehicles (SUVs), light trucks, motorcycles, and other highway-legal vehicles designed for operation on rough terrain. These vehicles are also OHVs.</li></ol>
Hydrologically Connected Segment (HCS)	Locations near water where drainage off a route is likely to enter a watercourse
Hydrologically Sensitive Area (HSA)	see Riparian Conservation Area
Image	A graphic representation of a person or thing, typically produced by an electronic device. Common examples include remotely sensed data and photographs.
Indigenous	Any species of plant or animals native to a given land or water area by natural occurrence.
Interdisciplinary Team	A diverse group of professional resource specialists who analyze the effects of Alternatives on natural and other resources. Through interaction, participants bring different points of view and a broader range of expertise.

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Intermittent Stream	A stream that flows only at certain times of the year when it receives water from streams or from some surface, such as melting snow.
Irretrievable	A term that applies to the loss of production, harvest, or use of natural resources. For example, some or all of the timber production from an area is lost irretrievably while an area is serving as a winter sports site. The production lost is irretrievable, but the action is not irreversible. If the use changes, it is possible to resume timber production.
Irreversible	A term that describes the loss of future options. Applies primarily to the effects of use of nonrenewable resources, such as minerals or cultural resources, or to those factors, such as soil productivity that are renewable only over long periods of time
Juvenile Return Rates	Rate at which juvenile birds return to the nesting grounds. Generally reported as percentage of migratory juvenile birds returning to the nesting grounds, after wintering elsewhere (e.g., tropics), from total number of hatched birds marked with leg bands in the previous year. Juvenile return rates may indirectly indicate ability of young birds to survive migration.
Lahars	Landslide or mudflow material of pyroclastic (hot ash or tephra) on the flank of a volcano or the deposit formed by such a landslide or mudflow.
Landscape	A large land area composed of interacting ecosystems that are repeated due to factors such as geology, soils, climate, and human impacts.
Late Forest Succession	The stage of forest succession in which most of the trees are mature or over mature.
Long-Term Risk	A risk to be experienced within the next 50 to 100 years.
Maintained for Public Use	A Memorandum of Understanding with the Federal Highway Administration defines National Forest system roads open to the public as those roads open to unrestricted use by the general public in standard passenger cars, including those roads open on a seasonal basis or for emergencies.
Maintenance	The upkeep of the entire forest transportation facility including surface and shoulders, parking and side areas, structures, and such traffic-control devices as are necessary for its safe and efficient utilization (36 CFR 212).
Management Action	Any activity undertaken as part of the administration of the National Forest.
Meadow	Areas of moist low lying and usually level grasslands. Generally, the water table is just below the surface of the soil and the most abundant vegetation is usually favored by wet but not constantly flooded soil.
Mesic	Moderately moist climates or environments. Vegetation: generally refers to vegetation found in moist environments. Soils: refers specifically to soils with mean annual temperatures of 8 to 15 degrees centigrade.
Mitigation	Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action. Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation. Rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment. Reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action. Compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.
Mixed Use	see Motorized Mixed Use
Montane Hardwood Forests	For the purposes of this analysis, it refers to vegetation communities dominated by California black oak, canyon live oak, Pacific madrone, or tanoak.
Mosaic	Areas with a variety of plant communities over a landscape. For example, areas with trees and areas without trees occurring over a landscape.

Motor Vehicle	Any vehicle which is self propelled, other than: (1) a vehicle operated on rails; and (2) any wheelchair or mobility device, including one that is battery-operated, that is designed solely for use by a mobility-impaired person for locomotion, and that is suitable for use in an indoor pedestrian area (36 CFR 212).
Motorcycle (MC)	Two-wheeled vehicles on which the two wheels are inline, not side-by-side.
Motorized Mixed Use	Designation of an NFTS road for use by both highway-legal and non-highway legal vehicles" (FSM 7705).
Motor Vehicle Use Map	A map reflecting designated roads, trails and areas on an administrative unit or a Ranger District of the National Forest system (36 CFR 212).
Multiple Use	The management of all the various renewable surface resources of the National Forests so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the needs of the American people; making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; that some land will be used for less than all of the resources; and 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, and not necessarily the combination of uses that will give the greatest dollar return or the greatest unit output. (Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act; Public Law 86-517)
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	Codifies the national policy of encouraging harmony between humans and the environment by promoting efforts to prevent or eliminate damage to the environment, thereby enriching our understanding of ecological systems and natural resources. It declares the federal government to be responsible for: (a) coordinating programs and plans regarding environmental protection; (b) using an interdisciplinary approach to decision-making; (c) developing methods to ensure that non-quantifiable amenity values are included economic analyses; and (d) including in every recommendation, report on proposals for legislation, or other major federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the environment a detailed environmental impact statement (EIS).
National Forest System	As defined in the Forest Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act, the "National Forest System" includes all National Forest lands reserved or withdrawn from the public domain of the United States, all National Forest lands acquired through purchase, exchange, donation, or other means, the National Grasslands, and land utilization projects administered under title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act (50 Stat. 525, 7 U.S.C. 1010-1012), and other lands, waters or interests therein which are administered by the Forest Service or are designated for administration through the Forest Service as a part of the system (36 CFR 212).
National Forest System Route	Roads and trails constructed with engineering design by Forest Service experts and with consideration of resource impacts classified as National Forest System roads or trails.
National Forest System Road	A forest road other than a road which has been authorized by a legally documented right-of-way held by a State, county or other local public authority (36 CFR 212).
National Forest System Trail	A forest trail other than a trail which has been authorized by a legally documented right-of-way held by a State, county or other local public authority (36 CFR 212).
Natural Resource	A feature of the natural environment that is of value in serving human needs.
Natural Succession	The natural replacement, in time, of one plant community with another. Conditions of the prior plant community (or successional stage) create conditions that are favorable for the establishment of the next stage.
Nitrogen oxides (NOx)	A general term pertaining to compounds of nitric oxide (NO) nitrogen dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> ) and other oxides of nitrogen. Nitrogen oxides are typically created during combustion processes and are major contributors to smog formation and acid deposition.
Noxious Weeds	Aggressive, non-native plant species that have been introduced. They can be difficult to manage, poisonous, toxic, parasitic, or carrier of insects or disease. Examples of noxious weeds would be scotch broom, yellow star thistle, and cheatgrass.

Off Highway Vehicle (OHV)	<p>Any motor vehicle designed for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land. These vehicles may also be a High Clearance Highway Vehicle.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. OHV &gt; 50": OHVs greater than 50" in width, such as sport utility vehicles (SUVs), rock crawlers, UTVs, and sand rails.             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.1. Wheeled OHV &gt; 50": OHVs greater than 50" in width operating on wheels</li> <li>1.2. Tracked OHV &gt; 50": OHVs greater than 50" in width operating on tracks, including SUVs or utility vehicles with track conversion kits.</li> <li>1.3. Other OHV &gt; 50": Other OHVs greater than 50" in width that are not wheeled or tracked.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. OHV &lt;= 50": OHVs less than or equal to 50" in width.             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1. Wheeled OHV &lt;= 50": OHVs less than or equal to 50" in width operating on wheels such as ATVs, motorcycles, and balancing scooters.                 <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1.1. ATV: OHVs less than or equal to 50" with three or more low-pressure tires, handle-bar steering and a seat designed to be straddled by the operator.</li> <li>2.1.2. Motorcycle: Two-wheeled vehicles on which the two wheels are inline, not side-by-side.</li> <li>2.1.3. Other Wheeled OHV &lt;=50: Other wheeled OHVs less than or equal to 50" in width. Includes balancing scooters.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2.2. Tracked OHV &lt;= 50": An OHV less than or equal to 50" in width operating on tracks. Includes ATVs with track conversion kits and snowmobiles when not operating over snow.</li> <li>2.3. Other OHV &lt;= 50": Other OHVs less than or equal to 50" in width that are not considered to be ATVs or motorcycles and are not wheeled or tracked.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
OHV Recreation	<p>Recreation activities that are conducted, using off high vehicles. Activities include riding ATVs, hunting, riding motorcycles, driving for pleasure, rock crawling (36 CFR 212).</p>
Old Forest (Old Growth)	<p>Areas that contain large, old trees relative to the species-specific, environmentally-constrained growth capacity of the site.</p>
Open to Public Travel	<p>Except during scheduled periods, extreme weather conditions, or emergencies, open to the general public for use with a standard passenger auto, without restrictive gates or prohibitive signs or regulations, other than for general traffic control or restrictions based on size, weight, or class of registration (23 CFR 660.103).</p>
Over Snow Vehicle (OSV)	<p>Motor vehicles designed for over-snow that run on a track or tracks and/or a ski(s), while in use over snow. The same vehicle would be an OHV when not in use over snow (36 CFR 212.1).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Over Snow Vehicle &gt; 50": Over-snow vehicles greater than 50" in width, including snow coaches, snow cats, and sport utility vehicles (SUVs) with track conversion kits.</li> <li>2. Over Snow Vehicle &lt;= 50": Motorized over-snow vehicles less than or equal to 50" in width             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2.1. Snowmobile: Motorized over-snow vehicles that operate on a track, use one or more skis for steering, have handle-bar steering, and a seat designed to be straddled by the operator.</li> <li>2.2. Other OSV &lt;= 50": Other over-snow vehicles less than or equal to 50" in width, including ATVs with track conversion kits.</li> </ol> </li> </ol>
Paleoecological	<p>The study of ancient or prehistoric ecosystems.</p>
Passenger Vehicle	<p>All passenger vehicles such as sedans and other typical low clearance vehicles less than 10,000 GVW licensed to operate on public roads.</p>
Patch	<p>An area of vegetation, similar in structure and composition.</p>
Perennial Stream	<p>A stream that typically has running water on a year-round basis.</p>
Polygon	<p>Used in a GIS to represent an area, a polygon is a digital feature class defined by arcs, or lines, that make up its boundary. A polygon would be used to represent areas such as lakes and land parcels on a map.</p>

Preferred Alternative	The alternative(s) which the Agency believes would best fulfill the purpose and need for the proposal, consistent with the Agency's statutory mission and responsibilities, giving consideration to environmental, social, economic, and other factors and disclosed in an EIS.
Prescribed Fire or Burn	A type of fuel treatment whereby fire is intentionally set in wildland fuels under prescribed conditions and circumstances.
Proposed Action	A proposal made by the Forest Service to authorize, recommend, or implement an action to meet a specific purpose and need.
Protected Activity Centers (PACs)	Designated areas that are afforded protection to specific species by restricting certain management activities. For example, California spotted owl PACs protect owl habitat and breeding areas by restricting timber harvest.
Public Involvement	The use of appropriate procedures to: inform the public, obtain early and continuing public participation, and consider the views of interested parties in planning and decision-making.
Public Land	Land for which title and control rests with a government – Federal, state, regional, county, or municipal.
Public Road	Roads under the jurisdiction of and maintained by a public authority that are open to public travel (23 U.S.C 101(a)).
Quiet Recreation	Recreation activities which are non-motorized and require human power. Examples include hiking, bicycling, wildlife viewing, swimming, snow shoeing, and cross-country skiing. The area in which the recreationists participate is relatively free of human intrusion. Natural sounds can be heard easily.
Reactive Organic Gas (ROG)	A photochemically reactive chemical gas composed of non-methane hydrocarbons that may contribute to the formation of SMOG; volatile organic compounds.
Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions	Those Federal or non-Federal activities not yet undertaken, for which there are existing decisions, funding, or identified proposals. Identified proposals for Forest Service actions are described in 220.4(a) (1) (36 CFR 220.3).
Record of Decision (ROD)	A concise public record of the responsible official's decision to implement an action when an environmental impact statement (EIS) has been prepared.
Remote Sensing	Acquiring information about a geographic feature without contacting it physically. Methods include aerial photography and satellite imaging.
Resilience	The ability of an ecosystem to maintain diversity, integrity, and ecological processes following a disturbance.
Responsible Official	The Agency employee who has the authority to make and implement a decision on a proposed action (36 CFR 220.3).
Riparian Area	The area along a watercourse or around a lake or pond.
Riparian Conservation Area (RCA)	Identified areas within a certain distance from streams, special aquatic features or riparian vegetation. RCA width and protection measures are determined through project level analysis.
Riparian Ecosystem	The ecosystem around or next to water areas that support unique vegetation and animal communities as a result of the influence of water.
Road	A motor vehicle route over 50 inches wide, unless identified and managed as a trail (36 CFR 212).
Road Construction or Reconstruction	Supervising, inspecting, actual building and incurrence of all costs incidental to the construction or reconstruction of a road.
Road Improvement	Activities that result in an increase of an existing road's traffic service level, expand its capacity, or change its original design function.
Road Management Objective (RMO)	RMOs establish the appropriate vehicle classes and uses for each road segment (36 CFR 212).
Obliteration	A form of decommissioning that re-contours and restores natural slopes.
Road Realignment	Activities that result in a new location for an existing road or portions of an existing road, including treatment of the old roadway.

Road Reconstruction	Activities that result in road realignment or road improvement, as defined below:
Roadless Areas	For the purposes of this EIS, a generic term that includes inventoried roadless areas.
Route	A road or trail.
Satellite Image	A picture of the earth taken from a satellite in orbit around the earth.
Schedule of Proposed Actions (SOPA)	A Forest Service document that informs the public about those proposed and ongoing Forest Service actions for which a record of decision, decision notice or decision memo would be or has been prepared. The SOPA also identifies a contact for additional information on any proposed actions (36 CFR 220.3).
Scope	The range of actions, alternatives and impacts to be considered in an environmental impact statement (40 CFR 1508.25).
Scoping	An early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to a proposed action (40 CFR 1501.7).
Sensitive Species	Plant or animal species which are susceptible to habitat changes or impacts from activities. The official designation is made by the USDA Forest Service at the regional level and is not part of the designation of threatened or endangered species made by the U.S. Fish And Wildlife Service.
Seral Stage	The stage of succession of a plant or animal community that is transitional. If left alone, the seral stage will give way to another plant or animal community that represents a further stage of succession.
Shared Use	Motorized and non-motorized recreationists share the same trails.
Short-Term Risk	A risk to be experienced within the next 10 to 15 years. For example, prescribed burns can disturb habitat in the short-term, but in the long-term the fire resiliency of the habitat may be improved.
Silvicultural System	The cultivation of forests; the result is a forest of a distinct form. Silvicultural systems are classified according to harvest and regeneration methods and the type of forest that results.
Silviculture	The art and science that promotes the growth of single trees and the forest as a biological unit.
SMOG	A combination of smoke and other particulates, ozone, hydrocarbons, nitrogen oxides and other chemically reactive compounds which under certain conditions of weather and sunlight may result in a murky brown haze. The primary source of smog in California is motor vehicles.
Snag	A standing dead tree. Snags are important as habitat for a variety of wildlife species and their prey.
Snowmobile	Motorized over-snow vehicles that operate on a track, use one or more skis for steering, have handle-bar steering, and a seat designed to be straddled by the operator.
Spatial Data	A GIS contains spatial data. The spatial data represents geographic features associated with real-world locations.
Species	A class of individuals having common attributes and designated by a common name; a category of biological classification ranking immediately below the genus or subgenus; comprising related organisms or populations potentially capable of interbreeding.
Stand	A group of trees that occupies a specific area and is similar in species, age and condition.
Standards and Guidelines (S&Gs)	The primary instructions for land managers. Standards address mandatory actions, while guidelines are recommended actions necessary to a land management decision.
Stand-Replacing Fire	A fire that burns with sufficient intensity to kill the majority of living vegetation over a given area (grass and brush fires are stand replacement fires for that vegetation type, in forest vegetation types when 75- 80% of the stand is killed by fire are also considered stand replacement fires).

Stewardship	Caring for the land and its resources in order to pass healthy ecosystems on to future generations.
Suitability	The appropriateness of certain resource management to an area of land. Suitability can be determined by environmental and economic analysis of management practices.
Sulfur Oxides (SOx)	Pungent colorless gases formed primarily by the combustion of sulfur containing fossil fuels, especially coal and oil. Considered a major air pollutant.
Sustainability	The ability of an ecosystem to maintain ecological processes and functions, biological diversity, and productivity over time.
Sustainable	The yield of a natural resource that can be produced continually at a given intensity of management is said to be sustainable. Recreation activities are sustainable if the human activity does not reduce ecologic sustainability.
Taxa	The name applied to any one group or entity in the scientific classification system.
Temporary Road or Trail	A road or trail necessary for emergency operations or authorized by contract, permit, lease or other written authorization that is not a forest road or trail and that is not included in a forest transportation atlas.
Thermic	A soil with a mean annual soil temperature of greater than or equal to 15 degrees centigrade, but less than 22 degrees centigrade and a difference between the mean summer and winter soil temperatures of greater than 5 degrees centigrade measured at 50 cm below the surface.
Threatened Species	Those plant or animal species likely to become endangered throughout all or a specific portion of their range within the foreseeable future as designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the Endangered Species Act of 1973.
Total Organic Gases (TOG)	Gaseous organic compounds including relative organic gases and the relatively unreactive organic gases such as methane.
Traffic Management Strategies	These strategies are: encourage, accept, discourage, eliminate, and prohibit. The 'encourage' strategy directs forest visitors to important destinations via desirable routes. The discourage strategy informs potential users of road conditions that may detract from the experience they seek when visiting a National Forest. The 'eliminate' and prohibit strategies are used to close roads with physical barriers or regulatory signs and orders (FSH 7709.59-25.31).
Trail	A route 50 inches or less in width or a route over 50 inches wide that is identified and managed as a trail (36 CFR 212).
Trail Management Objective (TMO)	TMOs establish the appropriate vehicle classes and uses for each trail segment (36 CFR 212).
Trail Vehicle	Vehicles designated for trail use, such as bicycles, snowmobiles, trail bikes, trail scooters, and all terrain vehicles (FSM 2353.05).
Travel Management Atlas	An atlas that consists of a forest transportation atlas and a motor vehicle use map or maps.
Unauthorized Road	A road that is not a NFTS road or a temporary road. It is not included in a forest transportation atlas.
Unauthorized Trail	A trail that is not a NFTS trail. It is not included in a forest transportation atlas.
Understory	The trees and woody shrubs growing beneath branches and foliage formed collectively by the upper portions of adjacent trees.
Unroaded Area	Any area, without the presence of a classified road, of a size and configuration sufficient to protect the inherent characteristics associated with its roadless condition. Unroaded areas do not overlap with inventoried roadless areas.
Visual Quality	The forest visual resources; terrain, geological features, or vegetation.
Watershed	The entire region drained by a waterway, lake, or reservoir. More specifically, a watershed is an area of land above a given point on a stream that contributes water to the streamflows at that point.

Wetlands	Areas that are inundated by surface or ground water with a frequency sufficient to support (and that under normal circumstances do or would support) a prevalence of vegetation or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction.
Wheeled Over Snow Routes	Specific routes identified as an exception to the normal season of use restrictions allowing for over snow travel by ATVs when 12 inches or more of snow is present; these routes are dual designated as Snow Trails.
Wildland	An area in which development is essentially non-existent, except for roads, railroads, powerlines and similar transportation facilities.
Xeric	A soil moisture regime common to Mediterranean climates that have moist cool winters and warm dry summers. A limited amount of water is present but does not occur at optimum periods for plant growth.