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Glossary of Acronyms and Terms

Acronyms

- ACHP** – Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
- ADA** – Americans with Disabilities Act
- ATM** – Access Travel Management
- AQRV** – Air Quality Related Values
- AVQO** – Adopted Visual Quality Objectives
- BMP** – Best Management Practices
- BMPEP** – Best Management Practices Evaluation Program
- CDFG** – California Department of Fish and Game
- CFR** – Code of Federal Regulations
- CNEL** – Cumulative Noise Event Level
- CTC** – California Tahoe Conservancy
- CVIS** – California Vegetation Information System
- CWG** – [Lake Tahoe Basin] Coordinated Weed Group
- Db** - Decibels
- DBH** – Diameter at Breast Height
- DC** – Desired Conditions
- DFC** – Desired Future Condition
- EIS** – Environmental Impact Statement
- ER** – Ecosystem Restoration
- ESA** – Endangered Species Act
- EVC** – Existing Visual Condition
- FHP** – Forest Health Protection
- FPO** – [Forest Service] Fire Protection Officer
- GIS** – Geographic Information Systems
- GPS** – Global Positioning System
- ha** - hectare
- HFRA** – Healthy Forest Restoration Act
- IPM** – Integrated Pest Management
- LEED** – Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design

LEO – [Forest Service] Law Enforcement Officer
LMP – Land Management Planning
LRMP – Land Resource Management Plan
LTBMU – Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit
LTRA: Lake Tahoe Restoration Act
MSIM – Multi-Species Inventory and Monitoring
MUSYA: Multiple Use-Sustained Yield Act
NDEP - Nevada Division of Environmental Protection
NHPA: National Historic Preservation Act
NEPA – National Environmental Policy Act
NFMA – National Forest Management Act
NSRE – National Survey on Recreation and the Environment
NVUM – National Visitor Use Monitoring
OHV – Off-Highway Vehicle
ORV – Off-Road Vehicle
OSV – Over-Snow Vehicle
P7 – Pathway 2007
PCT – Pacific Crest Trail
RCA – Riparian Conservation Areas
RCO – Riparian Conservation Objectives
RDM – Residual Dry Matter
RVD – Recreation Visitor Days
RIM – Recreation Information Management
RNA – Research Natural Area
ROS - Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
RPA: Resources Planning Act
RWQCB – [Lahontan] Regional Water Quality Control Board
RZ – Riparian Zones
S&G – Standards and Guidelines
SEZ – Stream Environment Zone
SHPO – State Historic Preservation Office
SLT – (city of) South Lake Tahoe
SNEP – Sierra Nevada Ecosystem Project

SNFPA – Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment

SNPLMA: Southern Nevada Public Lands Management Act

TES – Sensitive: Threatened and Endangered Species

TMDL – Total Maximum Daily Load

TMO – Transportation Management Organization

TRPA – Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

TWG – Technical Working Group

VC – Vinyl Chloride

WFUD – Wildlife and Fish User Days

WIN – Watershed Improvement Needs

WUI – Wildland Urban Interface

Terms Defined

Access and Travel Management Plan (ATM): a plan for access to and use of National Forest System Lands that could include components such as an inventory of all roads and trails within the management area, a road water quality risk assessment, an internal road access needs assessment, and maps depicting a desired transportation system. The purpose of an ATM is to plan for access for administrative and recreational use while minimizing environmental impacts.

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP): an independent Federal agency that promotes the preservation, enhancement, and productive use of our Nation's historic resources, and advises the President and Congress on national historic preservation policy.

Air Quality Related Values (AQRV): A resource, as identified by a Federal Land Manager, that may be adversely affected by a change in air quality. The resource may include visibility or a specific scenic, cultural, physical, biological, ecological, or recreational resource identified for a particular area.

Best Management Practices (BMP): methods to help developed properties function more like natural, undisturbed forest and meadowland. BMPs help developed properties mimic natural conditions, preventing sediment and nutrients from entering our surface waters and filtering runoff water through the soil.

Best Management Practices Evaluation Program (BMPEP): Management agency agreement between the State Water Board and the USFS that was signed in 1982, the foundation of which are Forest Service Best Management Practices.

California Tahoe Conservancy (CTC): an independent state agency established to develop and implement programs through acquisitions and site improvements to improve water quality in Lake Tahoe, preserve the scenic beauty and recreational opportunities of the region, provide public access, preserve wildlife habitat areas, and manage and restore lands to protect the natural environment. Its jurisdiction consists of the California portion of the Lake Tahoe Basin.

California Vegetation Information System (CVIS): a digital database developed by the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) consisting of a sampling database, which archives the vegetation samples collected by CNPS and other agencies and organizations, and the Classification Database, which houses the information on the descriptions of each of the vegetation types identified in the Manual of California Vegetation.

Clean Water Act: this law established the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States and gave the EPA the authority to implement pollution control programs such as setting wastewater standards.

Cumulative Noise Level: noise level measured or computed over a long period of time (usually a year).

Coordinated Weed Group (CWG): Lake Tahoe Basin-sponsored organization comprised of representatives from federal and state regulatory and land management agencies, and residents in the basin. The goal of the program is to raise public awareness of invasive weeds in the Tahoe Basin and to locate, map, and eradicate target species.

Desired Conditions: The social, economic, and ecological attributes toward which management of the land and resources of the plan area is to be directed. Desired conditions are aspirations and are not commitments or final decisions approving projects and activities, and may be achievable only over a long time period (36 CFR 219.7).

Diameter at Breast Height (DBH): The diameter of the stem of a tree measured at breast height (4.5 ft. or 1.37 m) from the ground; on sloping ground the measure is taken from the uphill side.

Ecosystem: an area that contains organisms (e.g., plants, animals, bacteria) interacting with one another and their non-living environment.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): A report that documents the information required to evaluate the environmental impact of a project. It informs decisionmakers and the public of the reasonable alternatives that would avoid or minimize adverse impacts or enhance the quality of the environment.

Existing Visual Condition (EVC): the present level of landscape alteration caused by resource development activities and expressed in terms of the visual quality objective categories.

Fee Demo Program: authorized by Congress, this program allows the Forest Service to test new fees across the spectrum of recreation sites they manage. The forest Service is authorized to retain all revenues from the Fee Demo program, and must use at least 80 percent of the funds to improve the sites where the fees are collected.

Forest Health Protection: a division of the Forest Service that includes specialists trained to provide technical assistance on forest health-related matters, particularly those related to disturbance agents such as native and non-native insects, pathogens, and plants.

Forest Structure: the composition of a forest, including types of vegetation present.

Forest Order: a directive issued by a Forest Supervisor, usually pertaining to prohibited uses of the forest lands.

Forest Plan: see Land Resource Management Plan.

Fuels Reduction: removal of excessive live or dead wildland fuel accumulations for the objective of reducing the potential for the occurrence of uncharacteristically intense wildland fire and increasing capabilities to protect life and property, including communities at risk and sensitive municipal watersheds; sensitive natural resources, including critical native plant communities and threatened and endangered species; and other socially important cultural resources.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS): A computer database designed to handle geographic (mapping) data as well as a set of computer operations that can be used to analyze the data in tabular form.

Hazard Tree: a tree with structural defects likely to cause failure of all or part of the tree, which could strike a “target.” A target can be a vehicle, building, or a place where people gather such as a park bench, picnic table, street, or backyard.

Healthy Forest Restoration Act of 2003 (HFRA): legislation designed to expedite the preparation and implementation of hazardous fuels reduction projects on federal land and assist rural communities, States and landowners in restoring healthy forest conditions on state and private lands. It also authorizes large-scale silvicultural research, the acquisition of conservation easements and the establishment of monitoring and early warning systems for insect and disease outbreaks.

Integrated Pest Management (IPM): non-chemical means (such as controlling climate, food sources, and building entry points) of preventing and managing pest infestation. Under this approach, chemical treatments would be used only in a crisis situation threatening rapid losses or when pests fail to succumb to more conservative methods.

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB): one of nine California Regional Boards that adopt and implement Water Quality Control Plans (Basin Plans) that address natural water quality, actual and potential beneficial uses, and water quality problems associated with human activities.

Land Management Planning (LMP): a department within the Forest Service with the responsibility for long range planning for the forest’s management area.

Land Resource Management Plan (LRMP): Commonly referred to as the Forest Plan, this document describes how the forest will be managed for the 10-15 year period after it is adopted.

Management Indicators: Measurable parameters or metrics that track activity or measure the effects of specific project or management actions. Management indicators are used to show progress in implementing programs and evaluating effectiveness of management activities, such as environmental improvement projects.

Management Strategies: Policy, regulatory and programmatic strategies implemented in order to reach desired conditions. Examples of management strategies may include education programs, environmental improvement projects and land use policies.

Management System: A set of processes and practices that direct and coordinate the collection and use of information for adaptive management

Multi-Species Inventory and Monitoring (MSIM): a process that includes a study to determine what species of amphibians, reptiles, and small mammals are present within a specific area, plus

continuing monitoring to assess changes in distribution, habitat preference, and (in some cases) abundance of key species. This information is important for assuring that the area is being managed in a manner that protects the natural resources.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA): A law passed by Congress in 1969 to encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between people and their environment. One major tenet of NEPA is its emphasis on public disclosure of possible environmental effects of any major action on public lands. Section 102 requires a statement of possible environmental effects to be released to the public and other agencies for review and comment.

National Forest Management Act (NFMA): Law passed in 1976 (and revised by the 2002 Proposed Planning Rule and 2005 Planning Regulations) requiring the preparation of Regional Guides and Forest Plans.

National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE): one segment of the ongoing Forest Service National Recreation Survey (NRS) series of surveys of outdoor recreation participation in the United States.

National Visitor Use Monitoring (NVUM): the collection of information about visitor satisfaction and use on National Forests and Grasslands.

No-Wake Zone: 600-foot zone around the shoreline of Lake Tahoe in which a wake is prohibited in order to minimize the noise impacts of motorized watercraft on residents, visitors and wildlife.

Objectives: Concise projections of measurable, time-specific intended outcomes. The objectives for a plan are the means of measuring progress toward achieving or maintaining desired conditions. Like desired conditions, objectives are aspirations and are not commitments or final decisions approving projects and activities (36 CFR 219.7).

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV): include racing motorcycles, trail bikes, mini bikes, dune buggies, all-terrain vehicles, jeeps, and snowmobiles. OHVs are operated exclusively off public roads and highways. They do not require regular registration, but must display an identification plate or device issued by DMV.

Old Forest: a forest in its mature stages, characterized by moderate to high canopy closure; a multistoried, multispecies canopy dominated by large overstory trees; high incidence of large trees, some with broken tops and other indications of old and decaying wood, many large snags, and heavy accumulations of wood, including large logs on the ground.

Oligotrophic: Aquatic environments that lack plant nutrients and have a large amount of dissolved oxygen.

Over-Snow Vehicles (OSV): vehicles capable of being used on snow, such as snowmobiles, snow coaches, and some more traditional four-wheeled vehicles.

Pacific Crest Trail (PCT): a 2,650-mile national scenic trail that runs from Mexico to Canada through California, Oregon and Washington.

Pathway 2007: Resource management project for the Lake Tahoe Basin among the U.S. Forest Service, Tahoe Regional Planning Agency, Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection; the common vision and strategy of environmental and community goals involves multiple steps to build upon current regulatory framework in order to define and achieve desired management goals

People At One Time (PAOT): Recreation development design capacity system that attempts to promote and control recreation facility development through the consideration of the expected number of persons at that site at one point in time.

Performance Measure: A quantifiable indicator of progress, achievement, and efficiency that includes outcome, output, input, efficiency, and explanatory indicators.

Recreation Enhancement Act: Congressional act passed in December 2004 that gave federal agencies a long-term, multi-agency recreation fee program.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS): The land classification system that categorizes land by its setting and the probable recreation experiences and activities it affords.

Research Natural Area (RNA): A specially designated area in as near a natural condition as possible, which exemplifies typical or unique vegetation and associated biotic, soil, geologic, and aquatic resources. The area is established by the Forest Service to preserve a representative sample of an ecological community primarily for scientific and educational purposes.

Recreation Visitor Days (RVD): a unit of measurement used by the Forest Service to track the entry of persons onto Forest Service lands for recreational experiences. Generally, one entrance per individual per day is reportable as a visit.

Residual Dry Matter (RDM): the old plant material (litter) left on the ground and usually measured just before the start of a new growing season.

Riparian: of or relating to or located on the banks of a river or stream; "riparian land."

Riparian Conservation Areas: land allocations that are managed to maintain or restore the structure and function of aquatic, riparian, and meadow ecosystems.

Riparian Conservation Objectives: factors for evaluating whether a proposed activity is consistent with the desired conditions for a Riparian Conservation Area.

Seral Stage: One of a series of relatively transitory plant communities that develop during ecological succession from bare ground to the end point of a successional sequence. If left undisturbed by nature and humans, one seral stage will typically give way to another plant

community that represents a further stage of succession. This term will be replaced with "stage structure" or "succession" in LTBMU forest planning.

Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment: a land management plan affecting 11.5 million acres in the Sierra Nevada mountain range and Modoc Plateau in California and parts of Nevada, which is designed to reduce fire danger, improve wildlife habitat and protect communities.

Sierra Nevada Ecosystem Project: is an assessment of the Sierra Nevada region, requested by Congress in 1992. Along with a scientific review of late-successional forests, key watersheds, and significant natural areas on federal lands of the Sierra Nevada ecoregion, SNEP also broadly evaluates an entire set of Sierra Nevada ecosystems, including their social, economic, and ecological components.

Soil Productivity: capacity of a given site to sustain plant growth.

Special Habitats (Stream Environment Zones): Perennial, intermittent, and ephemeral streams, meadows and marshes, and other areas of near-surface water influence.

Special Interest Areas: areas with scenic, historical, geological, botanical, zoological, paleontological, or other special characteristics. Such areas may contain examples of unique vegetation or animals, possess emotional significance, scenic values, or have great public popularity.

Special Status Species: Individual species that are in need of focused study and management attention because of low population size and/or distribution (i.e., isolated population), changing trends in abundance, and other factors. Such species usually require specific management actions that are tailored on a species-specific or site-specific basis.

Stream Environment Zone: consists of a stream and its drainage, as well as marshes and meadows. Their preservation and restoration is essential to the health of the lake, because they provide natural treatment and conveyance of runoff, which they can reduce by as much as 70% to 90%.

Total Maximum Daily Load: the maximum amount of a pollutant that can be discharged into a water body from all sources and still maintain water quality standards.

Technical Working Group (TWG): a group of experts in a specific technical area that meets to discuss and make recommendations on proposals and issues relating to their expertise; used extensively in the Pathway 2007 process.

Ultraoligotrophic: The low biological productivity character of Lake Tahoe: High water transparency due to a low amount of suspended particles and free-floating microscopic plants (phytoplankton) and animals (zooplankton).

Vinyl Chloride (VC): a carcinogen caused by the degradation of solvents such as would be expected to occur in groundwater and landfills.

Visual Quality Objective (VQO): a set of measurable goals for the management of forest visual resources.

Watershed Connectivity (Stream Environment Zones): the ability of aquatic and riparian species within and between watersheds to provide physically, chemically and biologically unobstructed movement for their survival, migration and reproduction.

Wild & Scenic Rivers: a designation for selected rivers that possess outstandingly remarkable values that preserves them in free-flowing condition, and protects them for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations.

Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI): The area where various structures (most notably private homes) and other human developments meet or are intermingled with forest and other vegetative fuel types.

Wilderness: The Wilderness Act of 1964 established the National Wilderness Preservation System, the system of all America's wilderness areas, to "*secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness.*" Portions of the Desolation, Mount Rose, and Granite Chief Wilderness areas occur on LTBMU land.

Wildlife and Fish User Day (WFUD): a 12-hour day in which a person participates in a wildlife- or fish-related recreation activity.

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