Glossary and List of Acronyms

March 2010

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GLOSSARY AND LIST OF ACRONYMS

Many definitions in this glossary are from the sources listed below. Some definitions are in general use within the Forest Service. Terms adequately defined in general dictionaries are not necessarily included, though some of those that are less well known are included for the convenience of the reader.

Partial Source List

- National Forest Management Act Regulations (36 CFR 219)
- Silviculture Terminology (Powell 2005)
- Dictionary of Forestry Terms (Society of American Forests 1971)
- Wildland Planning Glossary (USDA 1976)
- Wildlife Habitats in Managed Forests, the Blue Mountains of Oregon and Washington (Thomas et al. 1979)
- Forest Service Manual or Forest Service Handbook
- A Glossary of Terms Used in Range Management, Second Edition (Society for Range Management 1974)
- Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project DEIS (USDA 1997)
- Wallowa-Whitman National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (USDA 1990)
- Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project SDEIS (USDA 2000)
- Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project FEIS (USDA 2000)
- A Dictionary of Ecology, Evolution, and Systematics (Cambridge University Press 1982)
- Webster's Dictionary
- HCNRA Public Land Use Regulations (36 CFR 292.41)
- HCNRA Private Land Use Regulations (36 CFR 292.21)

Term	Definition
	A
active management	Planned, intentional actions in an area that are specifically designed to obtain a desired objective or result.
active restoration	Refer to **restoration**.
adjuvants	Any substance that, when added to a pesticide, increases its effectiveness.
administrative site	Areas such as work centers, fire lookouts, permitted ranch headquarters, seed orchards, communication sites, utility corridors, developed campgrounds, and other areas that are occupied or used by the Forest Service during the administration of work associated with national forest lands.
adaptive management	An approach to natural resource management in which decisions are made as part of an ongoing process. Adaptive management involves planning, implementing, monitoring, evaluating, and incorporating new knowledge into management approaches based on scientific findings and the needs of society. Effects are monitored for the purpose of learning and adjusting future management actions, which improves the efficiency and responsiveness of management.

Term	Definition
administrative unit	A management area such as the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, under the administration of one line officer. FS line officers include district rangers and forest supervisors.
air pollutant	Any substance in air that could, if in high enough concentration, harm humans, animals, vegetation, or material. Air pollutants may include almost any natural or artificial matter capable of being airborne, in the form of solid particles, liquid droplets, gases, or a combination of these.
air quality	The composition of air with respect to quantities of pollution therein, used most frequently in connection with standards of maximum acceptable pollutant concentrations.
allotment (grazing)	Area designated for the use of a certain number and kind of livestock grazing for a prescribed period.
allotment management plan (AMP)	A document that specifies the actions to be taken to manage and protect the rangeland resources and reach a given set of objectives.
allowable sale quantity	The quantity of timber that may be sold from the area of suitable land covered by the forest plan for a time period specified by the plan. This quantity is usually expressed on an annual basis as the "average annual allowable sale quantity."
all-terrain vehicle (ATV)	Any self-propelled motor vehicle 50 inches wide or less, that travels on three or more low-pressured tires, has a seat or saddle on which the operator sits, derives its motive power from any source other than muscle or wind, has a motor capable of producing not more than 50 horsepower, and is capable of being operated on a trail with a maximum tread width of 50 inches.
amenity	Resource use, object, feature, quality, or experience that is pleasing to the mind or senses; typically refers to values for which monetary values are not or cannot be established, such as scenic or wilderness values.
anadromous fish	Fish that hatch in fresh water, migrate to the ocean, mature there, and return to fresh water to reproduce; for example, salmon and steelhead.
analysis file	A file containing records of the scoping and analysis processes conducted during the preparation of a NEPA document. The file is typically stored at the Forest Service office from which a final decision is issued.
animal unit	One mature cow of approximately 1,000 pounds, either dry or with calf up to 6 months of age, or the equivalent (one horse, five domestic sheep). This concept is based on a standardized amount of forage consumed.
animal unit month (AUM)	The amount of forage required by one mature (1,000 lb.) cow or its equivalent for one month (based upon average forage consumption of 26 lb. of dry matter per day). Refer to **head month**.
annual assessment	Yearly assessment of the degree to which on-the-ground management is maintaining or making progress toward the desired conditions and objectives.

Term	Definition
anthropogenic	Caused or produced through the agency of man; the scientific study of the origin of man.
aquatic	Pertaining to water.
Aquatic and Riparian Conservation Strategy (ARCS)	A regional strategy designed to restore and maintain the processes that create and maintain conditions in aquatic ecosystems on national forest lands in Oregon and Washington.
aquatic ecosystem	Waters that serve as habitat for interrelated and interacting communities and populations of plants and animals. The stream channel, lake or estuary bed, water, biotic communities and the habitat features that occur therein.
assessment	The collection, integration, examination, and evaluation of information and values.
authorized grazing	Refer to **grazing permit**.
	B
basal area	The cross-sectional area of the trunk of a tree or stand of trees at breast height (4.5 feet).
basalt	A finely or fine grained, dark, dense volcanic rock.
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.
basin (river)	1) In general, the area of land that drains water, sediment, and dissolved materials to a common point along a stream channel. River basins are composed of large river systems; 2) the term refers to the equivalent of a 3rd-field hydrologic unit code, an area of about nine million acres, such as the Snake River Basin.
benches	Mid-elevation flat or gently sloping sites. Grazing and homesteading/ranching activities were concentrated in these areas, which were also used by American Indians for pasturing livestock. Benches from 2,000 to 4,500 feet generally have potential to support the bunchgrass associations described for the lower and mid-position slopes. Cheatgrass brome, Kentucky bluegrass, and an assortment of annual and perennial forbs (including some noxious weeds) dominate much of the benchland, some of which was severely disturbed by early farming and ranching activities.

Term	Definition
benchlands	A long, narrow, relatively level or gently inclined strip or platform of land, earth, or rock bounded by steeper slopes above and below and formed by differential erosion of rocks of varying resistance, by a change of base-level erosion, or by mass wasting or faulting processes; a small terrace or step-like ledge breaking the continuity of a slope; eroded bedrock surface between valley walls (Haskins et al. 1996).
beneficial uses	Any of the various uses which may be made of the water, including, but not limited to, domestic water supplies, fisheries and other aquatic life, industrial water supplies, agricultural water supplies, navigation, recreation in and on the water, wildlife habitat, and aesthetics.
Best Management Practices (BMPs)	Practice or set of practices that enable a planned activity to occur while still protecting the resource managed, normally implemented and applied during the activity rather than after the activity.
Best Management Practices (BMPs) (Watershed)	A practice or a combination of practices, that is determined by the state (or designated area-wide planning agency) after problem assessment, examination of alternative practices, and appropriate public participation to be the most effective, practicable (including technological, economic, and institutional considerations) means of preventing, or reducing the amount of pollution generated by nonpoint sources to a level compatible with water quality goals.
big game	Those species of large mammals normally managed as a sport hunting resource. Generally includes; elk, moose, white-tailed deer, mule deer, mountain goat, bighorn sheep, black bear & mountain lion.
biological diversity (biodiversity)	The variety and variability among living organisms and the ecological complexes in which they occur.
biological growth potential	The average net growth attainable in a fully stocked natural forest stand.
biological soil crust	Thin crust of living organisms on or just below the soil surface composed of dense, low-growing community of various combinations of algae, mosses, liverworts, cyanobacteria (blue-green algae), micro fungi, bacteria, and lichens; and provide important components of grassland, shrub-steppe, and subalpine habitats. Also referred to as cryptogrammatic or microbiotic crust.
biophysical	The combination or grouping of biological and physical components in an ecosystem.
biotic	Living.
biomass	Dry weight of organic matter in plants and animals in an ecosystem, both above and below ground.
boreal	Pertaining to cool or cold temperature regions of the northern hemisphere; the northern coniferous zone.
bridge	A road or trail structure, including supports, erected over a depression or an obstruction, such as water, a road, a trail, or railway, and having a deck for carrying traffic or other loads.

Term	Definition
broad-scale	A large, regional area, such as an entire river basin and typically a multi-state area.
browse	That part of leaf and twig growth of shrubs, woody vines, and trees available for animal consumption.
built capital	The facilities that are part of the national forest system including developed recreation sites, administrative buildings, structures and transportation of roads and trails necessary for managing the forest.
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	An agency within the U.S. Department of the Interior with land management responsibility for the public domain lands.
	C
candidate species	Plant and animal species that may be proposed for listing as endangered or threatened in the future by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or the National Marine Fisheries Service (NFMS); these species have no legal protection under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).
canopy	In a forest, the branches from the uppermost layer of trees; on rangeland, the vertical projection downward of the aerial portion of vegetation.
canopy closure	The amount of ground surface shaded by tree canopies as seen from above. Used to describe how open or dense a stand of trees is, often expressed in 10 percent increments.
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. Capability depends upon current conditions and site conditions such as climate, slope, landform, soils, and geology, as well as the application of management practices, such as silviculture or protection from fire, insects, and disease.
capital investment	An input that increases the stock of natural or man–made resources (assets) needed to maintain or increase the flow of outputs in the future. Benefits resulting from capital investments are normally recouped in excess of one year; activities that create or improve capital assets to obtain benefits occurring during several planning periods.
carrying capacity	The number of animals or plants that can be maintained over a specific period of time on a specified amount of land without damage to either the organisms or the habitat.
categorical exclusion	The exemption for federal agencies from preparing an environmental impact statement or environmental analysis for categories of action that have been determined not to involve environmental impacts. One of four types of documentation required by the National Environmental Policy Act.

Term	Definition
cave	A natural underground surface open to the surface.
cavity	The hollow excavated in a tree that is used by birds or mammals for roosting and/or reproduction.
ceded lands	Lands that American Indian tribes ceded to the United States by treaty in exchange for reservation of specific land and resource rights, annuities, and other promises in the treaties.
channel (stream)	The deepest part of a stream or riverbed through which the main current of water flows.
channel morphology	The dimension (width, depth), shape and pattern (sinuous, meandering, straight) of a stream channel.
Class I airshed	Under the Clean Air Act amendments, all international parks, national parks larger than 6,000 acres, and national wilderness areas larger than 5,000 acres which existed on August 7, 1977. This class provides the most protection to pristine lands by severely limiting the amount of additional air pollution that can be added to these areas.
climax	The final or mature seral stage in secondary plant succession that persists for an indefinite period of time if no major disturbances occur.
closed canopy	Greater than or equal to 60 percent canopy closure for moist and cold forests and greater than or equal to 40 percent for dry forest.
coarse woody material	Pieces of woody material derived from tree limbs, boles, and roots in various stages of decay, having a diameter of at least three inches.
co-conveners	A group of participating county commissioners from within the planning area that have served as co-meeting managers for the land management plan revision process and assisted in coordinating the public involvement processes and community collaborative workshops.
Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)	A codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register (FR) by the executive departments and agencies of the federal government.
cold forest	High elevation forests dominated by subalpine fir, whitebark pine, spruce, and sometimes lodgepole pine.
collaboration	Working together; to cooperate willingly with an agency or instrumentality with which one is not immediately connected.
community resiliency	The ability of communities to adapt to changing ecological, social, and economic conditions.
compaction	Making soil hard and dense and decreasing its ability to support vegetation because the soil can hold less water and air and because roots have trouble penetrating the soil.
compatible	Capable of existing together in harmony.
comprehensive evaluation	Evaluation of current social, economic, and ecological conditions and trends relative to the desired conditions and objectives, undertaken prior to plan revision and every five years there after.

Term	Definition
Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP)	The document that establishes the array, levels, and manner of resource uses within the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest. It is incorporated as a part of the 1990 Land and Resource Management Plan.
congressionally classified and congressionally designated areas	Areas that require congressional enactment for their establishment, such as wildernesses, wild and scenic rivers, and recreation areas.
connectivity	The arrangement of habitats that allows organisms and ecological processes to move across the landscape; patches of similar habitats are either close together or linked by corridors of appropriate vegetation. Connectivity is the opposite of fragmentation.
conservation strategy or agreement	Plans to remove or reduce threats to candidate and sensitive species of plants and animals so that a listing as threatened or endangered is unnecessary.
consultation	1) An active, affirmative process that (a) identifies issues and seeks input from appropriate American Indian governments, community groups, and individuals; and (b) considers their interests as a necessary and integral part of the Forest Service's decision-making process; 2) the federal government has a legal obligation to consult with American Indian tribes. This legal obligation is based in such laws as the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, the American Indian Religious Freedom Act, and numerous other executive orders and statutes. This legal responsibility is, through consultation, to consider Indian interests and account for those interests in the decision; 3) the term also refers to a requirement under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) for federal agencies to consult with the USFWS and/or NOAA-Fisheries with regard to federal actions that may affect listed threatened and endangered species or critical habitat.
cooperate	To act jointly or work with another or others; operate jointly; common effort or labor.
corridor	A linear strip of land identified for the present or future location of transportation or utility rights-of-way within its boundaries.
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.
Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)	An advisory council to the President established by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. The council reviews federal programs for their effects on the environment, conducts environmental studies, and advises the President on environmental matters.

Term	Definition
cover	1) Trees, shrubs, rocks, or other landscape features that allow an animal to conceal itself partly or fully for protection from predators, or to ameliorate conditions of weather, or in which to reproduce; 2) the area of ground covered by plants of one or more species.
cover type	A vegetation classification depicting a genus, species, group of species, or life form of tree, shrub, grass, or sedge of an area.
criteria pollutants	Air pollutants designated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as potentially harmful and for which ambient air standards have been set to protect the public health and welfare. The criteria pollutants are carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, particulate matter, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, hydrocarbons, and lead.
crown	The part of a tree containing live foliage; treetops.
cubic feet per second (cfs)	A rate of the flow, in streams and rivers, for example. It is equal to a volume of water one foot deep and one foot wide flowing a distance of one foot in one second. One cfs is equal to 7.48 gallons of water flowing each second.
cubic feet per second per square mile (CSM)	The rate of streamflow per unit land area.
culture	The ideals, values, and beliefs that members of a society share to interpret experience and generate behavior that is reflected by their work and thought (Haviland 1999).
cultural resources	An object or definite location of human activity, occupation, or use identifiable through field survey, historical documentation, or oral evidence. Cultural resources are prehistoric, historic, archaeological, or architectural sites, structures, places, or objects and traditional cultural properties. Cultural resources include the entire spectrum of resources for which the Heritage Program is responsible, from artifacts to cultural landscapes, without regard to eligibility for listing on the National Register of Historic Places
cumulative effects or impacts	Cumulative effects or impacts are the impacts on the environment that 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 nonfederal) or person undertakes such actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time. Effects and impact are synonymous (40 CFR 1508.7).
current direction	The existing direction in approved management plans; continuation of existing policies, standards and guidelines; current budget updated for changing costs over time; and, to the extent possible, production of current levels and mixes of resource outputs.

Term	Definition
	D
decommission (building)	Demolition, dismantling, removal, obliteration and/or disposal of a deteriorated or otherwise unneeded asset or component, including necessary cleanup work. This action eliminates the deferred maintenance needs for the fixed asset. Portions of an asset or component may remain if they do not cause problems nor require maintenance.
decommission (road)	Permanently closing a road to vehicular use and left in a hydrological maintenance free condition. Decommissioning will include activities such as water barring, out sloping, re-contouring, decompaction of road surface, removal of drainage structures, and road barricades as needed.
decreaser plant species	Range management usage. Plant species of the original vegetation that decrease in relative amount with continued overuse.
defensible space	An area surrounding a home or structure that has vegetation characteristics that minimize the spread of wildland fire and allows for safely defending the home against fire.
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 noncritical at any point in time. Continued deferral of noncritical maintenance will normally result in an increase in critical deferred maintenance. Code compliance (such as safety, ADA, OSHA, or environmental), 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.
deflation	When the site matrix (the soil that surrounds the artifacts) is eroded away by wind, water, mechanical (such as animals or machines) and the site is compressed into itself.
demography	The statistical study of human populations, especially with reference to size and density, distributions, and vital statistics such as births, deaths, and marriages.
departure	The difference between an existing condition and the desired condition.
density (stand)	The number of trees growing in a given area, usually expressed in terms of trees per acre.
design criteria	Part Three of the land management plan that provides the parameters, including guidelines, for how future site-specific activities can occur within the context of the plan.

Term	Definition
designated critical habitat	Specific areas within the geographical area occupied by a species at the time of listing under ESA that contain physical or biological features essential to the conservation of the species.
designated road, trail, or area	A National Forest System road, a National Forest System trail, or an area on National Forest System lands that is designated for motor vehicle use pursuant to 36 CFR 212.51 on a motor vehicle use map.
desired condition	A portrayal of the land or resource condition that is expected to result if goals and objectives are fully achieved.
developed recreation	Recreation that requires facilities that in turn result in concentrated use of an area; for example, a campground. Examples of developed recreation areas are campgrounds and ski areas; facilities in these areas might include roads, parking lots, picnic tables, toilets, drinking water, ski lifts, and buildings.
developed site	Facility provided for developed recreation use. Refer to **facilities**.
diameter at breast height (DBH)	Tree diameter measured at 4.5 feet from the ground.
direct effects	Impacts on the environment caused by the action and occur at the same time and place.
disclimax	A vegetation community that is maintained at an earlier seral stage by continuing disturbance such as fire or grazing.
disease	A harmful deviation from normal functioning of physiological processes, usually pathogenic or abiotic in origin.
disjunct plants	Populations that are separated geographically from the main distribution of a species. Many plants with disjunct populations are biologically unique because they are not found again for dozens to over one hundred miles. Disjunct populations are thus rare in this portion of their distribution.
dispersed campsites	Primitive sites typically used for overnight, dispersed recreation. Usually includes a hardened area around a fire pit, a barren area, and/or user-constructed facility.
dispersed recreation	Recreation that does not occur in a developed recreation site; for example, hunting or backpacking.
displacement	Recreation visits are considered "displaced" or no longer consumed at a site or area when practical maximum capacity thresholds of the site or area are exceeded. Visitors are assumed to completely leave the national forest rather than seek an alternative location for their activity.
disturbance	Events that alter the structure, composition, or function of terrestrial or aquatic habitats. Natural disturbances include, among others, drought, floods, wind, fires, wildlife grazing, and insects and diseases. Human–caused disturbances include, among others, actions such as timber harvest, livestock grazing, roads, and the introduction of exotic species.

Term	Definition
disturbance process	Events that alter the structure, function, or composition of aquatic or terrestrial habitats.
disturbance regime	Natural pattern of periodic disturbances, such as fire or flood, followed by a period of recovery from the disturbance such as growth of a forest after fire.
diversity	The distribution and abundance of different plant and animal communities and species within the area covered by a land and resource management plan.
down woody material	A tree or part of a tree that is dead and laying on the ground.
draft environmental impact statement (DEIS)	The draft statement of predicted environmental effects that is required for major federal actions and released to the public and other agencies for comment and review.
dry forest	Low elevation forest dominated by ponderosa pine and sometimes Douglas-fir or grand fir.
E	
early seral	Refer to **seral stages**.
early spring	Early spring is defined as that period when the perennial cool–season forage plants initiate growth and begin shoot elongation. It extends through the period of maximum carbohydrate use and the beginning of carbohydrate storage. The end of this period is determined by soil moisture. It ends prior to the time that soil moisture is expected to become limiting to the extent that essentially full regrowth cannot be ensured.
early successional	The stage of ecological succession following a stand replacing disturbance.
Eastside Screens	Regional Forester's Amendment 2, Interim management direction establishing riparian, ecosystem, and wildlife standards for timber sales on National Forest System lands in eastern Oregon and Washington (USDA 1994).
ecological character	The types of composition, structure, and function within an ecosystem.
ecological function	Refer to ecological processes.

Term	Definition
ecological integrity	In general, ecological integrity refers to the degree to which all ecological components and their interactions are represented and functioning; the quality of being complete; a sense of wholeness. Absolute measures of integrity do not exist. Proxies provide useful measures to estimate the integrity of major ecosystem components (forestland, rangeland, aquatic, and hydrologic). Estimating these integrity components in a relative sense for an area helps to explain current conditions and to prioritize future management. Thus, areas of high integrity would represent areas where ecological functions and processes are better represented and functioning than areas rated as low integrity.
ecological processes	The flow and cycling of energy, materials, and organisms in an ecosystem. Examples of ecosystem processes include the carbon and hydrologic cycles, terrestrial and aquatic food webs, and plant succession, among others.
ecological status	The degree of departure of current vegetation from the potential natural vegetation, or potential natural community often synonymous with seral stage.
economics	A social science concerned primarily with description, distribution, and consumption of goods and services.
economic well-being	A condition that enables people to work, provide income for their families, and generate economic wealth to local communities, the region, and the nation.
economic efficiency	Producing goods and services in areas best suited for that production based on natural biophysical advantage or an area's ability to best serve regional demands of people.
economic impacts	
direct economic impact	Effects caused directly by forest product harvest or processing or by forest uses.
indirect economic impact	Effects that occur when supporting industries sell goods or services to directly affected industries.
induced economic impact	Effects that occur when employees or owners of directly or indirectly affected industries spend their income within the economy.
economy	System of production, distribution, and consumption of economic goods.
ecosystem	A complete, interacting system of living organisms and the land and water that make up their environment; the home places of all living things, including humans.
ecosystem diversity	The variety and relative extent of ecosystem types, including their composition, structure, and processes within all or a part of an area of analysis.

Term	Definition
ecosystem management	The use of an ecological approach to achieve multiple-use management of public lands by blending the needs of people and environmental values in such a way that lands represent diverse, healthy, productive, and sustainable ecosystems.
ecosystem function (processes)	The major process of ecosystems that regulate or influence the structure, composition, and pattern. These include nutrient cycles, energy flows, trophic levels (food chains), diversity patterns in time/space development and evolution, cybernetics (control), hydrologic cycles and weathering processes.
ecosystem health	A condition where the parts and functions of an ecosystem are sustained over time and where the system's capacity for self-repair is maintained, such that goals for uses, values, and services of the ecosystem are met.
ecosystem services	The combined resources and processes of natural ecosystems that provide benefit to humans, including, but not limited to, the production of food and water, the control of climate and disease, cycling of nutrients and crop pollination, spiritual and recreational benefits, and the preservation or maintenance of biodiversity.
ecosystem sustainability	The ability to sustain diversity, productivity, resilience to stress, health, renewability and/or yield of desired values, resource uses, products, or services from an ecosystem, while maintaining the integrity of the ecosystem over time.
edge	An area where plant communities meet or where successional stages or vegetation conditions within the plant communities come together.
effects	Environmental changes resulting from an action. Included are direct effects, which are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place, and indirect effects, which are caused by the action and are later in time or further removed in distance, but which are still reasonably foreseeable. Indirect effects may include growth–inducing effects and other effects related to induced changes in the pattern of land use, population density, or growth rate, and related effects on air and water and other natural systems, including ecosystems. Effects include ecological (such as the effects on natural resources and on the components, structures, and functioning of affected ecosystems), aesthetic quality, historic, cultural, economic, social, or healthy effects, whether direct, indirect, or cumulative. Effects may also include those resulting from actions that may have both beneficial and detrimental effects even if on balance the agency believes that the effects will be beneficial (40 CFR 1508.8, 2).

Term	Definition
eligible Wild and Scenic Rivers	River segments that have been identified as eligible for inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic Rivers System under the authority of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The river segment must be free-flowing and it must possess one or more outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geological, fish and wildlife, historical, cultural, ecological or other value.
embeddedness	The degree that larger streambed particles (boulders, rubble, or gravel) are surrounded or covered by finer particle sizes such as fine sediment (Rhodes et al. 1994).
emission	A release of air contaminants into the outdoor atmosphere.
endangered species	Species listed under the Endangered Species Act by either the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service. Any species of animal or plant that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
endemic organism	A taxonomic category (e.g., genus, species, variety) whose natural occurrence is confined to a certain region and whose distribution is relatively limited.
endemic species	Plants or animals that occur naturally in a certain region and whose distribution is relatively limited to a particular locality. Endemism is the occurrence of endemic species in an area. Refer to **endemic organism**.
environment	The combination of external physical, biological, social, and cultural conditions affecting the growth and development of organisms and the nature of an individual or community.
environmental analysis (EA)	A comprehensive evaluation of actions and their predictable short– and long–term environmental effects, which include physical, biological, economic, social, and environmental design factors and their interactions. It is a formal document that must follow the requirements of NEPA, the CEQ, and guidelines and directives of the agency responsible for the project proposal.
environmental impact statement (EIS)	A statement of the environmental effects of a proposed action and alternatives to it. It is required for major federal actions under Section 102 of NEPA, and released to the public and other agencies for comment and review. It is a formal document that must follow the requirements of NEPA, the CEQ, and guidelines and directives of the agency responsible for the project proposal. A Draft EIS is released to the public and other agencies for review and comment. A Final EIS is issued after consideration of public comments. A Record of Decision (ROD) is based on the information and analysis in the Final EIS.
ephemeral	A channel in which streamflow occurs inconsistently, infrequently, or seasonally and, except during periods of streamflow, does not intersect the local groundwater table.

Term	Definition
erosion	The wearing away of the land surface by running water, wind, ice, gravity, or other geological activities; can be accelerated or intensified by human activities that reduce the stability of slopes or soils.
essential fish habitat	Identification by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) of habitat essential to conserve and enhance federal fishery resources that are fished commercially under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.
evaluation	An essential companion activity to monitoring; the tool for translating data gathered by monitoring into useful information that could result in change or adaptive management.
even-aged management	The application of a combination of actions that results in the creation of stands in which trees of essentially the same age grow together. Managed even-aged forests are characterized by a distribution of stands of varying ages (and, therefore, tree sizes) throughout the forest area. The difference in age between trees forming the main canopy level of a stand usually does not exceed 20 percent of the age of the stand at harvest rotation age. Regeneration in a particular stand is obtained during a short period at or near the time that a stand has reached the desired age or size for regeneration and is harvested. Clearcut, shelterwood, or seed tree cutting methods produce even-aged stands.
evolutionary significant units (ESU)	The minimal unit of conservation management, the smallest population unit that can receive federal protection under the ESA. An ESU is a set of populations that is morphologically and genetically distinct from other similar populations or a set of populations with a distinct evolutionary history (http://darwin.eeb.uconn.edu/eeb310/lecture-notes/systematics/systematicsli3.html).
exotic	A plant or animal species introduced from a distant place; not native to the area.
extinction	Complete disappearance of a species from the earth.
extirpation	Loss of populations from all or part of a species' range within a specified area.
	F
facility	A single or contiguous group of improvements that exists to shelter or to support Forest Service programs. The term may be used in either a broad or narrow context; for example, a facility may be a ranger station compound, lookout tower, leased office, work center, separate housing area, visitor center, research laboratory, recreation complex, utility system, or telecommunications site.
facilities capital improvement	Construction, installation or assembly of a new fixed asset, or the significant alteration, expansion, or extension of an existing fixed asset to accommodate a change of purpose.

Term	Definition
alteration	Work to change the function of an existing fixed asset. The capacity or size of the fixed asset is not significantly changed. Deferred maintenance of the original fixed asset may be reduced or eliminated by an alteration.
expansion	Increasing the capacity or size of an existing fixed asset to serve needs different from or significantly greater than those originally intended.
upgrade	Total redesign and construction of a camping facility. Location may change considerably depending on ecological, environmental, or social concerns. The overall goal would be to maintain a rustic appearance but promote designs and materials that would result in lower operation and maintenance costs. Some campground classifications may change to the next higher level but none would exceed a Level 4 site development for this planning period. Accessibility standards would be appropriate to the designated Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS). A change in design standards has the potential to move the ROS to a higher development setting although that is not the intent of upgrading a facility.
new construction	The erection, construction, installation, or assembly of a new fixed asset. The design and construction of the new facility would meet the designated ROS settings, ecological, environmental concerns, and accessibility standards. Design standards have the potential to move the ROS to the next higher development setting although it is not the intent of the new facility to effect such a change.
facilities development levels	Specify the amount and scale of modification allowed at a site to meet the facilities setting indicator.
Development Level 1	Minimal site modification is evident. Improvements mostly for protection of the site, but rustic or rudimentary improvements may be provided for the comfort of the users. Avoid use of synthetic materials. Minimum controls are subtle. No obvious regimentation, spacing is informal and extended to minimize contacts with others. Motorized access may or may not be provided or permitted.
Development Level 2	Little site modification is evident. Improvement mostly for protection of the site, but rustic or rudimentary improvements may be provided for the comfort of the users. Avoid use of synthetic materials. Minimal controls are subtle. Little or no obvious regimentation. Spacing is informal and extended to minimize contacts with others. Motorized access provided or permitted over primitive roads.
Development Level 3	Site modification is moderate. Facilities about equally developed for protection of site and comfort of users. Rustic design may use native or synthetic materials that approximate the look of native materials. Inconspicuous vehicular controls are usually provided. Roads may be hard surfaced and trails are clearly visible. Development density may approximate 3 family units per acre. Primary access to a site may be on a higher standard, more traveled road. Visitor information services, if available, are informal and incidental.

Term	Definition
Development Level 4	Site is heavily modified. Some facilities designed strictly for comfort and convenience of users, but luxury facilities are not provided. Facility designs are rustic but tend to incorporate more synthetic materials. Controls for vehicle traffic are present and usually obvious. Primary access is provided over more highly developed roads. Development density may be greater than 3 family units per acre. Visitor information services are frequently available.
Development Level 5	High degree of site modification is evident. Facilities, mostly designed for comfort and convenience of users, include flush toilets, may include showers, bathhouses, laundry facilities, and electrical hook–ups. Synthetic materials are commonly used. Formal walkways on surfaced trails may be provided. Regimentation of users is obvious. Access is usually by higher speed roads. Development densities are 8 or more family units per acre. Formal visitor information services are usually available. Architecture may be more contemporary and mowed lawns and landscaping is not unusual. This type of site is only provided in special situations or close to large cities where other lands for recreation are not available.
facilities maintenance (annual)	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 repaired as a part of annual maintenance.
preventive maintenance	Scheduled servicing, repairs, inspections, adjustments, and replacement of parts that result in fewer breakdowns and fewer premature replacements, and help achieve the expected life of the fixed asset. Inspections are a critical part of preventive maintenance as they provide the information for scheduling maintenance and evaluating its effectiveness.
repair	Work to restore a damaged, broken, or worn-out fixed asset, component, or item of equipment to normal operating condition. Repairs may be done as annual maintenance or deferred maintenance activities.
facilities maintenance (deferred)	Work that was not performed when it should have been or when it was scheduled and has been delayed to a future period. Deferred maintenance includes actions not taken to comply with codes for health and safety, accessibility, environmental factors and other compliance requirements or applicable standards. To reduce or eliminate deferred maintenance, rehabilitation or replacement may be necessary.
rehabilitation	Renovation or restoration of an existing fixed asset or any of its components in order to restore the functionality or life of the asset. Because there is no significant expansion or change of purpose for the fixed asset, the work primarily addresses deferred maintenance.

Term	Definition
replacement	Substitution or exchange of an existing fixed asset or component with one having essentially the same capacity and purpose.
custodial	Replacement of nonfunctional site elements or facilities with in–kind materials or structures. Location, design, and configuration remain constant. Accessibility standards, where possible, are compatible with designated ROS settings.
Level A	Total or scheduled replacement of all existing facilities with new facilities. Location and configuration remain constant; design and construction materials are simple, durable, and cost efficient. The overall goal is to maintain a rustic appearance while reducing the operation and maintenance costs of the facility. Some adjustment may be made in unit size and parking accommodations. Accessibility standards would be compatible with the designated ROS settings.
Level B	The same as Level A with the following exception: Design configuration and location may change slightly to accommodate ecological or environmental concerns. Increased capacity could result even though the general location and area of the campground is the same.
decommission	Demolition, dismantling, removal, obliteration, and/or disposal of a deteriorated or otherwise unneeded asset or component, including necessary cleanup work. This action eliminates the deferred maintenance needs for the fixed asset. Portions of an asset or component may remain if they do not cause problems nor require maintenance.
facilities maintenance levels	Specify the work performed annually to prevent breakdowns in facilities or to maintain serviceability of assets. Maintenance levels describe the type of type of work allowed at a site to meet the facilities setting indicator.
Maintenance Level 1	Abate major health or safety hazards. Applies to all administrative facilities no longer needed. Occupancy is not allowed. Facilities waiting retirement. Do not use or abandon.
Maintenance Level 2	Maintain until retirement. All types of facilities, particularly sheds, and storage buildings. Infrequent human use. Facilities needed next 3 to 5 years. Maintain only to extend life until retirement. Normal health and safety inspections required. Identified health and safety hazards must be abated.
Maintenance Level 3	Keep operational. Types of facilities include minor offices (nonpublic), ships, warehouses, seasonal quarters, and nonpublic areas. (Offices and workspaces that are occupied frequently or continuously due to need but should be replaced. Other support structures have infrequent or no human use.) All systems and components are kept operational. Repair critical-service interruptions within 24 hours and noncritical within 2 weeks. Appearance is neat, pleasing, and of good quality. Maintain to extend life 10 to 15 years or until retirement. Normal safety inspections; abate all hazards.

Term	Definition
Maintenance Level 4	Repair critical-service interruptions. Types of facilities include major, actively used facilities with high employee use and less than 50 visitors per day, and operations centers, crew quarters, and employee quarters. Service is the same as Level 3, except critical service is repaired within 24 hours, noncritical within 5 days. Maintain to extend life to 20 plus years. Normal safety inspections; abate all hazards.
Maintenance Level 5	Highest-quality/like-new. Types of facilities include major offices and suburban offices, visitor centers, and major laboratories; similar to Level 4, except greater than 50 visitors/day. Highest quality materials and workmanship are used. Continual maintenance by custodial staffing. Normal safety inspections; abate all hazards.
fauna	The vertebrate and invertebrate animals of an area or region.
fall/winter season	This period basically begins when all key perennial forage plants have achieved dormancy. It runs through the dormant period and ends just before the initiation of new growth on the key cool season perennial forage species in the spring. In very general terms, this often begins in mid to late October and runs through February, March, or April depending on the elevation, aspect and the weather patterns for a given year.
farm/forest/grazing use	Any traditional agricultural, silvicultural, or livestock management use or combination thereof on farm/forest/grazing lands. This includes, but is not limited to, true farming, growing and harvesting timber, grazing of livestock, horticultural use, animal husbandry use, horse, cattle, and sheep ranching, and preparation and storage of the products raised on farm/forest/grazing land for on-site use of for disposal by marketing or otherwise. Farm/forest/grazing uses may also consist of uses related, to, and in furtherance of, the protection of fish and wildlife habitat, and the pursuit of recreational activities.
Federal trust responsibility	The Forest Service shares in the federal government's overall trust responsibility to American Indian tribes where treaty or other legally defined rights apply to national forest lands. In redeeming this shared responsibility, the agency assists in carrying out the intent of the treaty and any subsequent case law or amendments, by operating in a just and responsive way; making efforts to adjust the management of national forest lands in favor of the concerns of the respective American Indian tribe(s), as far as practicable, while still maintaining a responsibility to all the people – the general public. These actions and adjustments need to be carried out through consultations with other tribal officials or their designees, on a government–to–government basis.
federally listed species	Species that are listed under the Endangered Species Act.
fine organic matter	Plant litter, duff, and woody material less than 3 inches in diameter.

Term	Definition
fines	Fine sediment, or inorganic material, smaller than 6.4 millimeters in diameter, but usually smaller than 1.0 mm, that is carried to stream channels and is capable of filling the spaces between larger bed material and inhibiting the movement of water or oxygen.
fine-scale	A single landscape, such as a watershed or subwatershed.
fire-dependent systems	Forests, grasslands, and other ecosystems historically composed of species of plants that evolved with and are maintained by fire regimes.
fire cycle, fire frequency	Refer to **fire return interval**.
fire independent system	Forests, grasslands, and other ecosystems whose primary natural disturbances historically, were decomposition, wind throw, flooding, or other disturbances other than fire.
fire intensity	Areas of relatively homogenous burn effects related as low, moderate, or high as defined in Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation Handbook, FSM 2509.13 Section 23.31.
low fire intensity	Soil surface litter and humus have not been destroyed by fire. Root crowns and surface roots will resprout. Potential surface erosion has not changed because of fire.
moderate fire intensity	On up to 40 percent of the area, the soil surface litter and humus have been destroyed by fire and the A horizon has had intense heating. Crusting of the soil surface produces accelerated erosion. Intensively burned areas may be water repellent. Root crowns and surface roots of grasses in the intensively burned area are dead and will not resprout.
high fire intensity	On 40 percent or more of the area, the soil surface litter and humus have been destroyed by fire and the A horizon has had intense heating. Crusting of the soil surface produces accelerated erosion. Intensively burned areas may be water repellent. Root crowns and surface roots of grasses in the intensively burned area are dead and will not resprout.
fire intolerant	Species of plants that do not grow well with, or die from, the effects of too much fire. Generally, these are shade-tolerant species.
fire management plan	A plan that identifies and integrates all wildland fire management and related activities within the context of approved land/resource management plans. It defines a program to manage wildland fires (wildfire, prescribed fire, and wildland fire use). The plan is supplemented by operational plans, including but limited to preparedness plans, preplanned dispatch plans, and prevention plans. Fire management plans assure that wildland fire management goals and components are coordinated.
fire refugia patches	Persistent landscape elements that are rarely impacted directly by the disturbance affecting the surrounding area (Camp 1995).

Term	Definition
fire regime	The characteristics of fire in a given ecosystem, such as the frequency, predictability, intensity, and seasonality of fire. A natural fire regime is a general classification of the role fire would play across a landscape in the absence of modern human mechanical intervention but including the influence of aboriginal burning (Agee 1993; Brown 1995). Coarse-scale definitions for natural fire regimes were developed by Hardy and others (2001) and Schmidt and others (2002) and interpreted for fire and fuels management by Hann and Bunnell (2001). The five natural fire regimes are classified based on the average number of years between fires (fire frequency or Mean Fire Interval [MFI]) combined with the severity of the fire (the amount of vegetation replacement) and its effect on the dominant overstory vegetation. These five natural fire regimes are as follows:
Fire Regime 1	0 to 35 year frequency and of low severity (most commonly associated with surface fires) to mixed severity (in which less than 75 percent of the dominant overstory vegetation is replaced).
Fire Regime 2	0 to 35 year frequency and of high severity (stand replacement: greater than 75 percent of the dominant overstory vegetation is replaced).
Fire Regime 3	35 to 200 year frequency and of mixed severity.
Fire Regime 4	35 to 200 year frequency and of high severity.
Fire Regime 5	200 year plus frequency and of high severity.
Fire Regime Condition Class (FRCC)	A classification of the degree of departure from the natural fire regime. The FRCC classification is based on a relative measure describing the degree of departure from the historical natural fire regime. This departure can result in changes (or risks) to one, or more, of the following ecological components: vegetation (species composition, structural stages, stand age, canopy closure, and mosaic pattern across the landscape); fuel composition; fire frequency, severity, and pattern; and other associated disturbances.
Condition Class 1	Fire regimes are within the natural (historical) range, and the risk of losing key ecosystem components is low. Vegetation attributes (species composition, structure, and pattern) are intact and functioning within the natural (historical) range.
Condition Class 2	Fire regimes have been moderately altered from their natural (historical) range. Risk of losing key ecosystem components is moderate. Fire frequencies have departed from natural frequencies by one or more return intervals (either increased or decreased). This result in moderate changes to one or more of the following: fire size, intensity and severity, and landscape patterns. Vegetation and fuel attributes have been moderately altered from their natural (historical) range.

Term	Definition
Condition Class 3	Fire regimes have been substantially altered from their natural (historical) range. The risk of losing key ecosystem components is high. Fire frequencies have departed from natural frequencies by multiple return intervals. Dramatic changes occur to one or more of the following: fire size, intensity, severity, and landscape patterns. Vegetation attributes have been substantially altered from their natural (historical) range.
fire return interval	The average time between fires in a given area.
fire suppression	All work and activities connected with fire-extinguishing operation, beginning with discovery and continuing until the fire is completely extinguished.
fire-tolerant	Species of plants that can withstand a certain frequency and intensity of fire. Generally, these are shade-intolerant species.
fish-producing	Streams, rivers, wetlands, ponds, lakes, and reservoirs that serve as spawning or rearing habitat for fish.
fledgling	A young bird that has acquired the feathers necessary for flight.
floodplain	The lowland and relatively flat areas joining inland and coastal waters including debris cones and flood-prone areas of off-shore islands, including at a minimum, that area subject to a one percent (100-year recurrence) or greater chance of flooding in any given year (Executive Order 11988, Section 6c); or the area of relatively flat land adjacent to streams that is inundated during times of high flow; or an area formed by the deposition of stream-transported sediment.
floodplain function	Collectively, the normal physical and biological processes that are responsible for the formation and maintenance of river floodplains and the biotic communities that inhabit them.
flow regime	The range of magnitude, duration, timing and frequency of streamflows characteristic of a given stream.
focal species	A group of species that serve as an umbrella function in terms of encompassing habitats needed for other species, are sensitive to the changes likely to occur in the area, or otherwise serve as an indicator of ecological sustainability (Lambeck et al 1997, Noss et al 2997 and Andelman et al 2001).
food web	Networks of food chains or feeding relationships by which energy and nutrients are passed from one group of living organisms to another.
forb	Broad-leafed, herbaceous, nongrass-like plant species other than true grasses, sedges, and non–woody plants; fleshy leafed plants; having little or no woody material.
forage	All browse and herbaceous foods that are available to grazing animals. It may be grazed or harvested for feeding. Refer to **rangeland vegetation**.

Term	Definition
forested vegetation treatment	Combination of uneven-aged management methods that may be used to achieve a desired forested structure including single-tree selection, group selection, pre-commercial thinning, commercial thinning, salvage, and sanitation cutting.
forest fragmentation	Refer to **fragmentation**.
forest health	The perceived condition of a forest derived from concerns about such factors as its age, structure, composition, function, vigor, presence of unusual levels of insects and disease and resilience to disturbance. Perception and interpretation of forest health are influenced by individual and cultural viewpoints, land management objectives, spatial and temporal scales, the relative health in stands that comprise the forest, and the appearance of the forest at a point in time.
forest 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. Lands developed for non-forest use include areas for crops, improved pasture, residential, or administrative areas, improved roads of any width, and adjoining road clearing and powerline clearing of any width.
forest road	A road 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 212.1).
Forest Service Handbook (FSH)	Directives that provide detailed instructions on how to proceed with a specialized phase of a program or activity.
Forest Service Manual (FSM)	A system of manuals that provides direction for Forest Service activities.
forest transportation atlas	A display of the system of roads, trails, and airfields of an administrative unit. (36 CFR 212.1).
forest transportation facility	A classified road, designated trail, or designated airfield, including bridges, culverts, parking lots, log transfer facilities, safety devices and other transportation network appurtenances under FS jurisdiction that is wholly or partially within or adjacent to National Forest System lands (36 CFR 212.1).
forest transportation system management	The planning, inventory, analysis, classification, record keeping, scheduling, construction, reconstruction, maintenance, decommissioning, and other operations undertaken to achieve environmentally sound, safe, cost-effective access for use, protection, administration, and management of national forest lands.
fragmentation	
fragmentation (habitat)	The break-up of a large continuous land area by reducing and dividing into smaller patches isolated by areas converted to a different land type. Habitat can be fragmented by natural events or development activities.

Term	Definition
fragmentation (forest)	The breakup of a large land forest area into smaller patches isolated by areas converted to a different land type. Opposite of connectivity.
free-flowing	A river or stream that exists or flows in natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modification of the waterway (16 U.S.C. §1286).
fuel	Plants, both living and dead, and woody vegetative materials capable of burning.
fuel ladder	Vegetative structures or conditions such as low-growing tree branches, shrubs, or smaller trees that allow fire to move vertically from a surface fire to a crown fire.
fuel load	The dry weight of combustible materials per unit area; usually expressed as tons per acre.
fuel model (FM)	Combination of vegetative fuel properties of grass, shrubs, timber, and slash designed to assist land managers in predicting fire behavior. The Forest Service uses the thirteen mathematical models tabulated by Rothermel (1972) and Albini (1976). Fuel Model 1 is typified by short grass, while Fuel Model 13 is heavy logging slash; the fuel models in between represent lower to higher fuel complexes, respectively (Anderson 1982).
fuel treatment	Any manipulation or removal of fuels to reduce the likelihood of ignition or to lessen potential damage and resistance to control.
functioning-at-risk	Riparian-wetland areas that are in functional condition but an existing soil, water, or vegetation attribute makes them susceptible to degradation (USDA 1993).
G	
geoclimatic setting	The geology, climate (precipitation and temperature), vegetation, and geologic processes (such as landslides or debris flows) that are characteristic of a place; places with similar characteristics are said to have the same geoclimatic setting.
geographic information system (GIS)	An information processing technology to input, store, manipulate, analyze, and display data; a system of computer maps with corresponding site-specific information that can be combined electronically to provide reports and maps.
geologic	Based on geology which is the study of the structure, processes, and chronology of the earth.
geological/geomorphic process	The actions or events that shape and control the distribution of materials, their states, and their morphology, within the interior and on the surface of the earth. Examples of geologic processes include: volcanism, glaciation, streamflow, metamorphism (partial melting of rocks), and landsliding.

Term	Definition
geothermal resources	All products of geothermal processes, embracing indigenous steam, hot water, and hot brines; steam and other gases, hot water, and hot brines resulting from water, gas, or other fluids artificially introduced into geothermal formations; heat or other associated energy found in geothermal formations; and any by-products derived from them.
goal	A concise statement that describes a desired condition to be achieved sometime in the future. It is normally expressed in broad, general terms and is timeless in that it has no specific date by which it is to be completed. Goal statements form the principal basis from which objectives are developed.
goods and services	The various outputs, including on-site uses, produced from forest and rangeland resources.
government-to-government consultation	The active and continuous process of contacting tribal leadership, soliciting their participation, involvement, comments, concerns, contributions, and traditional knowledge that will assist the agency in making informed decisions in planning, managing and decision-making actions.
graminoid	Grasses and grass-like plants such as sedges and rushes.
grassland	Land on which the vegetation is dominated by grasses, grass-like plants, or forbs.
grassland seral stages	Represent the current departure for a specific site from the potential natural community (PNC) for that site. PNC is based on an evaluation of site characteristics including geology, soils, aspect, climate, elevation, etc., compared to similar site characteristics from areas evaluated and estimated by plant ecologists to be at or near their biotic potential. Seral stage determinations are based on the similarity between the existing vegetative community in terms of plant species composition and/or cover with that defined for the PNC from the appropriate plant association for the Wallowa-Snake Province (Johnson and Simon 1987).
late	The potential natural (native species) community perennial bunchgrasses dominate with bare ground subordinate to other surface cover (rock, gravel, microbiotic crusts, litter).
mid	Native perennial forbs and grasses co-dominate with the potential natural (native species) community perennial bunchgrasses. Bare ground is subordinate or equivalent to other surface features (rock, gravel, microbiotic crusts, litter).
early	Native perennial forbs and other native grasses dominate over the potential natural (native species) community perennial bunchgrasses. Bare ground is equivalent to or greater in cover than other surface features (rock, gravel, microbiotic crusts, litter).

Term	Definition
very early (disclimax)	Potential natural (native species) community perennial bunchgrasses are present on less than 5 percent of the stand. Bare ground is greater in cover than other surface features (rock, gravel, microbiotic crusts, litter).
grazing	The consumption of standing forage by livestock or wildlife.
grazing permit	Document authorizing livestock to use national forest lands or other lands under Forest Service control for livestock production.
ground fire	A fire that burns the organic material in the soil layer and the decayed material or peat below the ground surface.
groundwater	All of the water that has percolated through the surface soil into the bedrock.
guidelines	One of six plan components; design specifications for projects and activities to ensure that they are implemented in a manner that is compatible with the desired conditions and objectives.
H	
habitat	A place that provides seasonal or year-round food, water, shelter, and other environmental conditions for an organism, community, or population of plants or animals.
harvest	1) Felling and removal of trees from the forest; and 2) removal of game animals or fish from a population, typically by hunting or fishing.
harvestable/harvestability	With regard to American Indian tribes, refers to a population of plants or animals that is self-sustaining and capable of producing a dependable harvest annually to meet spiritual, cultural, subsistence, and commercial needs.
head month	One month's use and occupancy of the range by one animal. For grazing fee purpose, it is a month's use and occupancy of range by one weaned or adult cow with or without calf, bull, steer, heifer, horse, burro, or mule, or five sheep or goats. Refer to **animal unit month**.
headwaters	Beginning of a watershed; the uppermost, unbranched tributaries of a stream.
healthy ecosystem	An ecosystem in which structure and functions allow the maintenance of the desired conditions of biological diversity, biotic integrity and ecological processes over time.
Hells Canyon National Recreation Area (HCNRA) Act	The Act of December 31, 1975, as amended (PL 94-199, 89 Statute 117), which established the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.
herbaceous	Green and leaf-like in appearance or texture; includes grasses, grass-like plants, and forbs, with little, or no woody component.
herbicide	A pesticide used for killing or controlling the growth of plants.
herbivore	An animal that subsists on plants or plant materials, either primarily or entirely.

Term	Definition
hibernacula	Habitat niches where certain animals (such as bats) overwinter, such as caves, mines, tree hollows, or loose bark.
hiding cover	Vegetation, primarily trees, capable of hiding 90 percent of a standing adult game animal from the view of a human at a distance equal to or less than 200 feet during all seasons of the year that elk or deer use the area. Generally, any vegetation used for security or to escape from danger.
high severity fire	Refer to **fire intensity**.
historical conditions	Range of historical variation; range of the spatial, structural, compositional and temporal characteristics of ecosystem elements during a period specified to represent natural conditions.
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. This term includes artifacts, records, and remains that are related to and located within such properties. The term includes properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to an Indian tribe or Native Hawaiian organization and that meet the National Register of Historic Places criteria.
Historic Range of Variability (HRV)	A means to define the boundaries of ecosystem behavior and patterns that have remained relatively consistent over long periods. HRV is usually defined for centuries to millennia before the period of widespread human population increases and associated ecosystem changes that began in roughly the early to middle 1800s for many regions of western North America.
human capital	An individual's education, skills, culture, and knowledge that enhance their contributions to society (Castle 1998).
human-caused disturbance	Refer to **disturbance**.
hydroelectric	Of or relating to the production of electricity by waterpower.
hydrologic	Refers to the properties, distribution, and effects of water. Hydrology refers to the broad science of the waters of the earth, their occurrence, circulation, distribution, chemical and physical properties, and their reaction with the environment.
hydrologic function	The behavioral characteristics of a watershed described in terms of ability to sustain favorable conditions of water flow. Favorable conditions of water flow are defined in terms of water quality, quantity, and timing.
hydrological regimes	The spatiotemporal dynamics of water flow and associated fluvial process in an ecosystem. Refer to **flow regime**.

Term	Definition
Hydrologic Unit (HU)	A hydrologic unit is a drainage area delineated to nest in a multi-level, hierarchical drainage system. Its boundaries are defined by hydrographic and topographic criteria that delineate an area of land upstream from a specific point on a river, stream or similar surface waters. A hydrologic unit can accept surface water directly from upstream drainage areas, and indirectly from associated surface areas such as remnant, non-contributing, and diversions to form a drainage area with single or multiple outlet points.
Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC)	A hierarchical coding system developed by the U.S. Geological Survey to identify geographic boundaries of watersheds of various sizes (12). 4th code HUC refers a subbasin generally about 450,000 acres in size. 5th code HUC refers to a watershed. These areas generally range from 40,000 to 250,000 acres in size. 6th code HUC refers to a sub-watershed HU that generally ranges from 10,000 to 40,000 acres in size.
I	
impacts	Refer to **effects**.
Impact Analysis for Planning (IMPLAN) Model	A computer–based system used by the Forest Service for constructing input-output models to measure economic input. The system includes a database for all counties in the United States and a set of computer programs to retrieve data and perform the computational tasks for input-output analysis.
implement	To carry out.
increaser plant species (increaser)	Range management usage. Plant species of the original vegetation that increase in relative amount, at least for a time, under overuse.
indicator species	Refer to **management indicator species**.
indirect effects	Impacts on the environments that are caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance but are still reasonably foreseeable.
inert ingredient	An ingredient deficient in active properties, lacking the usual or anticipated chemical or biological action.
infestation	The attack or invasion by parasites or pests.
infiltration	The process by which water seeps into the soil, influenced by soil texture, aspect, and vegetation cover.
infrastructure	The basic facilities, equipment, and installation needed for the functioning of a system; commonly refers to items such as roads, bridges, power facilities, and the like.
INFISH	Regional Forester's Amendment 4, Inland Native Fish Strategy (USDA 1995). Interim strategies for managing fish–producing watersheds in Eastern Oregon and Washington, Idaho, Western Montana and portions of Nevada.

Term	Definition
insecticide	A pesticide employed against insects.
instream flow	Flow of water in its natural setting (as opposed to waters diverted for off-stream uses such as industry or agriculture). Instream flow levels provided for environmental reasons enhance or maintain the habitat for riparian and aquatic life, with timing and quantities of flow characteristic of the natural setting.
integrated pest management	A process for selecting strategies to regulate forest pests in which all aspects of a pest-host system are studied and weighed. The information considered in selecting appropriate strategies includes the impact of the unregulated pest population on various resources values, alternative regulatory tactics and strategies, and benefit/cost estimates for these alternative strategies. Regulatory strategies are based on sound silvicultural practices and ecology of the pest-host system and consist of a combination of tactics such as timber stand improvement plus selective use of pesticides. A basic principle in the choice of strategy is that it be ecologically compatible or acceptable.
integrated weed management	An interdisciplinary pest management approach for selecting methods for preventing, containing, and controlling noxious weeds in coordination with other resource management activities to achieve optimum management goals and objectives. Methods include: education, preventive measures, herbicide use, cultural, physical or mechanical methods, biological control agents, and general land management practices, such as manipulation of livestock or wildlife grazing strategies that accomplish vegetation management objectives.
integration	Bringing the values and systems of different disciplines together to address questions with a common framework using consistent techniques and measurement units.
interagency	Involving the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, Environmental Protection Agency, and/or other Federal agencies.
interdisciplinary team	A group of specialists assembled as a cohesive team with frequent interactions to solve a problem or perform a task.
intermittent stream	A stream in which the flow of water on the surface is discontinuous, or that alternates between zones of surface and sub-surface flow.
intrusives (rocks)	Rocks having been forced between preexisting rocks or rock layers while in a molten or plastic condition.
invader plant species (invader weed species)	Range management usage. Plant species that were absent in undisturbed portions of the original vegetation and will invade under disturbance or continued overuse.
invasion (plant)	The movement of a plant species into a new area outside its former range.

Term	Definition
invasive nonnative species	Are those animal and plant species with an extraordinary capacity for multiplication and spread at the expense of other native species. Plants in this category may or may not be designated as noxious weeds.
invasive plant species	Nonnative plant species that invade or are introduced into an environment or ecosystem in which they did not evolve where they have the ability to compete with, and at times overshadow, the existing native plant species. Invasive species are also likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. Invasives include seeds, eggs, spores, or other biological material capable of propagating that species, that is not native to that ecosystem (with respect to a particular ecosystem). Noxious weeds are a specific type of invasive plants that carry a legal designation due to their potential for detrimental impacts to the environment.
Inventoried Roadless Areas	Those areas identified in the Land Management Plan and listed on a set of inventoried roadless area maps, contained in Forest Service Roadless Area Conservation, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, (USDA 2000), which are held at the Washington Office of the FS, or any update, correction, or revision of those maps through the land management planning process.
invertebrate	Small animals that lack a backbone or spinal column. Spiders, insects, and worms are examples of invertebrates.
irretrievable commitment	Applies to losses of production or commitment of renewable natural resources. For example, while an area is used as a ski area, some or all of the timber production there is "irretrievably" lost. If the ski area closes, timber production could resume; therefore, the loss of timber production during the time the area is devoted to skiing is irretrievable but not irreversible, because it is possible for timber production to resume if the area is no longer used as a ski area.
irreversible commitment	Applies to nonrenewable resources, such as minerals and archaeological sites. Losses of these resources cannot be reversed. Irreversible effects can also refer to effects of actions on resources that can be renewed only after a very long period, such as the loss of soil productivity.
issue	A point, matter of controversy, dispute, question of public discussion, or general concern over resource management activities or land uses to be addressed or decided through the planning process. To be considered a significant environmental impact statement issue, it must be well defined, relevant to the proposed action, and within the ability of the agency to address through alternative management strategies.
	K
key habitat	Specific areas within the geographic area occupied by the species on which are found those physical and biological features 1) essential to the conservation of the species, and 2) which may require special management considerations or protection.

Term	Definition
keystone species	A species whose presence and role within an ecosystem has a disproportionate on other organisms within the system.
	L
ladder fuels	Vegetation located below the crown level of forest trees, which can carry fire from the forest floor to tree crowns. Ladder fuels may be low growing tree branches, shrubs, or smaller trees. Fire can move from surface fuels by convection into the crowns with relative ease.
landform	One of the attributes or features that make up the Earth's surface such as a plain, mountain, or valley, as defined by its particular combination of bedrock and soils, erosion processes, and climatic influences.
land management plan	A document that provides broad strategic guidance and information for project and activity decision making in a national forest through five plan components (desired conditions, suitable uses, guidelines, special areas, and objectives), as required by the National Forest Management Act and the Planning Rule.
landscape	All the natural features such as grasslands, hills, forest, and water, which distinguish one part of the earth's surface from another part; usually that portion of land which the eye can comprehend in a single view, including all its natural characteristics.
landscape character	Identifiable image made by particular attributes, qualities, and traits of a landscape.
landscape ecology	The study of ecological effects to spatial patterns in ecosystems.
landscape-level/landscape-scale	Refer to **broad-scale**.
landscape pattern	Number, frequency, size and juxtaposition of landscape elements (stands and patches) that are important to the determination or interpretation of ecological processes.
landscape structure	The mix and distribution of stand or patch sizes across a given area of land. Patch sizes, shapes, and distributions are a reflection of the major disturbance regimes operating on the landscape.
land-use allocation	The commitment of a given area of land or a resource to one or more specific uses--for example, to campgrounds or wilderness.

Term	Definition
late/old structure	Forest stands whose structural development incorporates the elements of the late and the old structural stages. The understory species can be found in all canopy layers. Overstory vigor begins to decline, as does tolerance to native pathogens and insects. In the late stage, the understory has become the dominant cover and the overstory is beginning to decline and collapse. In the old stage, stands in which all of the relic (pioneering) trees have died and which consist entirely of trees that grew from beneath. These structural stages may or may not contain the various characteristics sometimes identified with old growth structure.
late seral	Refer to **seral stages**.
late spring season	Late spring is defined as that period when the key perennial cool season forage plant growth is still occurring but soil moisture is beginning to limit growth. Livestock removal is not planned to occur during the time when assurance can be made that essentially full regrowth would occur.
late successional	The stage of ecological succession and type of vegetation that develops after a long period of time following a stand replacing disturbance.
legacy tree	Trees that have been spared or have survived stand replacing disturbances (Mazurek and Zielinski, 2004). A legacy tree is any live tree greater than or equal to 21 inches DBH and greater than 150 years old, located in a non-old forest stand.
lethal (stand-replacing) fires	Fires that result in stand replacement of the existing forested vegetation. Mortality levels are very high at all canopy levels within the stand. In forests, fires in which less than 20 percent of the basal area or less than 10 percent of the canopy cover remains; in rangelands, fires in which most of the shrub overstory or encroaching trees are killed.
lichens	Organisms made up of specific algae and fungi, forming identifiable crusts on soil, rocks, tree bark, and other surfaces. Lichens are primary producers in ecosystems; they contribute living material and nutrients, enrich the soil and increase soil moisture-holding capacity, and serve as food sources for certain animals. Lichens are slow growing and sensitive to chemical and physical disturbances.
litter	The uppermost layer of organic debris on the soil surface, which is essentially the freshly fallen or slightly decomposed vegetation material such as stems, leaves, twigs, and fruits.
limits of acceptable change (LAC)	Process for establishing acceptable resource and social conditions while defining desired future conditions for wilderness or recreation settings that can be measured and managed (USDA 1992).
local population	A group of individuals that spawn or breed in a particular area; the smallest group of individuals that is known to represent an interacting reproductive unit.
loess	Fine grained wind-deposited material predominantly of silt-size particles.

Term	Definition
long-term	Generally refers to a period longer than 10 years up to 100 years.
long-term sustained-yield timber capacity	The highest uniform wood yield from lands being managed for timber production that may be sustained under a specified management intensity consistent with multiple-use objectives.
lower montane	A terrestrial community that generally is found in drier and warmer environments than the montane terrestrial community. The lower montane community supports a unique clustering of wildlife species.
	M
mainstem	The main channel of the river in a river basin, as opposed to the streams and smaller rivers that feed into it.
maintain	To continue; or keep ecosystem functions, processes, and/or components (such as soil, air, water, vegetation) in such a condition that the ecosystem's ability to accomplish current and future management objectives is not weakened. Management activities may be compatible with ecosystem maintenance if actions are designed to maintain or improve current ecosystem condition.
management area	An area with similar management objectives and a common management prescription, as prescribed by the land management plan.
management concern	An issue, problem, or a condition which 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 management prescriptions, and standards and guidelines for attaining them.
management indicator species	In the original forest plans, a species selected because its welfare is presumed to be an indicator of the welfare of other species using the same habitat. A species whose condition can be used to assess the impacts of management actions on a particular area.
management intensity	A management practice or combination of management practices and associated costs designed to obtain different levels of goods and services.
management practice	A specific activity, measure, course of action, or treatment.
management prescription	Management practices and intensity selected and scheduled for application on a specific area to attain multiple-use and other goals and objectives.

Term	Definition
maximum manageable area (MMA)	The firm limits of management capability to accommodate the social, political, and resource impacts of a wildland fire. Once established as part of an approved plan, the general impact area is fixed and not subject to change. MMAs can be developed as part of the fire management plan and described as a fire management area. They can also develop as part of the planning and implementation of management actions after a fire has ignited (USDA 1998).
mechanical equipment	Any contrivance which travels over ground, snow, or water on wheels, tracks, skids, or by flotation that is powered by a living source. This term does not include nonmotorized river craft, wheelchairs, or other similar devices used solely to assist persons with disabilities.
mechanical fuel treatment	Treatment of fuels using mechanical means, such as thinning by chainsaw, crushing down wood, or piling down wood.
mechanized	Wheeled forms of transportation (including nonmotorized carts, wheelbarrows, bicycles and any other nonmotorized, wheeled vehicle.
metapopulations	A group of conspecific populations coexisting in time but not space.
mesic	Pertaining to conditions of moderate moisture or water supply; used of organisms occupying moist habitats.
microbiotic crust	Thin crust of living organisms on or just below the soil surface, composed of lichens, mosses, algae, fungi, cyanobacteria, and bacteria. Also referred to as biological soil crust.
microclimate	The climatic conditions within a small habitat such as: a tree stump, under a boulder, in the space between grasses, or on the side of a slope.
migration corridor	The habitat pathway an animal uses to move from one place to another.
minerals-locatable	Those hardrock minerals that are mined and processed for the recovery of metals. They also may include certain nonmetallic minerals and uncommon varieties of mineral materials, such as valuable and distinctive deposits of limestone or silica.
minerals-leasable	Coal, oil, gas, phosphate, sodium, potassium, oil shale, sulphur, and geothermal resources.
minerals-materials (salable)	A collective term to describe common varieties of sand, gravel, stone, pumice, pumicite, cinders, clay, and other similar materials. Common varieties do not include deposits of those materials that may be locatable.
Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics (MIST)	A set of guidelines prescribing safety, fire line procedures, tools, and equipment that has the least impact on the environment during suppression and mop-up phases of fire (USDA and USDI 2003).
mining	Any activity related to the discovery, extraction, and exploration of minerals under the Mining Act of 1872 and the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920 through the use of, among other things, hydraulic equipment, pans, ground sluicing, sluice boxes, rockers, or suction dredges.

Term	Definition
mining claim	A particular parcel of public land, valuable for a specific mineral deposit or deposits, for which an individual has asserted a right of possession. The right is for developing and extracting a discovered mineral deposit.
mining lands	Lands primarily used for mining purposes as of June 13, 1994 and which are assigned to the mining land category in 36 CFR 292.22 of the private land use regulations (LURs).
minerals materials	A collective term used to describe petrified wood, and common varieties of sand, gravel, stone, pumice, pumicite, cinders, clay, and other similar materials. Common varieties do not include deposits of those materials that are valuable because of some property giving them distinct and special value.
mitigation	Measures designed and implemented to counteract environmental impacts or to make impacts less severe.
mixed fire severity	These fire regimes will have the greatest toll on thinner barked and/or young age classes within the stand. Low intensity fires within the stand will favor overstory fire-resistant species (ponderosa pine, western larch, and Douglas fir). Crown fire potential does exist depending on stand structures and age classes of different stand cohorts of any available ladder fuels. If it occurs, the result will favor the return to grass and forbs.
mixed severity fire	Refer to **fire severity**.
moist forest	Area between drier, low elevation forests and higher elevation, cold forests.
monitoring	A process of collecting information to evaluate whether or not objectives of a project and its mitigation plan are being realized. Monitoring allows detection of undesirable and desirable changes so that management actions can be modified or designed to achieve desired goals and objectives while avoiding adverse effects to ecosystems.
monitoring program	Prioritized criteria, indicators, and measures that are the means of measuring progress toward the desired conditions when conducting the annual and comprehensive evaluations.
montane	A terrestrial community that generally is found in moderate (ponderosa pine) and subalpine terrestrial communities. Montane communities are generally moister than lower montane and warmer than subalpine communities, and support a unique clustering of wildlife species.
mosaic	A pattern of vegetation in which two or more kinds of communities are interspersed in patches, such as clumps of shrubs with grassland between.
motorized equipment	Any machine powered by a nonliving source. This term does not include motorized river craft or small hand-held devices such as flashlights, shavers, wristwatches, and Geiger counters.

Term	Definition
motorized river craft	Any boat capable of being mechanically propelled by propeller(s) or jet pump(s) upstream through rapids.
multi-story	More than one canopy layer.
multiple use	The management of all the various renewable surface resources of the National Forest System 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 lands 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.
municipal watersheds (public supply watersheds)	A watershed that serves a public water system as defined in Public Law 93-523 (Safe Drinking Water Act) or as defined in state safe drinking water regulations. The definition does not include communities served by a well or confined groundwater unaffected by Forest Service activities.
mycorrhizae	The symbiotic relationship between certain fungi and the roots of certain plants, especially trees; important for plants to take nutrients from soil.
N	
National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQSs)	Standards set by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency for the maximum levels of air pollutants that can exist in the outdoor air without unacceptable effects on human health or the public welfare.
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	An act to declare a national policy which will encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between humankind and the environment, to promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of humanity, to enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the nation, and to establish a Council on Environmental Quality.
National Forest Management Act (NFMA)	A law passed in 1976 as an amendment to the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act, requiring the preparation of forest plans and the preparation of regulations to guide that development.

Term	Definition
National Forest System (NFS)	The National Forest System consists of units of federally-managed forest, range, and related lands throughout the United States and its territories, united into a nationally significant system dedicated to the long–term benefit for present and future generations. 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, donations, 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 USC 1010–1012), and other lands, waters, interests therein which are administered by the FS or are designated for administration through the FS as part of the system (Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act).
National Forest System	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.
National Forest System road	A classified forest road under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service. The term National Forest System roads is synonymous with the term forest development roads as used in 23 USC 205. Generally referred to as a Forest Road (FR).
National Recreation Trail	Trails designated by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture as part of the national system of trails authorized by the National Trails System Act. National recreation trails provide a variety of outdoor recreation uses.
National Register of Historic Places	A listing (maintained by the U.S. National Park Service) of areas that have been designated as being of historical significance. The Register includes places of local and state significance as well as those of value to the Nation.
National Wild and Scenic River System	Includes 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. Refer to **Wild and Scenic River**.
native species	Species that normally live and thrive in a particular ecosystem. Animals or plants that have historically occupied a given aquatic or terrestrial area.
natural disturbance	Periodic impact of natural events such as: fire, severe drought, insect or disease attack, or wind.

Term	Definition
near natural rates of recovery	Rates not exceeding condition thresholds and meeting standards for forage and browse utilization.
neotropical	Those species of birds that nest in the United States or Canada and winter regularly in the Neotropics (south of the Tropic of Cancer and Capicorn) in Mexico, the Caribbean Islands, or Central or South America. 2).
net public benefits	An expression used to signify 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. The maximization of net public benefits to be derived from management of units of the National Forest System is consistent with the principles of multiple use and sustained yield.
niche	A place or activity for which a thing is best fitted.
no action alternative	The most likely condition expected to exist in the future if current management direction were to continue unchanged.
no net increase (in roads)	For each mile of new road constructed, at least one mile of road must be decommissioned to a hydrologically stable, self-maintaining condition.
nonfunctional	Riparian-wetland areas that clearly are not providing adequate vegetation, landform, or lard wood debris to dissipate stream energy associate with high flows and thus are not reducing erosion, improving water quality, etc. The absence of certain physical attributes, such as a floodplain where one should be, is an indicator of nonfunctioning conditions (Process for Assessing Proper Functioning Condition, USDI BLM 1993).
non-game species	Those species of animals that are not managed as a sport hunting resource.
nonlethal fire	Fires that consist of low intensity under burns with limited single tree or group torching. Fire related mortality to the dominant-fire resistant species is slow, but occurs because of this type of localized fire behavior. In forests, fires in which more than 70 percent of the basal area or more than 90 percent of the canopy cover survives; in rangelands, fires in which more than 90 percent of the vegetative cover survives (implies that fire is occurring in an herbaceous-dominated community).
non-native invasive species (NNIS)	Plant species that are introduced into an area in which they did not evolve and in which they usually have few or no natural enemies to limit their reproduction and spread. These species can cause environmental harm by significantly changing ecosystem composition, structure, or processes and can cause economic harm or harm to human health.

Term	Definition
non-native species	Also called alien, invasive and weed species, these species have been introduced by various means into areas where they were not originally found.
nonpoint source pollution	Pollution whose source is general rather than specific in location; the sources of the pollutant discharge are dispersed, not well defined or constant. Examples include sediments from logging activities and runoff from agricultural chemicals. It is widely used in reference to agricultural and related pollutants, such as production of sediments by logging operations, agricultural pesticide applications, or automobile exhaust pollution.
nontreaty bands	The five bands of Nez Perce whose traditional homes lay outside the reduced reservation boundaries described in the Treaty of 1863.
noxious weeds	Plants designated as noxious weeds by the Secretary of Agriculture or by the responsible state official. Noxious weeds generally possess one or more of the following characteristics: aggressive and difficult to manage, poisonous, toxic, parasitic, a carrier or host of serious insects or disease, and being native or new to or not common to the united states or parts thereof. A noxious weed is one that causes disease or has other adverse effects on the human environment and therefore is detrimental to the agriculture and commerce of the United States and to the public health.
nutrient cycling	Ecological processes in which nutrients and elements such as carbon, phosphorous, nitrogen, calcium, and others, circulate among animals, plants, soils, and air.
O	
objective	A concise, time-specific statement of measurable planned results that respond to pre-established goals. An objective forms the basis for further planning to define the precise steps to be taken and the resources to be used in achieving identified goals.
off-channel habitat	Aquatic habitats separated from the main stream or river, such as side-channels, oxbows, ponds, or sloughs, which may or may not be directly connected to a river or stream.
off-highway vehicle (OHV)	Any motor vehicle designed for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other natural terrain.
old forest	Old forests are ecosystems distinguished by old trees and related structural attributes. Old forest encompasses the later stages of stand development that typically differ from earlier stages in a variety of characteristics which may include tree size, accumulation of large dead woody material, number of canopy layers, species composition, and ecosystem function. **Refer to the following table for more information.**

Term	Definition
old forest multistory	This structure class includes multiple age classes and vegetation layers, along with large, old trees. Decaying fallen trees may also be present that leave a discontinuous overstory canopy. Overstory diameters are generally greater than 20 inches.
old forest single story	This structure class can include multiple age classes, but generally only includes one main overstory strata. Large, old trees are common. Decaying fallen trees may also be present that leave a discontinuous overstory canopy. Overstory diameters are generally greater than 20 inches.

Factor	Cold Forest	Moist Forest*	Dry Forest	Subalpine Fir cover type (high site)	Subalpine Fir cover type (low site) and WBP	Lodgepole Pine cover type
DBH	21	21	21	21	13	12
Trees per acre	10	10	10	10	10	60
Age	150	150	150	150	150	120
Variation in Tree Diameter	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes	yes
Tree Decadence	yes	yes	n/a	4 TPA	2 TPA	N/A
Tree Canopy Layers	1	1	1	1	1	1
Dead DBH	12	14	14	12	10	12
Dead TPA	2	1	3	2	2	5
Down Diameter	12	12	-	12	10	-
Down Pieces per acre	4	5	0	4	4	0

*For cool very moist, warm very moist, or warm moist PAGs, use dbh greater than or equal to 21 and TPA greater than or equal to 20, or size class greater than or equal to 9 and canopy closure greater than or equal to 20. See detailed listing of FVS structural stage keyword parameters by plant association for large tree and TPA requirements.

ongoing actions	Those actions that have been implemented, or have contracts awarded or permits issued. Refer to **new actions**.
openings	Refers to meadows, clearcuts, and other areas of vegetation that do not provide hiding or thermal cover.
operational plan	A document approved by the forest supervisor which specifies at the project level, implementation of the management direction established in the forest plan.
outcome	The long-term results of a program activity compared to its intended purpose (Government Performance and Results Act of 1993 (5 U.S.C. 306)). Outcome is a state of being similar to long-term ecological, social, or economic condition or goal (such as the maintenance of an ecosystem's biodiversity, jobs and income, or the quality of a regions' surface water as measured by indicators).
outdoor recreation activities	Activities such as camping, picnicking, rafting, boating, hiking, rock climbing, fishing, hunting, horseback riding, and the viewing of wildlife or scenery.

Term	Definition
outfitting	Providing through rental or livery any saddle or pack animal, vehicle or boat, tents or camping gear, or similar supplies or equipment, for pecuniary remuneration or other gain. The term guide includes the holder's employees, agents, and instructors. Pecuniary remuneration means monetary reward (Washington Office Amendment 2709.11-95-11, 41-53C).
outputs	A broad term for describing any result, product, service or concern that a system produces by its activities. They are measurable and capable of being used to determine the effectiveness of programs and activities in meeting objectives. The unit of measure should indicate or serve as a proxy for what the recipients get rather than what the agency does in the process of producing the given output. Example: timber sold, recreation use, livestock grazing use, etc. Any good, service, or on-site use that is produced from rural resources.
outslope	Roads that are sloped towards the downhill side of the roadway to better match the natural drainage patterns and minimize the potential for diversion.
Outstandingly Remarkable Values (ORVs)	Term used in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968; to qualify as outstandingly remarkable, a resource value must be a unique, rare, or exemplary feature that is significant at a regional or national level.
overgrazing	Consumption of rangeland grass by grazing animals to the point that it cannot be renewed, or can be only slowly renewed, because of damage to the root system.
over-snow vehicle	A self-propelled vehicle intended for travel primarily on snow driven by a track or tracks in contact with the snow, and steered by a ski, ski's or tracks in contact with the snow.
over-snow vehicle play area	Area for use by snowmobiles.
overstory	Portion of the trees, in a forest or in a forested stand of more than one story, forming the upper or uppermost canopy.
overwinter	To keep livestock or plants alive through the winter by sheltering them, or to be kept alive in this way.
overwood	Trees that make up the upper layer of the forest canopy.
	P
PACFISH	Regional Forester's Amendment 3, Interim strategies for managing anadromous fish–producing watersheds in Eastern Oregon and Washington, Idaho, and portions of California (USDA and USDI 1995).
paleontological resources	Any remains, trace, or imprint of a plant or animal that has been preserved in the earth's crust before the Holocene epoch.
parcel	Contiguous tax lots under one ownership. For the purposes of the Private LURs, rights-of-way do not divide parcels into smaller units.

Term	Definition
particulate emissions (PMs)	Solid particles or liquid droplets that can be suspended or carried in the air, or released as air contaminants into the outdoor atmosphere. **PM_{10}** – Particulate matter that measures 10 micrometers in diameter or less, a size considered small enough to invade the alveolar regions of the lung. PM_{10} is one of the six pollutants for which there are NAAQSs. **$PM_{2.5}$** – Particulate matter that measures 2.5 micrometers in diameter or less.
partition	The division of land into lots, and which, under county planning ordinances, is identified by a map, drawing, or writing which contains the descriptions, locations, specifications, and dedications for roads, utilities, etc. and which has been properly filed with the county recorder.
passive management	Allowing nature to restore (heal) the natural balance between erosion/deposition, hydrologic, and vegetation processes by removing identified adversely affecting agents.
patch	An area of vegetation that is relatively homogeneous internally and differs from surrounding elements.
pathogen	An agent such as a fungus, virus, or bacterium that causes disease.
pattern	The spatial arrangement of landscape elements (patches, corridors, matrix) that determines the function of a landscape as an ecological system.
pesticide	A chemical preparation used to control individuals or populations of injurious organisms.
permittee (livestock)	Any entity that has been issued a grazing permit.
persons-at-one-time (PAOTs)	The number of people that can occupy a developed site or dispersed area at any time based on the level of access, terrain features, number of people each site is designed for, managed use seasons, patterns of use, and average lengths of stay.
plan amendment	The process for making substantive changes to a land management plan for the desired conditions, suitable uses, special areas, objectives and guidelines.
plan component	Parts of a national forest land management plan that cannot be changed without a plan amendment through the National Environmental Policy Act as required by the Planning Rule. The four components of a land management plan are suitable uses, special areas, objectives, and guidelines.
planning area	The area of the National Forest System covered by a regional guide or forest plan.
planning criteria	Criteria prepared to guide the planning process. Criteria applied to collection and use of inventory data and information, analysis of the management situation, and the design, formulation, and evaluation of alternatives.

Term	Definition
planning horizon	The overall time period considered in the planning process that spans all activities covered in the analysis or plan and all future conditions and effects of proposed actions which would influence the planning decisions.
planning period	One decade. The time interval within the planning horizon that is used to show incremental changes in yields, costs, effects, and benefits.
planning record	A written record of the land management plan revision process containing detailed information and analysis used support conclusions and decisions made in the plan.
plant associations	A plant community type based on the land management potential, successional patterns and species composition.
plant communities	Any grouping of plants that have some structural similarity (Johnson and Simon 1987).
plateau	Any comparatively flat area of great extent and elevation; specifically an extensive land region considerably more elevated above the adjacent country; it is commonly limited on at least one side by an abrupt descent.
point source pollution	Pollution that comes from a single identifiable source such as a smokestack, a sewer, or a pipe.
pool	Portion of a stream where the current is slow, often with deeper water than surrounding areas and with a smooth surface texture. Offten occur above and below riffles and generally are formed around stream bends or obstructions such as logs, root, wads, or boulders. Pools provide important feeding and resting areas for fish.
potential natural community (PNC)	The biotic community that would become established if all successional sequences were completed without interference by humans under present environmental conditions. Natural disturbances are inherent in development.
potential vegetation group (PVG)	A group of potential vegetation types grouped on the basis of similar general moisture or temperature environment and similar types of life forms.
potential vegetation types (PVT)	A kind of physical and biological environment that produces a kind of vegetation; the species that might grow on a specific site I the absence of disturbance; can also refer to vegetation that would grow on a site in the presence of frequent disturbance that is an integral part of the ecosystem and its evolution.
practical maximum capacity	The upper limit of use of a developed site or dispersed area recognizing that other setting indicators would likely trigger management actions to control use before reaching this threshold. The practical maximum capacity provides a measure of the carrying capacity of an area.

Term	Definition
pre-commercial thinning	The removal of trees not for immediate financial return but to reduce stocking to concentrate growth on the more desirable trees.
prehistoric site	An area that contains important evidence and remains of the life and activities of early societies that did not record their history.
prescribed fire	Prescribed fire is any fire ignited by management actions to meet specific objectives. Prescribed fire is intended to mimic natural fire regimes to: 1) reduce the risk of fires burning outside of historic intensities and severities that could substantially reduce long–term productivity; 2) maintain tree species compositions that occur under the natural disturbance regime; 3) reduce competition; 4) increase nutrients; 5) prepare sites for natural regeneration; 6) improve forage resources; 7) enhance/create wildlife habitat; and 8) protect private and public property values. A written, approved prescribed fire plan must exist, and NEPA requirements (where applicable) must be met, prior to ignition.
prescription	A management pathway to achieve a desired objective(s).
present net value	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.
primary productivity	The growth and accumulation of plant biomass.
primitive recreation	Those types of recreation activities associated with unroaded land, for example: hiking, backpacking, and cross–country travel.
private land	Land not in federal, state, or local government ownership.
productive capacity	The growth and accumulation of plant biomass (primary productivity) as well as the growth of animal species that use the products (secondary productivity). Key elements of productivity include the physical, chemical, and biological properties of soils which provide for vegetative growth and the accumulation and cycling of nutrients.
productivity	Productivity is based on using natural resources no faster than they are produced or can be replaced and using natural resources without impairment of the long-term productive capacity of the ecosystem from which they are derived.
programmatic agreement (PA)	This is a historic preservation document that records the terms and conditions agreed upon to resolve the potential adverse effects of a Federal agency program, complex undertaking or other situations in accordance with the Section 106 review under NHPA [36CFR800.14(b)].

Term	Definition
proper functioning condition (PFC)	Riparian and wetland areas achieve proper functioning condition when adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris is present to dissipate stream energy associated with high water flows. This thereby reduces erosion and improves water quality; filters sediment, captures bedload, and aids floodplain development; improve flood–water retention and ground water recharge; develops root masses that stabilize stream banks against cutting action; develops diverse ponding and channel characteristics to provide the habitat and water depths, duration, and temperature necessary for aquatic vertebrate and invertebrate production, waterfowl breeding, and other issues; and supports greater biodiversity. The functioning condition of riparian and wetland areas is a result of the interaction among geology, soil, water and vegetation.
project	An organized effort to achieve an objective identified by location, timing, activities, outputs, effects, and time period and responsibilities for executions.
project-level	Site-specific analysis and planning processes for a specific project or set of projects usually on an individual ranger district.
proposed action	A proposal by a federal agency to authorize, recommend, or implement a management action.
proposed recommended wilderness area	An area that has been determined to meet the criteria to be designated as wilderness and is proposed in this land management plan by the forest supervisor(s) to be recommended to Congress for inclusion into the National Wilderness Preservation System.
public issue	A subject or question of widespread public interest relating to management of the National Forest System.
public roads	Any road or street under the jurisdiction of and maintained by a public authority and open to public travel (23 U.S.C. §101(a)).
Q	
qualitative	Traits or characteristics that relate to quality and cannot be measured with numbers.
quality of life	Refers to the satisfaction people feel for the places where they live (or may visit) and for the places they occupy as part of that experience.
quantitative	Traits or characteristics that can be measured with numbers.
R	
range forage condition	The current composition or productivity of rangeland relative to what that rangeland is capable of producing as a potential natural community, and often synonymous with forage condition.
range analysis	The systematic interpretation, analysis, and evaluation of data for rangeland resource management planning. It provides ecological and other information for overall forestland and resource management planning and allotment management planning.

Term	Definition
rangeland (range)	Land on which the native vegetation is predominately grasses, grass–like plants, forbs or shrubs suitable for grazing or browsing use. Forested sites and nonforested sites providing forage and habitat for domestic and wild herbivores are included.
rangeland resources	The physical and biotic resources of rangeland ecosystems.
rangeland resource inventory	The systematic acquisition of inventory data that characterizes the vegetation, soil, and other rangeland resources.
rangeland vegetation	Vegetation on all land with rangeland resource objectives or rangeland resource values, including riparian areas. Generally, the focus is on land supporting grass or grass-like plants, forbs, or shrubs during one or more ecological stages. Forested and nonforested sites providing forage and habitat for wild and domestic animal species are included.
rare combinations of aquatic, terrestrial and atmospheric habitats	Principally reflect physical environmental features of the landscape that are produced from a unique combination of soils, climate, precipitation, and aspect. Refer to the analysis files for a complete description.
rare plants	Plants that are federally listed as threatened, endangered, or proposed for federal listing; FS Sensitive for Regions 1, 4, and 6, or disjunct species. This includes plants considered rare both globally (G1, G2, G3) or within states (S1, S2 or S3). Refer to the analysis files for a complete description.
real dollar value	A monetary value which compensates for the effects of inflation.
rearing habitat	Area in rivers or streams where juvenile salmon and trout find food and shelter to live and grow.
receipt shares	The portion of receipts derived from Forest Service resource management that is distributed to State and county governments, such as the Forest Service 25 percent fund payments.
recontour	To move soil back (usually with mechanical or hand tools) to a previous condition thus making an area blend with the natural landscape.
record of decision (ROD)	An official document separate from, but associated, with a final environmental impact statement in which a deciding official identifies all alternatives, and specifies which were environmentally preferable, states the decision, and states whether all practicable means to avoid environmental harm from the alternative have been adopted, and if not, why not (40 CFR 1505.2).

Term	Definition
recovery plans	A plan for the survial and conservation of species listed under ESA. The ESA [Section 4(f)] requires that recovery plans contain: 1) objectives, measurable goals for delisting; 2) a comprehensive list of the actions necessary to achieve the delisting goals; and 3) an estimate of the cost and time required to carry out those actions. In addition, NOAA Recovery Planning Guidelines suggest that recovery plans include an assessment of the factors that led to population declines and/or which are impeding recovery. Finally, it is important that the plans include a comprehensive monitoring and evaluation program for gauging the effectiveness of recovery measures and overall progress toward recovery (USDI 1988).
recreation	Leisure time activity such as swimming, picnicking, boating, hunting, and fishing.
recreation, developed	Recreation that requires facilities that, in turn, result in concentrated use of an area. Examples of developed recreation areas are campgrounds and ski areas; facilities in these areas might include roads, parking lots, picnic tables, toilets, drinking water, ski lifts, and buildings.
recreation, dispersed	A general term referring to recreation use outside developed recreation sites; this includes activities such as scenic driving, hiking, backpacking, hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, horseback riding, cross–country skiing, and recreation in primitive environments.
recreation opportunity	The availability of choices for users to participate in the recreational activities they prefer within the settings they prefer.
Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) Setting Indicators	Seven setting indicators represent aspects of recreation settings that can be influenced by management (FSM 2310.3).
access	Includes type and mode of travel. Highly developed access generally reduces opportunities for solitude, risk, and challenge. It tends to increase opportunities for socializing and feelings of comfort and safety. Access for challenged individuals would correspond with ROS classifications. Access to rural settings is easiest and to primitive settings the most challenging.
remoteness	The extent to which individuals perceive themselves removed from the sights and sounds of human activity. In some cases, a lack of remoteness is important in some setting experiences. Generally, remote areas are perceived to be more primitive.
naturalness/ visual quality	Refers to the scenic condition, landscape character, sense of place, and scenic-integrity levels that determine the sustainability of scenic quality and affect the positive psychological outcomes associated with enjoying nature.

Term	Definition
social encounters	Refers to the number and type of other recreationists met along travel ways, or camped within sight or sound. This measures the ability of the area to provide experiences such as solitude or opportunity for social interaction. Increasing the number of visitors to an area changes the kind of recreation experience offered, attracting new users and causing others to leave or stop coming.
visitor management	Includes the degree to which visitors are regulated and controlled as well as the level of information and services provided for visitor enjoyment. Generally, on-site information is more appropriate at the developed end of the spectrum, while off-site sources and a sense of self-discovery are preferable at the primitive end.
visitor impacts	Refers to the impact of visitor use on the environment. The relevant question for managers is not "how can impacts be prevented," but rather, "how much change will be allowed and which actions are appropriate for control?" Controlling impacts according to the designated ROS is emphasized because impacts have an effect on visitor experiences. Maintaining air, water, and noise quality standards in the face of visitor impacts is important in all classifications.
facilities	Refers to the level of site development. A lack of facilities or site modification can enhance feelings of self-reliance and independence and can provide experiences with a high degree of naturalness. Highly developed facilities can add to the feelings of comfort and convenience and increase opportunities for socializing.
recreation residences	Privately owned recreation cabins authorized by special use permit on National Forest System land that occupy planned, approved tracts or those groups of tracts established for recreation residence use.
recreation site	Specific places in the forest other than roads and trails that are used for recreational activities. These sites include a wide range of recreational activities and associated development. These sites include highly developed facilities like ski areas, resorts, and campgrounds. It also includes dispersed recreation sites that have few or no improvements but show the affects of repeated recreation use.
recreation visit	An entry of one person to a recreation site or area of land or water for the purpose of participating in one or more recreation activities for an unspecified period.
recreation visitor hour	The presence of one or more persons on a national forest developed site or general forest area for the purpose of participating in one or more recreation activities during the continuous, intermittent, or simultaneous periods of time aggregating 60 minutes.
recreation visitor day (RVD)	One person recreating for 12 hours or 12 persons recreating for one hour, or an equivalent combinations of use and users.
recreational capacity	The number of people that can take advantage of the recreation opportunity at any one time without substantially diminishing the quality of the experience or the biophysical resources.

Term	Definition
recreational facilities	Refers to facilities associated with or required for outdoor recreational activities and includes, but are not limited to, parks, campgrounds, hunting and fishing lodges, and interpretive displays.
recreational section	Refer to **Wild and Scenic River**.
redd	Nest in gravel of stream bottom where a fish deposits eggs.
reforestation	Treatments or activities that help to regenerate stands of trees after disturbances such as timber harvest or wildfire. Typically, reforestation activities include preparing soil, controlling pests, and planting seeds or seedlings.
refugia	Areas that have not been exposed to great environmental changes and disturbances undergone by the region as a whole; refugia provide conditions suitable for survival of species that may be declining elsewhere.
regeneration	The process of establishing new plant seedlings, whether by natural means or artificial measures (planting).
regeneration harvest	A timber harvest by which a new age class is created by using clearcutting, seed tree, shelterwood, or selection methods.
regulations	Generally refers to the CFR, Title 36, Chapter II, which covers management of the Forest Service.
rehabilitate	To repair and protect certain aspects of a system so that essential structures and functions are recovered, even though the overall system may not be exactly as it was before.
relic	Persistent remnants of formerly widespread fauna or flora species existing in certain isolated areas or habitats. The existence of an organism or species in an otherwise extinct taxon (phylum, order, family, genus, or species) from an earlier time that has survived in an environment that has undergone considerable change.
renewable energy	Energy derived from natural sources, such as sunlight, wind, rain, tides, or geothermal resources, that does not consume the resource when used.
research natural area (RNA)	An area set aside by a public or private agency specifically to preserve a representative sample of an ecological community, primarily for scientific and educational purposes. In Forest Service usage, Research Natural Areas are areas designated to ensure representative samples of as many of the major naturally–occurring plant communities as possible.
resident fish	Fish that spend their entire life in freshwater; examples include bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout.

Term	Definition
resource	Anything which is beneficial or useful, be it animal, vegetable, mineral, a location, a labor force, a view, an experience, etc. Resources, in the context of land use planning, thus vary from such commodities as timber and minerals to such amenities as scenery, scenic viewpoints, or recreation opportunities.
Resource Advisory Council (RAC)	RACs were established by the BLM, under the Federal Advisory Committee Act to provide a forum for nonfederal partners to engage in discussion with agency managers regarding management of federal lands.
responsible line officer	The Forest Service employee who has the authority to select and/or carry out a specific planning action.
restoration	Restoration is the process of assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged, or destroyed. It is an intentional activity that initiates or accelerates the recovery of an ecosystem with respect to its health, integrity, and sustainability. Restoration is an attempt to return an ecosystem to its historic trajectory, but not necessarily to a former state.
resource allocation	The action of apportioning the supply of a resource to specific uses or to particular persons or organizations.
revetment	A stabilizing or reinforcing structure used to support an embankment.
ridgetop	Mid to lower elevation (above 3,000 feet with <35 percent slope) mountain ridge, such as Memaloose, Buckhorn, Experiment Creek Point, and Summit Ridge. Ridgetop grasslands are bluebunch wheatgrass/Sandberg's bluegrass or, occasionally, Idaho fescue/bluebunch wheatgrass, and Idaho fescue/prairie junegrass (high elevation) communities, most of which are in mid-seral or later stages. Interspersed on shallow soil scablands are communities of bluebunch wheatgrass associated with plants such as various buckwheats or buckwheat associated with Sandberg's bluegrass.
ridgetop-montane	Higher elevation ridgetop (<3,000 feet with >35 percent slope), such as Sour Apple Flat, Monument Ridge, Grave Point, and Grassy Knoll. It is expected that these areas had a longer fire interval than lower elevation ridges and were greater attractants for native ungulates due to extensive forests (edge effect) near grassland ridges. These grasslands are varied, and intermingled with shrublands and forested areas. They contain Idaho fescue in association with bluebunch wheatgrass, or elk sedge, or Hood's sedge. These communities trend toward intermixes of pinegrass and elk sedge as fringe tree density increases.
riparian area	An area with distinctive soils and vegetation between a stream, or other body of water, and the adjacent upland area consisting of vegetation that requires free, or unbound, water for survival.
riparian-dependent species	Plant species that rely on free or unbound water for establishment and survival, and animal species that would normally occupy, or rely on, riparian habitats.

Term	Definition
riparian management areas (RMAs)	Portions of watershed where riparian–dependent resources receive primary emphasis and management activities are subject to specific standards and guidelines. RMAs include traditional riparian corridors, wetlands, intermittent headwater streams, and other areas where proper ecological functioning is crucial to maintenance of the streams' water, sediment, woody debris, and nutrient delivery system.
RMA widths	
fish-bearing streams	RMAs consist of the stream and the area on each side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to the top of the inner gorge, or to the outer edges of the 100-year floodplain, or to the outer edges of riparian vegetation, or to a distance equal to the height of two site-potential trees, or 300 feet slope distance (600 feet total, including both sides of the stream channel), whichever is greatest. In degraded or incised streams, the RMA should extend from the edge of the active channel to the outer extent of the former floodplain. It is expected that RMA widths along fish-bearing streams will not be less than described here.
permanently flowing non-fish-bearing streams	RMAs consist of the stream and the area on each side of the stream extending from the edges of the active stream channel to the top of the inner gorge, or to the outer edges of the 100-year floodplain, or to the outer edges of riparian vegetation, or to a distance equal to the height of one site-potential tree, or 150 feet slope distance (300 feet total, including both sides of the stream channel), whichever is greatest. In degraded or incised streams, the RMA should extend from the waters edge to the outer extent of the former floodplain.
constructed ponds and reservoirs, and wetlands greater than 1 acre	RMAs consist of the body of water or wetland and: the area to the outer edges of the riparian vegetation, or to the extent of seasonally saturated soil, or the extent of unstable and potentially unstable areas, or to a distance equal to the height of one site-potential tree, or 150 feet slope distance from the edge of the wetland greater than 1 acre or the maximum pool elevation of constructed ponds and reservoirs, whichever is greatest.
lakes and natural ponds	RMAs consist of the body of water and the area to the outer edges of the riparian vegetation, or to the extent of seasonally saturated soil, or to the extent of unstable and potentially unstable areas, or to a distance equal to the height of two site-potential trees, or 300 feet slope distance, whichever is greatest.

Term	Definition
seasonally flowing or intermittent streams, wetlands, seeps and springs less than 1 acre, and unstable and potentially unstable areas	This category applies to features with high variability in size and site-specific characteristics. At a minimum, the RMAs should include: ▪ The extent of unstable and potentially unstable areas (including earthflows). ▪ The stream channel and extend to the top of the inner gorge, or in incised streams, to the edge of the former floodplain. ▪ The stream channel or wetland and the area from the edges of the stream channel or wetland to the outer edges of the riparian vegetation, extending from the edges of the stream channel to a distance equal to the height of one site-potential tree, or 100 feet slope distance, whichever is greatest. A site-potential tree height is the average maximum height of the tallest dominant trees for a given site class. ▪ Intermittent streams are defined as any non-permanent flowing drainage feature having a definable channel and evidence of annual scour or deposition. This includes what are sometimes referred to as ephemeral streams if they meet these two physical criteria. Including intermittent streams, springs, and wetlands within RMAs is important for full implementation of the ARCS. Accurate identification of these features is critical to the correct implementation of the strategy and protection of the intermittent stream and wetland functions and processes. Identification of these features is difficult at times due to the lack of surface water or wet soils during dry periods. Fish-bearing intermittent streams are distinguished from non-fish-bearing intermittent streams by the presence of any species of fish for any duration. Many intermittent streams may be used as spawning and rearing streams, refuge areas during flood events in larger rivers and streams or travel routes for fish emigrating from lakes. In these instances, the guidelines for fish-bearing streams would apply to those sections of the intermittent stream used by the fish.
risk factors	Land-use disturbances that are negatively affecting watershed functions and processes and stream-riparian environments.
riverine	On or near the banks of a river; riparian.
road	A motor vehicle route over 50 inches wide, unless designated and managed as a trail. (36 CFR 212.1). Refer to **forest road**
temporary road	A road necessary for emergency operations or authorized by contract, permit, lease, other written authorization that is not a forest road and that is not included in a forest transportation atlas. (36 CFR 212.1).
unauthorized road	A road that is not a forest road or a temporary road and that is not included in a forest transportation atlas. (36 CFR 212.1).
road, closed	A road with all use suspended year–long by an active form of facility management utilizing regulations and appropriate enforcement to secure and ensure user compliance with closure.

Term	Definition
road construction	Activity that results in the addition of forest classified or temporary road miles (36 CFR 212.1). New construction activities may include vegetation clearing and grubbing, earthwork, drainage installation, instream activities, pit development or expansion, surfacing (including paving), and aggregate placement.
road decommissioning	Activities that result in the stabilization and restoration of unneeded roads to a more natural state (36 CFR 212.1, FSM 7703). Road decommissioning activities include revegetation, recontouring, water barring, roadbed scarification or ripping, culvert removal, berm construction, and side cast pullback.
road density	An indicator of the concentration of roads in an area.
road maintenance	The ongoing upkeep of a road necessary to retain or restore the road to the approved road management objective.
road maintenance levels	Maintenance levels define the level of service provided by, and maintenance required for, a specific road. Maintenance levels must be consistent with road management objectives and maintenance criteria. Roads assigned to maintenance levels 2 through 5 are either constant service roads or intermittent service roads during the time they are open to traffic.
Maintenance Level 1	Assigned to intermittent service roads during the times they are closed to vehicular traffic. The closure period must exceed 1 year. Basic custodial maintenance is performed to keep damage to adjacent resources to acceptable levels and to perpetuate the road to facilitate future management activities. Emphasis is normally given to maintaining drainage facilities and runoff patterns. Planned road deterioration may occur at this level. Appropriate traffic management strategies are "prohibit" and "eliminate." Roads receiving Level 1 maintenance may be of any type, class, or construction standard, and may be managed at any other maintenance level during the time they are open for traffic. However, while being maintained at Level 1, they are closed to vehicular traffic, subject to prohibitions and restrictions, and may be available and suitable for nonmotorized users. Level 1 maintenance activities include road condition surveys, evaluation, and monitoring of maintenance needs. Activities include limited equipment operation, opening closed roads, manual cleaning of drainage structures, and vegetation management that stabilizes or reduces erosion. Repairs are scheduled and completed within funding limitations when critical resource damage is reported. Roadway activities including blading, clearing logs, and noncritical repairs that can be delayed are accomplished when the road is placed in an active status.

Term	Definition
Maintenance Level 2	Assigned to roads open for use by high-clearance vehicles. Providing access for passenger cars is not a consideration. Traffic is normally minor, usually consisting of administrative, permitted, dispersed recreation, and/or other specialized uses. Log haul may occur. Appropriate traffic management strategies are either to discourage or prohibit passenger cars or to accept or discourage high-clearance vehicles. Level 2 maintenance activities include roadside brushing, hazard-tree removal, surface blading, drainage maintenance, structure maintenance, clearing logs, slide and slip cleanup and repair, sign maintenance and surface replacement. Drainage function and soil stabilization are of prime importance. Many roads in this category have grass in the travel way. User comfort is not a consideration.
Maintenance Level 3	Assigned to roads open and maintained for travel by a prudent drivers in standard passenger cars. User comfort and convenience are not considered priorities. Roads in this maintenance level are typically low-speed, single-lane, with turnouts and spot surfacing. Some roads may be fully surfaced with either native or processed material. Appropriate traffic management strategies are "encourage" or "accept." "Discourage" or "prohibit" strategies may be employed for certain classes of vehicles or users. Level 3 maintenance activities include roadside brushing, hazard-tree removal, surface blading, drainage maintenance, structure maintenance, clearing logs, slide and slip cleanup and repair, sign maintenance and surface replacement. Drainage function and soil stabilization are of prime importance. Dust abatement and more frequent blading may be needed on segments of multi-purpose roads.
Maintenance Level 4	Assigned to roads that provide a moderate degree of user comfort and convenience at moderate travel speeds. Most roads are double-lane and aggregate-surfaced. However, some roads may be single-lane. Some roads may be paved and/or dust abated. The most appropriate traffic-management strategy is "encourage." However, the "prohibit' strategy may apply to specific classes of vehicles or users at certain times. Level 4 maintenance activities include roadside brushing, hazard tree removal, surface blading, drainage maintenance, structure maintenance, clearing logs, slide and slip cleanup and repair, sign maintenance and surface replacement. Drainage function and soil stabilization are of prime importance. Dust abatement and more frequent blading may be needed on segments of multi-purpose roads.

Term	Definition
	Assigned to roads that provide a high degree of user comfort and convenience. These roads are normally double lane, paved. Some may be aggregate-surfaced and dust-abated. The appropriate traffic management strategy is "encourage."
Maintenance Level 5	Level 5 maintenance activities include roadside brushing, hazard-tree removal, surface blading, drainage maintenance, structure maintenance, logging out, slide and slip cleanup and repair, sign maintenance and surfacing replacement. Drainage function and soil stabilization are of prime importance. Dust abatement and more frequent blading may be needed on segments of multi-purpose roads. All of the Level 5 roads on the Forest have a permanent (paved) surface.
road management objectives	Road management objectives define the level of service provided by a NFS road consistent with the surrounding Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) class.
semi–primitive nonmotorized (SPNM)	Most semi-primitive nonmotorized areas do not have developed roads. All motorized traffic is prohibited. Semi-primitive nonmotorized roads provide hiking or equestrian trails on closed or decommissioned roads.
semi–primitive motorized (SPM)	Semi-primitive motorized roads are generally used for four-wheel drive, logging, or ranching activities. Passenger-car use is discouraged by entrance conditions or signage. Users can expect SPM roads where there are no attractions such as viewpoints or trailheads.
low-level SPM	Native surface roads suitable for high-clearance vehicles but not passenger cars or vehicles towing trailers. Users may need to back vehicles for long distances when meeting oncoming traffic. Maintenance activities occur usually every five years or when resource needs are identified. Roads are allowed to "brush in" and users are responsible for removing trees blocking the road. Ruts and potholes are accepted if they do not contribute to sediment loading. Corresponds to road Maintenance Level 2 and Traffic Service Level D (abbreviated: 2-D).
high-level SPM	Single–lane native surface road or road surfaced with spot rock, strip rock or pit run material suitable for high-clearance vehicles. The road may have infrequent turnouts. Pit run material is applied to the road surface, but is not grid rolled, leaving a rough, rocky surface that drains well and discourages passenger car use. User maintenance is the same as for the low-level SPM. This standard meets resource and safety needs and is the minimum standard for accessing attractions such as viewpoints or trailheads. Maintaining current road alignment, road surface type, and corridor width are emphasized. Corresponds to road Maintenance Level 2 and Traffic Service Level C (abbreviated: 2-C).

Term	Definition
roaded natural (RN)	Roaded natural roads provide safe access for passenger cars. Maintenance activities generally occur annually or every two years, depending on funding and need. FS clears these roads of brush and logs. Surface maintenance increases at higher levels. Because of increased speeds, turnouts are needed more frequently. Open local roads and some collector roads within RN are managed for high-clearance vehicles. In such cases, road-maintenance standards defined for SPM would be used.
low-level RN	Road-surface type of either native or base course. Pit-run material is processed to provide a rough but suitable service for passenger cars. Dust increases during dry conditions, and the road provides good resource protection when wet. Corresponds to road Maintenance Level 3 and Traffic Service Level C (abbreviated: 3-C).
medium-level RN	Road-surface type of crushed aggregate, maintained for passenger cars. Usually maintained annually, surfaces may "washboard" and become dusty with increased use. Corresponds to road Maintenance Level 3 and Traffic Service Level C or B (abbreviated: 3-C or 3-B).
high-level RN	Road-surface type of an aggregate that has been dust-abated or treated with soil or silicone stabilizers, or asphalt emulsions. A dust-free, smooth surface for passenger cars is the desired product. This standard is often applied to provide double-lane access to attractions such as viewpoints or campgrounds. Corresponds to road Maintenance Level 4 and Traffic Service Level B or A (abbreviated: 4-B or 4-A).
rural (R)	Rural is generally the highest standard of road. These arterial roads provide the main access to the national forest lands but generally lack the speeds and alignment provided by state highways. Roads are double–lane with a road-surface treatment and generally 24-feet wide. The road has center striping and often stripes marking the shoulders. Corresponds to a road Maintenance Level 5 and Traffic Service Level A (abbreviated: 5-A).
road, open	A road that has no use restrictions or regulations imposed and is available for use by vehicles at any time during the year.
road reconstruction	Activity that results in improvement or realignment of an existing classified road as defined below. Reconstruction activities may include vegetation clearing and grubbing, earthwork, drainage installation, instream activities, surfacing (including paving), and aggregate placement.
road improvement	Activity that results in an increase of an existing road's traffic service level, expands its capacity, or changes its original design function.
road realignment	Activity that results in a new location of an existing road or portions of an existing road and treatment of the old roadway (36 CFR 212.1).

Term	Definition
road restoration	Road restoration activities are commensurate with the assigned maintenance level and include storm proofing, bridge replacement, installation of drainage dips and water bars, culvert installation and upgrade, surface shaping, and draining, surface material processing. Refer to **road maintenance**.
road spur	A dead-end road, usually with a length of 0.5 miles or less.
roads subject to the Highway Safety Act	NFS roads open to use by the public for standard passenger cars. This includes roads with access restricted on a seasonal basis and roads closed during extreme weather conditions or for emergencies, but which are otherwise open for general public use.
road surface types	
asphalt/concrete	A well-graded aggregate and asphalt cement.
aggregate	Stone, slag, gravel, or any other hard, inert, mineral material meeting certain specified quality requirements for use in a road pavement or surfacing structure.
chip seal	A road surface treatment consisting of one or more spray applications of asphalt followed immediately by an application of aggregate (chips) on a paved surface.
grid–rolled	Aggregate consisting of native materials of a quality that can be taken directly from a given source, without crushing or screening, and broken down to a specified maximum dimension on the road by grid–rolling.
paved	One or more bituminous bound layers of aggregate placed on a prepared road foundation.
pit run	Aggregate consisting of native materials from a given source with a maximum size and grading suitable for placing directly on a road without crushing or screening.
native surface	A road surface consisting of soil or aggregate materials naturally existing at the road location.
spot rock	Aggregate placed on a road as a pavement or surfacing structure in designated areas that are not continuous throughout the entire length of the road.
strip rock	Aggregate placed on a road as a surfacing structure in designated areas or portions of a road greater than 200 feet in length but not continuous throughout the entire length of the road.
surface treated	One or more applications of asphalt or other processed or natural materials to a road surface to provide traction, abate dust, protect, or renew the surface without increasing pavement structural capacity. Surface treatment is commensurate with existing surface.
runoff (surface)	Fresh water from precipitation and melting ice that flows on the earth's surface into nearby streams, lakes, wetlands, or reservoirs.

Term	Definition
	S
sale schedule	The quantity of timber planned for sale by time period from an area of suitable land covered by a forest plan. The first period, usually a decade, of the selected sale schedule provides the allowable sale quantity. Future periods are shown to establish that long-term sustained yield will be achieved and maintained.
salmonids	Fishes of the family Salmonidae, including salmon, trout, chars, whitefish, ciscoes, and grayling.
salvage harvest	Harvest of trees that are dead, dying, or deteriorating due to fire, wind, insect or other damage, or disease.
sanitation harvest	Sanitation cuttings involve the elimination of trees that have been attacked or appear in imminent danger of attack by dangerous insects and fungi in order to prevent these pests from spreading to other trees. Sanitation cuttings differ from other forms of salvage cuttings only to the extent that they are combined with or represent precautions to reduce the spread of damaging organisms to the residual stands. They may also be undertaken in anticipation of attack in attempts to forestall the establishment of damaging organisms. They can be and usually are combined with salvage cuttings.
satisfactory condition	A condition in which the soil is adequately protected and the forage species composition and production meets the land management plan objectives or the trend in forage species composition and production is acceptable.
savannah	The transitional biome between grassland and desert or desert and rainforest, typically having drought resistant vegetation dominated by grasses with scattered tall trees.
scabland	A region characterized by elevated tracts of rocky ground with little or no soil cover.
scale	1) The level of resolution under consideration (for example, broad-scale or fine-scale); 2) the ratio of length on a map to true length.
Scenery Management System (SMS)	The SMS is the method that was adopted after the Forest Plan was completed in 1990. The SMS utilizes two indicators to determine desired landscape character: ecological landscape integrity and scenic integrity. Ecological landscape integrity evaluates whether the landscape is managed in a sustainable and ecologically sound manner. Scenic integrity evaluates whether the landscape character is being managed in a way that conserves constituent values in terms of the level of human-caused deviations that are acceptable to the public (USDA 1993 SMS HANDBOOK).
scenic area	Places of outstanding or matchless beauty that require special management to preserve these qualities. They may be established under 36 CFR 294.1 whenever lands possessing outstanding or unique natural beauty warrant this classification.

Term	Definition
scenic class	Scenic class indicates the importance or value of a particular landscape determined by constituent information.
scenic identity	The scenic image and identity is the landscape character of an area. The landscape character identifies the "ideal" or optimal set of valued scenery attributes and describes the setting provided by these scenery attributes within each biophysical setting. It is important to understanding of the process, structure, and functions that support the valued set of scenery attributes. This understanding helps identify conditions and stressors that put scenery resources at risk.
Scenic Integrity Level	Measures the degree to which a landscape is free from visible disturbances that detract from the natural or socially valued appearance. Scenic integrity objectives establish the desired level of scenic integrity for an area. Scenic stability measures the degree to which the valued landscape character and its scenery attributes can be sustained through time and ecological progression. Scenic stability objectives establish the desired level of scenic stability for a particular area. It is used to describe an existing situation, an objective for management, or desired conditions.
very high scenic integrity	Scenery with fully intact landscape features and scenic compositions presenting the optimal landscape character in complete harmony, with very minute, if any, scenic discordance. Due to the optimal scenic integrity of the physical, biological, and cultural features in these scenic compositions, the landscape character and sense of place are expressed at the highest possible level. Very high scenic integrity is most compatible with wilderness, backcountry, biophysical, or cultural preserves, and other special classification areas.
high scenic integrity	Scenery with whole or nearly intact landscape features and scenic compositions that present the optimal landscape character completely or nearly in full, and contain scenic discordances that are not evident.
moderately high scenic integrity	Scenery with slightly altered landscape features and compositions in which the valued landscape character is the dominant scenic impression, yet minor discordance is apparent, but visually subordinate. The "moderate" level of scenic integrity in the Scenery Management Handbook has been split into two categories to reflect more accurately the scenic conditions on the in the Blue Mountains.
moderately low scenic integrity	Scenery with altered landscape features and compositions that display a beginning dominance of valued landscape character expression and readily noticeable discordance.
low scenic integrity	Scenery with obviously altered landscape features and compositions that dominate yet still express some aspects of valued landscape character. The scenic harmony of the valued landscape character is seriously fragmented and barely restorable within reasonable periods and resource expenditures.

Term	Definition
very low scenic integrity	Scenery with extremely altered landscape features and composition that no longer sustains significant aspects of valued landscape character. The scenic harmony of the optimal landscape character does not exist and its restoration may be impossible if not unrealistic.
Scenic Integrity Objective	An established goal for the management of the scenic resource applied to a specific portion of the forest.
scenic river areas	Refer to **Wild and Scenic River**.
scenic section	Refer to **Wild and Scenic River**.
Science Consistency Review	Certification that the revised forest plan takes into account the best available science as required by the 2005 Planning Rule.
scoping process	A part of the NEPA process; the early stages of preparation of an environmental impact statement, early and open activities used to solicit public opinion, receive comments and suggestions, and determine the scope and significance of the issues to be considered in the development and analysis of a range of actions, alternatives, and impacts to be considered. Scoping may involve public meetings, telephone conversations, mailings, letters, or other contacts (40 CFR 1501.7).
screening	The reduction or elimination of the visual impact of any structure or land modification as seen from any public travel route within the national forests.
security	An area where wildlife, such as elk, retreat to for safety when disturbance in their usual range is intensified, such as by logging activities or during the hunting season. To qualify as a security area for elk there must be 250 contiguous acres that are more than one-half mile from open roads.
secondary productivity	The growth of animal species that use the products derived from The growth and accumulation of plant biomass (primary productivity).
sediment	Solid materials, both mineral and organic, in suspension or transported by water, gravity, ice, or air; may be moved and deposited away from their original position and eventually will settle to the bottom.
sediment regime	The rate, frequency, magnitude, and duration of sediment movement. Refer to **flow regime**.
selective cutting	Single-tree or group-selection cutting is the periodic removal of trees individually or in small groups from an uneven-aged forest in order to maintain diverse stands, with the sustainability and improvement of the forest using an ecosystem approach to management being a primary consideration.
self-discovery	The act or process of achieving understanding or knowledge. On-site controls do not exist and directional signing is minimal or nonexistent. Prehistoric sites would not have formal interpretation; viewing them would be left to chance and learning about them would be left to the viewer.

Term	Definition
self-reliance	Reliance on one's own capabilities, judgment, or resources through application of outdoor skills in an environment that offers a high degree of risk and challenge.
self-sustaining populations	Populations that are sufficiently abundant, interacting, and well-distributed in the plan area, within the bounds of their life history and distribution of the species and the capability of the landscape, to provide for their long-term persistence, resilience and adaptability over multiple generations.
sense of place	A reference for the physical, emotional, cultural, symbolic, and spiritual aspects of people's tangible and intangible relationships with the land and the meanings associated with them.
sensitive soils	Forest land areas that have a moderate to very high hazard for soil compaction. Erosion, displacement, mass wasting, or forest floor displacement.
sensitive species	Plant or animal species identified by a regional forester for which population viability is a concern either: 1) because of significant current or predicted downward trends in population numbers or density; or 2) because of significant current or predicted downward trends in habitat capability that would reduce a species' existing distribution. Those species that have appeared in the Federal Register as proposed for classification or are 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 management to prevent placement on federal or state lists.
seral	Refers to the stages that plant communities go through during the progression in structure and composition over time. Development stages have characteristic structure and plant species composition.
early seral	Refers to seeding or sapling growth stages.
mid seral	Refers to pole or medium saw timber growth stages.
late seral	Or mature forest, refers to mature and old growth stages.
seral stage	The developmental phase of a forest stand or rangeland with characteristic structure and plant species composition.
shade intolerant	Species of plants that do not grow well in or die from the effects of too much shade. Generally, these are fire-tolerant species.
shade tolerant	Species of plants that can develop and grow in the shade of other plants. Generally, these are fire-intolerant species.
shelterwood	The cutting of most trees, leaving those needed to produce sufficient shade to produce a new age class in a moderated microenvironment.
shrubland	Area of land where the potential vegetation is dominated by shrubs.
short-term	Generally refers to a period of 10 years or less.

Term	Definition
sidecasting	Placing or pushing material generated from road construction, reconstruction, or maintenance activities.
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 fellings that remove the mature crop and provide for regeneration and according to the type of forest thereby produced.
single-story	Vegetation with a single canopy layer.
site	A specific location of an activity or project, such as a campground, a lake, or a stand of trees to be harvested. -or- The location of a significant event, a prehistoric or historic occupation or activity, or a building or structure, whether standing, ruined or vanished, where the location itself maintains historical or archeological value regardless of the value of any existing structure [36CFR65] (historic or archaeological definition).
site-potential tree	The average maximum height of the tallest trees for a given site class.
snag	A standing dead tree usually greater than five feet in height and six inches in diameter at breast height (DBH).
social trails	Unofficial trails created by the public to access other recreation sites of points of interest.
social well-being	A condition that enables citizens, communities, and visitors to contribute to their wellness, values and quality of life.
society	A group of people who have a common homeland, are interdependent, and share a common culture.
soil	The earth material that has been so modified and acted upon by physical, chemical, and biological agents that it will support rooted plants.
soil function	The characteristic physical and biological activity of soils that influences productivity, capability, and resiliency.
soil productivity	The inherent capacity of a soil to produce plant growth, due to the soil's chemical, physical, and biological properties (such as depth, temperature, water-holding capacity, and mineral, nutrient, and organic matter content). It is often expressed by some measure of biomass accumulation.
soil quality	The capacity of a soil to function within ecosystem boundaries to sustain biological productivity, maintain environmental quality, and promote plant and animal health.
soil stability	1) Mass stability of the soil profile or resistance to mass failure; 2) stability of the soil surface with respect to accelerated sheet, rill, and gully erosion processes.

Term	Definition
soil surveys	All soil surveys are made by examining, describing, and classifying soils in the field and delineating their areas on maps. The map scale for field mapping must be large enough to allow areas of minimum size to be delineated legibly. Recognition of the different soil survey levels is helpful for communicating about soil surveys and maps, even though the levels cannot be sharply separated from each other. The order of a survey is consequence of field procedures, the minimum size of delineation, and the kinds of map units that are used.
Order I Surveys	Are for very intensive land uses requiring very detailed information about soils, generally in small areas. The information can be used in planning for irrigation, drainage, truck crops, citrus or other specialty crops, experimental plots, individual building sites, and other uses that require a detailed and very precise knowledge of the soils and their variability.
Order II Surveys	Are for intensive land uses that require detailed information about soil resources for making predictions of suitability for use and of treatment needs. The information can be used in planning for general agriculture, construction, urban development, and similar uses that require precise knowledge of the soils and their variability.
Order III Surveys	Are for 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. The information can be used in planning for range, forest, recreational areas, and in community planning.
Order IV Surveys	Are for extensive land uses that need general soil information for broad statements concerning land–use potential and general land management. The 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.
Order V Surveys	Collect soils information in very large areas at a level of detail suitable for planning regional land use and interpreting information at a high level of generalization. The primary use of this information is selection of areas for more intensive study.
solid waste	Discarded solid waste materials resulting from mining, industrial, commercial, agricultural, silvicultural, and community activities. Does not include domestic sewage or pollutants such as silt, or dissolved materials in irrigation return flows.

Term	Definition
source habitat	Habitat in such conditions that result in a positive or increasing population growth for a particular species. Those characteristics of vegetation that support long-term wildlife species persistence, or characteristics of vegetation that contribute to stable or positive population growth for a species in a specified area and time. Source habitats are described using dominant vegetation cover type and structural stage combinations that can be estimated reliably at the 247-acre (100-hectare) patch scale. Various combinations of these cover type–structural stages make up the source habitats for the terrestrial species discussed in this FEIS, and provide the range of vegetation conditions required by these species for food, reproduction, and other needs (Wisdom et al. 2000).
spatial	Related to or having the nature of space.
special habitat	A habitat which has a special function not provided by plant communities and successional stages. Includes riparian zones, snags, dead and downed wood, and edges (Thomas 1979).
specially designated areas	Also referred to as Special Areas and is one of the plan components. Areas designated because of their unique or special characteristics, such as botanical areas or areas designated by stature or administrative processes such as wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, or research natural areas.
special use authorization	A permit, term permit lease, or easement which allows occupancy, use, rights, or privileges of national forest lands (36 CFR 251.51).
special use permit	A special authorization which provides permission without conveying any interest in land, to occupy and use national forest land or facilities for specified purpose, and which is revocable, terminable and noncompensable.
species	A population or series of populations of organisms that can interbreed freely with each other but not with members of other species.
species composition	The species that occur on a site or in a successional stage of a plant community (Thomas 1979).
species diversity	The number of species occurring in a given area.
species-of-concern	Species for which management actions may be necessary to prevent listing under the Endangered Species Act. Criteria for selection as a species-of-concern include: Identified as candidate and proposed for listing under the Endangered Species Act. Has a G1 to G3 NatureServe ranking. Intraspecific taxa with NatureServe ranking of T1 to T3. Has been petitioned for listing under the Endangered Species Act.

Term	Definition
species-of-interest	Species for which management actions may be necessary or desirable to achieve ecological or other multiple-use objectives. Criteria for selection as a species-of-interest include: ▪ Has a NatureServe ranking of S1 to S3. ▪ State listed as threatened, endangered, candidate, sensitive, or species-of-concern. ▪ Of regional or local concern. ▪ Listed on U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service birds of conservation concern national priority list. ▪ Listed as a Forest Service sensitive species.
sprouter	Flora capable of vegetative reproduction from roots or stems.
stand	A group of trees in a specific area that re sufficiently alike in composition, age, arrangement, and condition so as to be distinguishable from the forest in adjoining areas.
stand initiation	Stand conditions that arise following a stand-replacing disturbance such as wildfire or timber harvest. Colonizers disperse seed into disturbed areas, the seed germinates, and new seedlings establish and develop. A single canopy stratum of tree seedlings and saplings is present. Average tree diameters are generally less than five inches.
stand composition	The vegetative species that make up the stand.
stand density	Refers to the number of trees growing in a given area, usually expressed in trees per acre.
stand replacement fire	A fire severity classification where at least 75 percent replacement of the upper layer of vegetation is removed.
stand structure	The mix and distribution of tree sizes, layers, and ages in a forest. Some stands are all one size (single-story) some are two-story, and some are a mix of trees of different ages and sizes.
strategy	Part two of a land managmenet plan that explains the suitable uses and includes the special designated areas, and management categories.
stream channel	Refer to **channel**.
stream class	Classification of streams based on the present and foreseeable uses made of the water and the potential effects of on-site changes in downstream uses. Four classes are defined as:
Class I	Perennial or intermittent streams that provide a source of water for domestic use; are used by large numbers of anadromous fish or significant sports fish for spawning, rearing, or migration; and/or are major tributaries to the other Class I streams.
Class II	Perennial or intermittent streams that are used by fish for spawning, rearing, or migration; and/or may be tributaries to Class I streams or other Class II streams.
Class III	Other perennial streams not meeting higher-class criteria.

Term	Definition
Class IV	Other intermittent streams not meeting higher class criteria.
stem exclusion	The stage created when vigorous, fast growing trees occupy the growing space. Establishment of new trees is precluded by a lack of sunlight or moisture. This stage could be maintained by thinning or fire. Stands only have one dominant layer. Average tree diameters range from 5 to 20 inches.
stringers	Relatively narrow areas suitable to be occupied by forested plant associations within a landscape that is otherwise unsuitable due to site or environmental factors.
stronghold	Directly associated with strong populations. For native fish, strong populations have stable numbers or are increasing, and all major life history forms that historically occurred within the watershed are present.
stocking level	The ratio of the current stand density to an assumed ideal level of stand density.
structure	1) Any permanent building or facility, or part thereof such as barns, outhouses, residences, and storage sheds including transmission line systems, substations, commercial radio transmitters, relays or repeater stations, antennas, and other electronic sites and associated structures; or 2) the size and arrangement of vegetation, both vertically and horizontally.
structural stage	A stage of development of a vegetation community that is classified on the dominant processes of growth, development, competition, and mortality.
subalpine	A terrestrial community that generally is found in harsher environments than the montane terrestrial community. Subalpine communities are generally colder than montane and support a unique clustering of wildlife species.
subbasin	A drainage area of approximately 800,000 to 1,000,000 acres, equivalent to a 4th field HUC.
subnivean	Under the snow.
subsistence	Customary and traditional uses of wild renewable resources (plants and animals) for food, shelter, fuel, clothing, tools, etc.
subwatershed	A drainage area of approximately 20,000 acres, equivalent to a 6th-field HUC (12 digit). Hierarchically, subwatersheds (6th field HUC) are contained within watersheds (5th field HUC, which in turn are contained within a subbasin (4th field HUC).

Term	Definition
succession	The sequential replacement over time of one plant community by another, in the absence of major disturbance. Conditions of the prior plant community or successional stage create conditions that are favorable for the establishment of the next stage. The different stages of succession are often referred to as seral stages. Developmental stages are as follows: early seral: Communities that occur early in the successional path and generally have less complex structural developmental than other successional communities. Seedling and sapling size classes are an example of early seral forests. mid-seral: Communities that occur in the middle of the successional path. For forests, this usually corresponds to the pole or medium sawtimber growth stages. late-seral: Communities that occur in the later stage of the successional path with mature, generally larger individuals, such as mature forests.
successional pathway	The type and direction of change in vegetation composition and structure.
suitable habitat	Habitat that currently has both the fixed and variable stand attributes for a given species habitat requirements. Variable attributes change over time and may include seral stage, cover type and overstory canopy cover.
suitability	The appropriateness of applying certain resource management practices to a particular area of land, as determined by an analysis of the economic and environmental consequences and the alternative uses foregone. A unit of land may be suitable for a variety of individual or combined management practices.
suitable uses	One of the plan components. Uses that are compatible with the desired conditions and objectives for a given area which are identified as guidance for project and activity decision making and do not represent a commitment or final decision approving projects or activities.
surface fire	A fire that burns surface litter, dead woody fuels, other loose debris on the forest floor, and some small vegetation without significant movement into the overstory, usually with a flame less than a few feet high.
surface water development	The practice of diverting or impounding surface water sources by the construction of dams, diversions, canals, or ditches for use, such as irrigation, livestock watering, and human consumption.
sustainability	Meeting needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Sustainability is composed of desirable social, economic, and ecological conditions or trends interacting at varying spatial and temporal scales, embodying the principles of multiple-use and sustained-yield (FSM 1905).

Term	Definition
sustained-yield of products and services	The achievement and maintenance in perpetuity of a high-level annual or regular periodic output of the various renewable resources of the National Forest System without impairment of the productivity of the land.
sustainability framework	A frame of reference used within this land management plan to organize and integrate social, ecological, and economic parts of the plan with the people and places on the national forests.
	T
talus	A slope formed by the accumulation of rock debris at the base of a cliff.
temporal	Related to time.
terrane	Distinct section of Earth's crust: a section of Earth's crust that is defined by clear fault boundaries, with stratigraphic and structural properties that distinguish it from adjacent rocks. Also, called terrain.
terrestrial	Pertaining to the land.
terrestrial wildlife	Wildlife species that dwell primarily on land (Thomas 1979).
thermal cover	Cover used by animals to ameliorate effects of weather; for elk, a stand of coniferous trees 40 feet or more tall with an average crown closure of 70 percent or more, for deer, cover may include saplings, shrubs, or trees at least five feet tall with 75 percent crown closure.
thermal regulation	The processes by which many animals actively maintain the temperature of all or parts of their body; the protection against local climatic extremes provided by, for example, shade produced by vegetation, protection from wind or sun, or protection from extreme cold.
thinning	An operation to remove stems from a forest for the purpose of reducing fuel, maintaining stand vigor, regulating stand density/composition, or for other resource benefits. Although thinning can result in commercial products, thinning generally refers to noncommercial operations.
threatened species	Species listed under the Endangered Species Act by either the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service. These species are likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of their range.
tiering	Refers to the coverage of general matters in broader environmental impact statements (such as the land management plan) with subsequent narrower statements or environmental analyses (such as an environmental impact statement or site–specific environmental assessment) incorporating, by reference, the general discussions and concentrating solely on the issues specific to the statement subsequently prepared.
timber harvest	The removal of trees for wood fiber utilization and other multiple-use purposes.

Term	Definition
timber production	The purposeful growing, tending, harvesting, and regeneration of regulated crops of trees to be cut into logs, bolts, or other round sections for industrial or consumer use. For purposes of this subpart, the term timber production does not include production of fuelwood.
timber sale program quantity (TSPQ)	The estimated average output of timber from the plan area. It includes projected outputs from lands generally suitable for timber harvest. The projected timber outputs reflect past and projected budget levels and organizational capacity to achieve the desired conditions and objectives in the plan.
total maximum daily load (TMDLs)	A calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards, and an allocation of that amount to the pollutant's sources. A TMDL is the sum of the allowable loads of a single pollutant from all contributing point and nonpoint sources. The calculation must include a margin of safety to ensure that the waterbody can be used for the purposes the state has designated. The calculation must also account for seasonal variation in water quality. The Clean Water Act, Section 303, establishes the water quality standards and TMDL programs (EPA website http://www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/intro.html#definition)
traditional cultural areas	Those areas of the forest used by Native American Indian tribes for traditional activities and often referred to as "religious use areas" or "sacred areas." They may include areas traditionally used for gathering of special forest products.
traffic service level	Describes the significant characteristics and operating conditions of a road (FSH 7709.56, Ch. 4)
Level A	Free-flowing, mixed traffic with stable and smooth road surface. Provides service to all traffic with safety at 25 to 35 mph.
Level B	Congested during heavy traffic, with slower speeds and periodic dust. Provides service to traffic with any legal–size load or vehicle.
Level C	Flow interrupted by limited passing facilities. Some vehicles will have difficulty negotiating certain segments. Design speeds are generally low. May not be stable under all traffic or weather conditions. Use and traffic volumes are limited.
Level D	Flow is slow and may be blocked by an activity. Two–way traffic is difficult and may require backing. Road surface is rough and irregular. Travel with low clearance vehicles is difficult. Type of road not designated for mixed traffic.
transportation facility jurisdiction	The legal right to control or regulate use of a transportation facility derived from fee title, an easement, an agreement, or other similar method. While jurisdiction requires authority, it does not necessarily reflect ownership.

Term	Definition
travel corridors	An area of vegetation that provides completely or partially suitable habitat for animals to travel from one location to another.
travel route	A route, such as a county or national forest road or river or trail, that is open for use by members of the public.
treaty-reserved right	Tribal rights or interests reserved in treaties, by Native American Indian tribes for the use and benefit of their members. The uses include such activities as described in the respective treaty document. Only Congress may abolish or modify treaties or treaty rights.
treaty resource	A resource associated with the language in a specific treaty, usually interpreted to include collections or association of species; not limited to a single species. For example: "fish" may include all fish species (some treaties included rights to erect temporary houses for curing fish); "roots and berries" may include a wide variety of plants that will encompass the nature of the plants as they were used historically; grasses are necessarily included for the treaty reserved right to graze cattle or livestock. Hunting rights may include all species of animals hunted in historic and prehistoric times. As these apply to the FS, they are public natural resources on national forest lands, to which American Indian tribes have reserved certain rights for taking or gathering.
tree decadence	Trees per acre with spiked or deformed tops, bole, or root decay.
trend	As used to define range conditions, the direction of change in range or forage condition or in ecological status.
tribe	Term used to designate any Native American Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community which is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians.
trophic	Nourishment, pertaining to nutrition; used to indicate the mode of nutrition of an organism or nutrient utilized.
trust resource	A resource or property that constitutes a corpus or object of trust that is held in trust status by another (trustee) on behalf of a beneficiary. A trustee is usually a governmental entity (Secretary of the Interior) who is assigned a trust duty to care for resources that are for the exclusive use and benefit of Indian tribes and/or their members. A beneficiary may be an Indian tribe or individual tribal member, who has property being held in trust status, for example: land, money, timber, or any Indian-owned asset.
U	
underburn	A type of prescribed fire that burns ground vegetation and ladder fuels on the surface under a live tree overstory to meet specific management and/or resource objectives.

Term	Definition
understory	Lower vegetation in a forest, the small trees and other woody species/shrubs growing under a more–or–less continuous cover of branches and foliage formed collectively by the taller adjacent trees and other woody growth.
understory reinitiation	New age classes of trees establish as the overstory trees die or are thinned and no longer occupy all of the growing space. Regrowth of understory vegetation then occurs, and trees begin to develop in vertical layers. This stage contains multiple layers and multiple tree sizes. Average tree diameters range from 5 to 20 inches.
uneven-aged management	The application of a combination of actions needed to simultaneously maintain continuous high-forest cover, recurring regeneration of desirable species, and the orderly growth and development of trees through a range of diameter or age classes to provide a sustained yield of forest products. Cutting is usually regulated by specifying the number or proportion of trees of particular sizes to retain within each area, thereby maintaining a planned distribution of size classes. Cutting methods that develop and maintain uneven-aged stands are single-tree selection and group selection.
uneven-aged management (group selection)	The group selection variant of uneven–aged management is designed to facilitate the establishment of shade intolerant species, reduce damage to the residual stand, and lengthen the cyclic entry period. The opening created under the group selection prescription would often be no larger than one to two tree heights (as influenced by aspect and slope) so as not to lose the site protection afforded by the surrounding trees. Size, shape, and location of groups should be designed to achieve landscape character goals and scenic integrity objectives.
uneven-aged management (single-tree selection)	This silvicultural system is intended to perpetuate uneven–aged stands composed of intermingled trees of differing ages, species, and sizes. Individually selected trees are removed to maintain a desired range of tree sizes over a prescribed distribution. Cyclic entries designed to control the structure and species composition and provide the openings necessary for establishment and growth of the continuously occurring regeneration are a function of the site quality and resource considerations.
ungulates	Hoofed, plant-eating mammals such as elk, deer, and cattle.
upland	The portion of the landscape above the valley floor or stream.
unroaded area	Portion of the national forest that does not contain classified roads. Refer to **road**.
unsuitable range	Areas of land that should not be used by livestock because of unstable soils.
unwanted wildland fire	A human or naturally-caused fire that does not meet land management objectives. Refer to **wildland fire**.

Term	Definition
utility corridor	A parcel of land, without fixed limits or boundaries that is being used as the location for one or more transportation or utility rights-of-way.
	V
vascular plants	Plants that have specialized tissues which conduct nutrients, water, and sugars, along with other specialized parts such as roots, stems, and reproductive structures. Vascular plants include flowering plants, ferns, shrubs, grasses, trees, and many others.
vector	An organism that carries or transmits a pathogenic agent from one host to another.
vegetation management	Activities designed primarily to promote the health of forest vegetation in order to achieve desired results. Vegetation management is the practice of manipulating the species mix, age, fuel load, and /or distribution of wildland plant communities within a prescribed or designated area in order to achieve desired results. It includes prescribed burning, grazing, chemical applications, biomass harvesting, and any other economically feasible method of enhancing, retarding, modifying, transplanting, or removing the aboveground parts of plants.
vegetation utilization	Indicates the degree to which vegetation is consumed by animals.
vertebrate	An animal with a backbone; mammals, fishes, birds, reptiles, and amphibians are vertebrates.
viability	In general, viability means the ability of a population of a plant or animal species to persist for some specified time into the future.
viable population	A population that is regarded as having the estimated numbers and distribution of reproductive individuals to ensure that its continued existence is well distributed in the project area.
vision	Part one of a land management plan that describes the roles, contribution, and desired conditions of the national. This section also contains monitoring measures to assess progress toward the desired conditions.
	W
water right	A right to use surface water or ground water evidenced by a court decree or by a permit or certificate approved by the state water resources department. Statutory exempt uses of surface water and ground water are not water rights, nor are time-limited licenses. A perfected water right is defined by applicant name, source, purpose, amount (quantity, rate and duty), season of use, priority date, point of diversion, place of use, and certificate number.
water quality	A term used to describe the chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of water, usually in respect to its suitability for a particular purpose.

Term	Definition
watershed	1) The region draining into a river, river system or body of water; or 2) subdivisions within a subbasin, which generally range in size from 40,000 to 250,000 acres; the fifth level (10-digit) in the hydrologic hierarchy.
watershed condition classes	Watersheds are rated as Class 1, 2, or 3.
Class 1 Condition	Watersheds exhibit high geomorphic, hydrologic, and biotic integrity relative to their natural potential condition. Drainage network is generally stable. Physical, chemical, and biological] conditions suggest that soil, aquatic, and riparian systems are predominantly functional in terms of supporting beneficial uses.
Class 2 Condition	Watersheds exhibit moderate geomorphic, hydrologic, and biotic integrity relative to their natural potential condition. Portions of the watershed may exhibit an unstable drainage network. Physical, chemical, and biological conditions suggest that soil, aquatic, and riparian systems are at risk in being able to support beneficial uses.
Class 3 Condition	Watersheds exhibit low geomorphic, hydrologic, and biotic integrity relative to their natural potential condition. A majority of the drainage network may be unstable. Physical, chemical, and biological conditions suggest that soil, aquatic, and riparian systems do not support beneficial uses.
watershed function	The processes acting on hillslopes and stream channel within a drainage basin that control the movement of water, wood, sediment, and nutrients.
watershed index score	An output of Bayesian Belief Network models that provides a measure of the amount (historical vs. current) of source habitat, the influence of habitat quality and risk factors for each 5th field watershed in the planning area, and an index of the capability of the watershed to contribute to a focal species.
watershed integrity	The degree to which the physical and biological processes affecting the movement of water, sediment, wood, and nutrients are operating within normally expected ranges.
watershed runoff	Refer to **runoff**.
water yield	The amount of water that flows from a watershed within a specific period of time.
weed	A plant considered undesirable, unattractive, or troublesome, usually introduced and growing without intentional cultivation.

Term	Definition
wetlands	Those areas that are inundated by surface or ground water with a frequency sufficient to support and under normal circumstances do or would support a prevalence of vegetative or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas such as sloughs, potholes, wet meadows, river overflows, mud flats, and natural ponds (Executive Order 11990, Section 7c).
Wild and Scenic River (WSR)	Those rivers or sections of rivers designated as such by congressional action under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, as supplemented and amended. Wild and Scenic Rivers include all national forest lands within the designated Wild and Scenic River corridor (15). The following classifications are used:
wild river areas	Those 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.
scenic river areas	Those 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	Those 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.
study river areas	Those rivers formally designated by Congress to be studied under Sections 5(a) and 5(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.
wilderness area	An area designated by congressional action under the Wilderness Act of 1964. Wilderness is defined as undeveloped federal land retaining its primeval character and influence without permanent improvements or human habitation. Wildernesses 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 a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; 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 historical value as well as ecologic and geologic interest.
The following **indented** terms and definitions generally relate to the management direction for wilderness areas.	
authorized riding or harness stock	Any authorized animal that is ridden or harnessed to pull a wagon, cart, or other wheeled or sled-type vehicle. This includes the Equidae family (horses, mules, donkeys, asses, hinnies), and the Canidae family (dogs).
authorized pack stock	Any authorized animal used to pack or retrieve supplies, materials, equipment, or animal parts. This includes the Equidae family (horses, mules, donkeys, asses, hinnies), the Canidae family (dogs), and the Camelidae family (camels, llamas, alpacas, vicunas, gaunacos).

Term	Definition
unauthorized pack and riding stock	Any animals known or suspected to exchange diseases with state-managed native, introduced, or indigenous wildlife species or animals not included as authorized pack, riding, or harness stock.
authorized pets	Any domestic companion animal that is crated, caged, upon a leash, or otherwise under physical restrictive control. Exemptions include seeing-eye dogs, and dogs used by authorized Federal, state and local law enforcement officers in the performance of their official duties.
unauthorized pets	Any animals known or suspected to exchange diseases with state-managed native, introduced, or indigenous wildlife species. These include animals from the genus Capra (domestic goats) or any domesticated wildlife species that are currently managed by the state.
Wilderness Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (WROS)	The WROS system was developed in conjunction with the Recreation Opportunity System (ROS). The terminology is similar, although settings are described in terms of pristine, primitive, and semi-primitive settings for wilderness. The descriptions of the primitive and semi-primitive settings for WROS differ slightly from the ROS descriptions and, to avoid confusion with ROS settings, are not abbreviated as acronyms.
Pristine	Visitation is very limited. Maintaining a natural and unmodified environment is emphasized. Visitors seldom and only temporarily displace wildlife throughout the year. This is the best opportunity for isolation and solitude, requiring a maximum degree of primitive skills, challenge, and risk. Access is difficult, requiring travel without trails or the use of routes created by animals or previous human visitation.
Primitive	Visitation is limited. The environment is essentially unmodified and natural with no long-term changes to the landscape except for facilities or structures that are deemed historically important to the area or experience. Signs of human use are minimal. Visitation does not displace wildlife during critical periods. High opportunity exists for exploring and experiencing considerable isolation and solitude. Primitive recreation skills are required with a high degree of challenge and risk. Access is via trails maintained to a "most difficult" standard.
Semi-primitive	Visitation is low to moderate. The environment is essentially unmodified and natural, with no long-term changes to the landscape, except for facilities or structures that are historically important to the area or experience. Visitation does not displace wildlife during critical periods. Moderate opportunity exists for exploring and experiencing isolation, independence, and closeness to nature. No-trace camping and primitive skills are required, with a moderate to high degree of challenge and risk. Access is via constructed and maintained trails managed to "more difficult" or "most difficult" standards.

Term	Definition
wildfire	An unplanned, unwanted wildland fire, including unauthorized human-caused fires, escaped wildland fire use events, escaped prescribed fire projects, and all other wildland fire where the objective is to put the fire out.
wildland	A nonurban, natural area that contains uncultivated land, timber, range, watershed, brush or grassland.
wildland fire	Any nonstructure fire, other than prescribed fire, that occurs in the wildland. This term encompasses fires previously called both wildfires and prescribed natural fires (USDA 1998).
wildland fire situation analysis (WFSA)	A decision-making process that evaluates alternative management strategies against selected safety, environmental, social, economic, political, and resource management objectives (USDA 1998).
wildland fire suppression	An appropriate management response to wildland fire that results in curtailment of fire spread and eliminates all identified threats from the particular fire. All wildland fire suppression activities provide for firefighter and public safety as the highest consideration, but minimize loss of resource values, economic expenditures, and/or the use of critical firefighting resources (USDA 1998).
wildland fire use (WFU)	Formerly referred to as "prescribed natural fire." The application of the appropriate management response to naturally ignited wildland fires to accomplish specific resource management objectives within a set of predefined conditions of fuels, weather, and topography.
wildland urban interface (WUI)	The area directly adjacent to home and communities.
wildlife fish user day	Recreation related to the consumptive and nonconsumptive wildlife and fish activities that aggregate into 12 visitor hours.
windthrown	Refers to trees blown over by the wind.
winter range	The area available to and used by wildlife (big game) during the winter season. Generally, lands below 4,000 feet in elevation, on south and west aspects, that provides forage and thermal/snow intercept.
woodland	Dry, low elevation areas with a potential vegetation type of juniper.
	X
xeric	Very dry region or climate; tolerating or adapted to dry conditions. Dry soil moisture regime. Some moisture is present but does not occur at optimum levels for plant growth. Irrigation or summer fallow is often necessary for crop production.

Acronyms and Abbreviations	
303d	A Section of the Clean Water Act
ACEC	Areas of Critical Environmental Concern
ACS	Aquatic Conservation Strategy
ADA	American with Disabilities Act
AIRFA	American Indian Religious Freedom Act
AMP	Allotment Management Plan
ANILCA	Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act
AOP	Annual Operating Plan
APA	Administration Procedures Act
AQRV	Air Quality Related Values
ASQ	Allowable Sale Quantity
ATM	Access and Travel Management
ATV	All-terrain Vehicle
AUM	Animal Unit Month
BA	Biological Assessment
BAER	Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation
BBN	Bayesian Belief Network
BCC	Birds of Conservation Concern
BEA	Bureau of Economic Analysis
BFI	Base Flow Indices
BLI	Budget Line Item
BLM	Bureau of Land Management
BMP	Best Management Practice
BMPMSC	Blue Mountains Pest Management Service Center
BO	Biological Opinion

Acronyms and Abbreviations	
C&I	Criteria and Indicators
C&T	Condition and Trend
CAA	Clean Air Act
CEQ	Council of Environmental Quality
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
cfs	Cubic Feet per Second
CITES	Conventions of International Trade in Endangered Species
CMP	Comprehensive Management Plan (Hells Canyon)
COE	Corps of Engineers
CPT	Compaction Treatment
CRB	Columbia River Basin
CTL	Cut to Length
CVS	Current Vegetation Survey
CWA	Clean Water Act
DBH	Diameter at Breast Height
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement
DEQ	Department of Environmental Quality
DF	Douglas-fir
DC	Desired Condition
DOG	Designated Old Growth
DRFC	Desired Range of Future Conditions
DSC	Detrimental Soil Conditions
DST	Dead Standing Tree
EAWS	Ecosystem Analysis at the Watershed Scale
ECA	Equivalent Clearcut Areas

Acronyms and Abbreviations	
EDT	Ecosystem Diagnoses and Treatment
EDU	Exchange Data Unit, Event Data Unit, Ecoregional Drainage Unit
EFH	Essential Fish Habitat
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EMDS	Ecosystem Management Decision Support
EO	Executive Order
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
ESRI	Environmental Systems Research Institute
ESU	Evolutionary Significant Units
EVG	Existing Vegetation
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
FACA	Federal Advisory Committee Act
FCRPS	Federal Columbia River Power System
FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FIA	Forest Inventory and Analysis
FLIR	Forward-Looking Infrared Radar
FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act
FM	Fuel Model
FOFEM	First Order of Fire Effects Model
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act
FP	Forest Plan
FR	Federal Register, Forest Road
FRCC	Fire Regime Condition Class

Acronyms and Abbreviations	
FS	U.S. Forest Service
FSH	Forest Service Handbook
FSM	Forest Service Manual
FSVeg	Field Sampled Vegetation
FVS	Forest Vegetation Simulator
FWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
GA	Geographical Areas
GAP	Gap Analysis Program
GF	Grand Fir
GIS	Geographic Information System
GPO	Government Printing Office
GRMWP	Grande Ronde Model Watershed Program
GRT	Green Replacement Trees
GTR	General Technical Report
HCNRA	Hells Canyon National Recreation Area
HEI	Habitat Effectiveness Index
HFRA	Healthy Forest Restoration Act 2003
HRV	Historic Range of Variability
HUC	Hydrological Unit Code
ICBEMP	Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project
IDFG	Idaho Department of Fish and Game
IDT	Interdisciplinary Team
IDWR	Idaho Department of Water Resources
IECR	Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution
IIT	Interagency Implementation Team
IMI	Inventory and Monitoring Institute

Acronyms and Abbreviations	
IMM	Implementation Monitoring Module
IMPLAN	Impact Analysis for Planning (trademark name of input-output model)
IMPROVE	Interagency Monitoring of Protected Visual Environments
INFISH	Interim Strategies for Managing Inland Fish-producing Watersheds in Eastern Oregon and Washington, Idaho and Portions of California
INLAS	Interior Northwest Landscape Analysis System
IRA	Inventoried Roadless Area
IRM	Information Resource Management
ISRP	Independent Scientific Review Panel
IT	Information Technology
JFSP	Joint Fire Science Program
KV	Knutson-Vandenberg Act
LMP	Land Management Plan
LOS	Late Old Structure
LP	Lodgepole Pine
LRMP	Land and Resource Management Plan
LSH	Late Successional Habitat
LSR	Late Successional Reserves
LTA	Land Type Associations
LUCID	Local Unit Criteria and Indicators Development
LURs	Land Use Regulations (used with "Public" or "Private" preceding it)
LWM	Large Woody Material
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MA	Management Area
MAL	Malheur National Forest
MBF	Thousand Board Feet

Acronyms and Abbreviations	
MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
MDR	Mineral Development and Rehabilitation
MEL	Most Efficient Level
MI	Monitoring Item
MIS	Management Indicator Species
MIST	Minimum Impact Suppression Tactics
MMA	Maximum Manageable Areas
MMBF	Million Board Feet
MMCF	Million Cubic Feet
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MUSYA	Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
NEAP	Natural Events Action Plan
NEOCAW	Northeast Oregon Community Assessment Workgroup
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NF	National Forest
NFMA	National Forest Management Act
NFMAS	National Fire Management Analysis System
NFS	National Forest System
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOI	Notice of Intent
NPDES	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System

Acronyms and Abbreviations	
NPS	National Park Service
NRCS	Natural Resources Conservation Service
NRIS	Natural Resource Information System
NVUM	National Visitor Use Monitoring (Survey)
NWPCC	Northwest Power and Conservation Council
NWPS	National Wilderness Preservation System
ODA	Oregon Department of Agriculture
ODEQ	Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
ODF	Oregon Department of Forestry
ODFW	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
OHV	Off-highway Vehicle
OMB	Office of Management and Budget
ONHIC	Oregon Natural Heritage Information Center
ORV	Off-road Vehicle, Outstandingly Remarkable Value
OWRD	Oregon Water Resources Department
PACFISH	Interim Strategies for managing anadromus fish-producing watersheds in Eastern Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and portions of California
PAG	Plant Association Group
PAOT	Persons-at-one-time
PCT	Pre-commercial Thinning
PF	Prescribed Fire
PFA	Post Fledging Area or Pest Free Area
PFC	Proper Functioning Condition
PIG	Columbia River Basin Anadromous Fish Policy Implementation Guide
PILT	Payment in Lieu of Taxes
PL	Public Law

Acronyms and Abbreviations	
PMP	Permanent Monitoring Point
PMs	Particulate Emission
PNC	Potential Natural Community
PNV	Present Net Value
PNVG	Potential Natural Vegetation Group
PNW	Pacific Northwest
POO	Plan of Operation
PP	Ponderosa Pine
PSD	Prevention of Significant Deterioration
PVG	Potential Vegetation Group
PWP	Project Work Plan
QA/QC	Quality Assurance/Quality Control
R6	Region 6 (used with other numbers to indicate other Forest Service regions)
RAA	Recreation Analysis Area
RAC	Resource Advisory Council or Committee
RARE I & II	Roadless Area Review and Evaluation
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RD	Ranger District
REA	Request for Equitable Adjustment
REO	Regional Ecosystem Office
RF	Regional Forester
RHCA	Riparian Habitat Conservation Area
RM	River Mile
RMA	Riparian Management Areas
RMO	Riparian Management Objectives
RMP	Resource Management Plan (BLM term)

Acronyms and Abbreviations	
RMRS	Rocky Mountain Research Station
RN	Roaded Natural
RNA	Research Natural Area
ROD	Record of Decision
ROG	Replacement Old Growth, Recreation Opportunity Guide
ROS	Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
RPA	Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act
RSAPD	Risk Rating Forest Stands for Insect and Disease Impacts: A Simplified Approach Using Aerial Photography Data
RV	Recreational Vehicle
RVDs	Recreation Visitor Days
Rx	Prescribed, Prescription
S&G	Standard and Guideline
SCORP	Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan
SCR	Science Consistency Review
SIA	Special Interest Areas, Social Impact Assessment
SMO	State Management Objective
SMP	Smoke Management Plan
SMS	Scenery Management System
SMU	State Management Unit
SOP	Sense of Place
SOPA	Schedule of Proposed Actions/Activities
SPA	Special Fuelwood Area
SPM	Semi-private Motorized
SPNM	Semi-private Nonmotorized
SUP	Special Use Permit

Acronyms and Abbreviations	
SVR	Standard Visual Range
SWS	Subwatershed
T&E	Threatened and Endangered
TES	Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive
TEUI	Terrestrial Ecological Unit Inventories
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
TPA	Trees per Acre
TR	Technical Reference
TSI	Timber Stand Improvement
TSPQ	Total Sale Program Quantity
TSS	Total Suspended Solids
UMA	Umatilla National Forest (correct Forest Service designation)
UNF	Umatilla National Forest
USC	United States Code
USCA	United States Code Annotated
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
USDC	U.S. Department of Commerce
USDI	U.S. Department of the Interior
USFS	U.S. Forest Service
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
VDDT	Vegetation Dynamics Development Tool
VDT	Variable-density Thinning
VMS	Visual Management System
VQO	Visual Quality Objective
WAW	Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

Acronyms and Abbreviations	
WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
WDNR	Washington Department of Natural Resources
WFSA	Wildland Fire Situation Analysis
WFU	Wildland Fire Us for Resource Benefit
WQRP	Water Quality Management Plan
WROS	Wilderness Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
WRS	Wilderness Resource Spectrum
WSDFW	Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
WSR	Wild and Scenic River
WTY	Whole Tree Yarding
WUI	Wildland Urban Interface