

# Glossary

**Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP)**—Established by the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the Advisory Council is an independent federal agency headquartered in Washington, DC that promotes the preservation, enhancement, and productive use of the nation’s cultural resources, and advises the President and Congress on national historic preservation policy. By statutory authority, the USDA has a member seat on the Advisory Council. The Advisory Council conducts regular business review of NHPA responsibilities within federal agencies, including but not limited to, resource stewardship, public education, heritage tourism, tribal relations, resource protection, and implementation of Executive Order 13287—Preserve America. Disputes under NHPA Section 106 review that cannot be resolved between the SHPO and the federal agency, are presented to the Advisory Council.

**Allotment**—A grazing allotment is a parcel of federal land that is managed under one permit, to be used by livestock under certain conditions.

**All-terrain vehicle (ATV)**—A type of off-highway vehicle that travels on three or more low-pressure tires; has handlebar steering; is less than or equal to 50 inches in width; and has a seat designed to be straddled by the operator.

**American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978**—(AIRFA)(P.L. 92 STAT. 469) establishes, as a policy of the United States, protection and preservation for American Indians of their inherent right to freedom to believe, express, and exercise their traditional religions. The act directs agencies to consult with native traditional religious leaders to determine appropriate policy changes necessary to protect and preserve Native American religious cultural rights and practices.

**Animal unit month (AUM)**—The amount of forage required by one animal unit (AU) for one month. One animal unit is defined as a 1,000 lb. beef cow with or without a nursing calf, with a daily requirement of 26 lb. of dry matter forage.

**Basal area**—The area of the cross-section of a tree stem near the base, generally at breast height and inclusive of bark.

**Best management practices (BMPs)**—Forest Service water-quality maintenance and improvement measures. They were developed in compliance with section 208 of the Federal Clean Water Act, PL92-500, as amended. They were approved by the US EPA and certified by the California Water Resources Control Board. They are the measures both the state and federal water-quality regulatory agencies expect the Forest Service to implement, to meet federal and state water-quality objectives and to maintain and improve water quality.

**Best Management Practices Evaluation Program**—A standardized method of monitoring the implementation and effectiveness of BMPs in protection and maintenance of water quality.

**Biological assessment (BA)**—Information prepared by, or under the direction of, a federal agency to determine whether a proposed action is likely to (1) adversely affect listed species or designated critical habitat, (2) jeopardize the continued existence of species that are proposed for listing, or (3) adversely modify proposed critical habitat.

**Biological evaluation (BE)**—A documented Forest Service review of activities in sufficient detail to determine how an action or proposed action may affect any Forest Service “Sensitive” species. This review is similar in scope and intensity to a BA (defined above).

**Cavity**—The excavated hollow in trees by birds or other natural phenomena; used for roosting and reproduction by many birds and mammals.

**Critical habitat**—Habitat for a species listed under the ESA that has been determined by the listing agency to be essential to the conservation of the species, and which may require special management considerations or protection.

**Cultural (heritage) 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. In this document, 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.

**Designated road, trail, or area**—A National Forest System road, National Forest System trail, or an area on National Forest System lands that is designated for motor vehicle use pursuant to 36 CFR, part 212.51, on a motor vehicle use map (36 CFR 212.1).

**Diameter at breast height (dbh)**—The diameter of a tree measured 4 feet, 6 inches above the ground.

**Endangered Species Act (ESA)**—Primary law governing protections for species that are threatened or are in danger of extinction (16 USC 1531 *et seq.*).

**Endangered species**—Any plant or animal species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range as determined by the USDI Fish and Wildlife Service or NOAA Fisheries (see also Endangered Species Act ).

**Exotic Plant**—*see* noxious weed.

**Fen**—Groundwater-fed wetland ecosystems that develop where perennially saturated soils and cool temperatures slow the decomposition of plant material, allowing it to accumulate and form organic soils, called peat.

**Five-county study area**—For purposes of socioeconomic analysis—Modoc, Lassen, Siskiyou, Lake, and Klamath counties

**Forb**—An herbaceous plant that is not a graminod.

**Forest road or trail**—A road or trail wholly or partially within or adjacent to and serving the National Forest System that the Forest Service determines is necessary for the protection, administration, and use of the National Forest System and the use and development of its resources (36 CFR 212.1).

**Forest transportation system**—The system of National Forest System roads, trails, and airfields on National Forest System lands (36 CFR 212.1).

**Habitat type**—An aggregation of all land areas potentially capable of producing similar plant communities at climax stage.

**Habitat**—The sum total of environmental conditions of a specific place occupied by a wildlife species or a population of such species.

**Highway-licensed vehicle**—Any motor vehicle that is licensed or certified under state law for general operation on all public roads within the state. Operators of highway-legal vehicles are subject to state traffic law, including requirements for operator licensing.

**Historic Property(ies)**—36 CFR 800.16 defines historic properties as “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 criteria.”

**Home range core area (HRCa)**—An area of 1,000 acres that surrounds each territorial California spotted owl activity center. It encompasses the best available spotted owl habitat closest to the California spotted owl PAC where the most concentrated owl foraging activity is likely to occur.

**HUC (hydrologic unit code)**—The watershed code; in this document it is usually the 6<sup>th</sup> order watershed.

**Indicator species**—*See* management indicator species.

**Indirect effects**—Secondary effects that occur in locations other than where the initial action occurred, or that occur significantly later in time.

**Interdisciplinary (ID) team**—A group of professional specialists with expertise in different resources that collaborate to develop and evaluate management alternatives.

**Land allocation**—The assignment of a management emphasis to particular land areas with the purpose of achieving goals and objectives. Land allocation decisions are determined in decision documents such as the Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl.

**Litter**—An organic surface soil layer usually composed of identifiable leaves, branches, or other vegetative material, and animal remains.

**Local road**—A National Forest System road that connects a terminal facility with collector roads, arterial roads, or public highways, and that usually serves a single purpose involving intermittent use.

**Local visitor**—The National Visitor Use Monitoring Program defines local visitors as “those visitors who live within 30 straight-line miles of the Forest visited.”

**Maintenance level (ML)**—Defined in Forest Service Handbook 7709.58, 10, 12. 3, as 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 may be maintained at one level and planned to be maintained at a different level at some future date. The operational maintenance level is the maintenance level currently assigned to a road considering today’s needs, road condition, budget constraints, and environmental concerns; in other words, it defines the standard to which the road is currently being maintained. The objective maintenance level is the maintenance level to be assigned at a future date considering future road management objectives, traffic needs, budget constraints, and environmental concerns.

**Maintenance level 1 road**—Defined in Forest Service Handbook 7709.58, 10, 12. 3 as intermittent service roads during the time they are closed to vehicular traffic. The closure period must exceed one year. Basic custodial maintenance is performed to keep damage to adjacent resources to an acceptable level, 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, but may be open and suitable for non-motorized uses. These roads have the following attributes: (1) vehicular traffic is eliminated, including administrative traffic; (2) they are physically blocked or entrance is disguised; (3) they are not subject to the requirements of the Highway Safety Act; (4) maintenance is done only to minimize resource impacts; and (5) no

maintenance other than a condition survey may be required so as long as no potential exists for resource damage.

**Maintenance level 2 road**—Defined in Forest Service Handbook 7709.58, 10, 12.3 as roads open for use by high-clearance vehicles. Passenger car traffic is not a consideration. Traffic is normally minor, usually consisting of one or a combination of administrative, permitted, dispersed recreation, or other specialized uses. Log haul may occur at this level. Appropriate traffic management strategies are either (1) to discourage or prohibit passenger cars or (2) to accept or discourage high-clearance vehicles. These roads have the following attributes: (1) they have low traffic volume and low speed; (2) they are typically local roads; (3) they typically connect collectors and other local roads; (4) dips are the preferred drainage treatment; (5) they are not subject to the requirements of the Highway Safety Act; (6) surface smoothness is not a consideration; and (7) they are not suitable for passenger cars.

**Maintenance level 3 road**—Defined in Forest Service Handbook 7709.58, 10, 12.3 as roads open and maintained for travel by prudent drivers in a standard passenger car. User comfort and convenience are low 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 either “encourage” or “accept.” “Discourage” or “prohibit” strategies may be employed for certain classes of vehicles or users. These roads have the following attributes: (1) they are subject to the requirements of the Highway Safety Act and the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD); (2) they have low to moderate traffic volume; (3) they typically connect arterial and collector roads; (4) a combination of dips and culverts provide drainage; (5) they may include some dispersed recreation roads; and (6) development of potholes or washboards may occur.

**Maintenance level 4 road**—Defined in Forest Service Handbook 7709.58, 10, 12.3 as 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 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. These roads have the following attributes: (1) they are subject to requirements of the Highway Safety Act and the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD); (2) they have moderate traffic volume and speeds; (3) they may connect to county roads; (4) culverts provide drainage; (5) they are usually a collector road; and (6) they may include some developed recreation roads.

**Maintenance level 5 road**—Defined in Forest Service Handbook 7709.58, 10, 12.3 as roads that provide a high degree of user comfort and convenience. These roads are normally double-lane, paved facilities. Some may be aggregate surfaced and dust abated. The appropriate traffic management strategy is “encourage.” These roads have the following attributes: (1) they are subject to the requirements of the Highway Safety Act and the Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD); (2) they have the highest traffic volume and speeds; (3) they typically connect state and county roads; (4) culverts provide drainage; (5) they are usually arterial and collector roads; (6) they may include some developed recreation roads; and (7) they are usually paved or chip-sealed.

**Managed late-successional area (MLSA)**—A land allocation under the Northwest Forest Plan. These areas are similar to the late-successional reserve land allocations, but are identified on the east side where fire is a natural part of the ecosystem.

**Management indicator species**—A species selected because its welfare is presumed to be an indicator of the welfare of other species sharing similar habitat requirements. A species of fish, wildlife, or plants that reflect ecological changes caused by land management activities.

**Maximum modification**—A visual quality objective meaning human activity may dominate the characteristic landscape but must, at the same time, use naturally established form, line, color, and texture. It should appear as a natural occurrence when viewed in foreground or middle ground.

**Mixed-use road**—Segments of National Forest System roads that are identified and signed as open to state-licensed and unlicensed vehicles; generally more than 50 inches in width. They are usually, but not always, low-maintenance roads with no high-speed traffic.

**Modification**—A visual quality objective meaning human activity may dominate the characteristic landscape but must, at the same time, use naturally established form, line, color, and texture. It should appear as a natural occurrence when viewed in foreground or middle ground.

**Modoc-Klamath**—Also known as the Klamath Tribes. It consists of members of the Modoc, Klamath, and Yahooskin American Indian tribes. The Modoc Tribe is the American Indian group that occupied the northern third of the Modoc National Forest.

**Motor vehicle**—Any vehicle which is self propelled, other than (1) a vehicle operated on rails; and (2) any wheelchair or mobility device that is designed solely for use by a mobility-impaired person for locomotion, and that is suitable for use in an indoor pedestrian area (36 CFR 212.1).

**Motorized mixed use**—Designation of an National Forest System road for use by both highway-legal and non-highway legal motor vehicles.

**Motorized Recreation Programmatic Agreement**—An agreement between the California and Nevada State Historic Preservation Offices and the Pacific Southwest Region of the Forest Service designed to guide the Forest Service compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act in regards to motorized vehicle-use management planning.

**Motorized trail**—A travel way usually, but not always, less than 50 inches in width, and usually, but not always, available for use by all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) or motorcycles. These travel ways may also be made available to high-clearance four-wheel drive vehicles, and may also be used by bicycles, horses, and hikers.

**National Forest System road**—A Forest road other than a road which has been authorized by a legally documented right-of-way by a state, county, or local public road authority (36 CFR 212.1).

**National Forest System trail**—A Forest trail other than a trail which has been authorized by a legally documented right-of-way held by a state, county, or local public road authority (36 CFR 212.1).

**National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA)** (16 U.S.C. 470), as amended, extends the policy in the Historic Sites Act to state and local historical sites, as well as those of national significance; expands the National Register of Historic Places, establishes the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and the state historic preservation officers, and requires agencies to designate federal preservation officers.

**National Register of Historic Places** (36 CFR part 60)—These regulations establish the National Register of Historic Places as a planning tool to help federal agencies evaluate cultural resources in consultation with state historic preservation officer (SHPO) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Advisory Council). 36 CFR 60.4 provides the criteria for determining whether cultural resources are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

1. NHPA Section 101(d)(2) establishes criteria for designating tribal historic preservation officers to assume the functions of a state historic preservation officer on tribal lands.

2. NHPA Section 106 directs all federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings (actions, financial support, and authorizations) on properties included in or eligible for the National Register. Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regulations at 36 CFR, part 800, implement NHPA Section 106.
3. NHPA, Section 110, establishes inventory, nomination, protection, and preservation responsibilities for federally owned historic properties.

**NOAA Fisheries**—The federal agency responsible for administering the Endangered Species Act in regard to marine or anadromous species.

**Non-highway-legal vehicle**—Any motor vehicle that is not licensed or certified under state law for general operation on all public roads within the state. Operators of non-highway legal vehicles are subject to state requirements, if any, for licensing and operation of the vehicle in questions.

**Northern Paiute**—This American Indian group, known as the Gidu'tikadu, that occupied the eastern fringe of the Modoc National Forest along the Warner Mountains and into the adjacent Surprise Valley.

**Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP)**—A large-scale planning effort that set land and resource goals for lands within the range of the northern spotted owl. The decision document for this plan on the National Forests is the Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl.

**Noxious weed**—Non-native invasive plant with the ability to disrupt or alter native plant communities and ecosystems.

**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 (36 CFR 212.1).

**PAC (protected activity center)**—An area delineated around an activity center, usually to protect nesting activities. May be for spotted owls, goshawks, or great gray owls.

**Partial retention**—A visual quality objective that in general means human activities may be evident, but must remain subordinate to the characteristic landscape.

**Pfankuch stability rating**—A methodology developed by the Forest Service to determine if a stream channel is stable, and whether its trend is up or down. It evaluates stream bank stability based on physical factors found in the stream courses.

**Pit River Tribe**—This tribal group, consisting of 11 autonomous bands, occupied the lower two-thirds of the Modoc National Forest. Seven of the 11 bands have territories that overlap the Modoc National Forest.

**Preservation**—A visual quality objective that provides for ecological change only.

**PFC (proper functioning condition) rating**—standardized methodology to evaluate stream conditions on Forest Service lands.

**Propagule**—Plant material, such as a seed or rhizome, from which a plant may grow. Propagules such as seeds or spores are products of sexual reproduction, producing plants with different genetic make-ups than their parent(s), whereas propagules such as rhizomes or bulbs propagate a plant asexually, growing out new plants with the exact genetic makeup of the parent.

**Public road**—The road under the jurisdiction of and maintained by a public road authority and open to public travel (23 U.S.C. 101 (a)).

**Recreation opportunity spectrum**—A continuum of possible mixes or combinations of activities, settings, and probable experience opportunities.

**Region 5 Cumulative Watershed Effects Model**—A standardized methodology used within Forest Service Region 5 to determine if the affected sub-watershed is likely to incur an adverse cumulative effect to water quality from an alteration of the rainfall-runoff relationship. The model is based on the development of a threshold of concern for the sub-watershed, which is in turn based on geomorphic factors (e.g., stability of landforms, stream bifurcation ratio, and soil sensitivity to disturbance).

**Retention**—A visual quality objective that in general means human activities are not evident to the casual Forest visitor.

**Riparian habitat**—Area adjacent to lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams where vegetation has access to water.

**Road**—A motor vehicle route over 50 inches wide, unless identified and managed as a trail (36 CFR 212.1).

**Route**—A road or trail.

**Scenic attractiveness**—The scenic importance of a landscape based on human perceptions for the intrinsic beauty of land form, rock form, water form, and vegetation pattern. Reflects varying visual perception attributes of variety, unity, vividness, intactness, coherence, mystery, uniqueness, harmony, balance, and pattern. It is classified as—

- a. distinctive
- b. typical or common
- c. undistinguished

**Scenic resource**—Attributes, characteristics, and features of landscapes that provide varying responses from, and varying degrees of benefits to, humans.

**Sensitive species**—Those species identified by the Regional Forester for which population viability is a concern, as evidenced by significant current or predicted downward trends in population numbers, or density or habitat capability that would reduce a species' existing distribution.

**Snag**—A standing dead tree usually without merchantable value for timber products, but may have characteristics of benefit to some cavity-nesting wildlife species.

**Soil bulk density**—A field measurement that by comparison of undisturbed versus disturbed areas, determines the amount of soil compaction that has occurred from forest management activities.

**State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)**—Established by the National Historic Preservation Act, the SHPO is the appointed official in each state responsible for fostering historic preservation programs at the local government level, nominating cultural resources to the National Register, creating preservation ordinances, and providing funds and technical assistance for preservation activities. In compliance with NHPA, federal agencies must seek the views of the appropriate SHPO when identifying historic properties and assessing effects of an undertaking on historic properties. Agencies also consult with SHPOs when developing both programmatic and project-specific memorandums of agreement. The SHPO and supporting professional staff are usually an agency within each state government.

**Temporary road or trail**—A road or trail necessary for emergency operations or authorized by contract, permit, lease, or other written authorization that is not a Forest road or a Forest trail and that is not included in a Forest transportation atlas (36 CFR 212.1).

**Threatened species**—Any species of plant or animal that is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range, as determined by USDI Fish and Wildlife Service or NOAA Fisheries pursuant to the Endangered Species Act.

**Traditional cultural property(ies)**—A cultural resource that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places because of its association with cultural practices or beliefs of a living community that (a) are rooted in that community's history, and (b) are important in maintaining the continuing cultural identity of the community. The entity evaluated for eligibility for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places must be a tangible property; that is, a district, site, building, structure, or object as defined in 36 CFR 64.4.

**Trail**—A route 50 inches or less in width, or a route over 50 inches wide that is identified and managed as a trail (36 CFR 212.1).

**Unauthorized route**—A route that is not a Forest road or trail or a temporary road or trail, and that is not included in a Forest transportation atlas (36 CFR 212.1).

**Ungulate**—A mammal having hooves, e.g., deer, elk, and moose.

**Vascular plants**—All higher developed plants, including flowering plants, and grasses. Excludes lichens and mosses.

**Vernal pool**—Depression on a land surface with relatively impermeable soils, which fills with water in the winter and during spring snowmelt, and gradually dries out as the summer progresses. Similar habitats include playas, mud flats, and reservoir edges.

**Viable population**—A population that has adequate numbers and dispersion of reproductive individuals to ensure the continued existence of the species population on the planning area.

**Visual quality objective**—A desired level of excellence based on physical and sociological characteristics of an area. Refers to degree of acceptable alteration of the characteristic landscape.

**Wetlands**—Areas that are inundated by surface or ground water with a frequency sufficient to 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, wet meadows, river overflows, mud flats, and natural ponds.