

Forest Service Tools

for managing settings

- q Coconino Forest Plan
 - ⊗ Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS)
 - ⊗ Scenery Management System (SMS)
- .. How can you provide feedback?

Managing Settings

“The Forest Service really is in the memory business and we want them (visitors) to take home positive images of the national forests and grasslands.”

Chief Dale Bosworth, 2003

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum

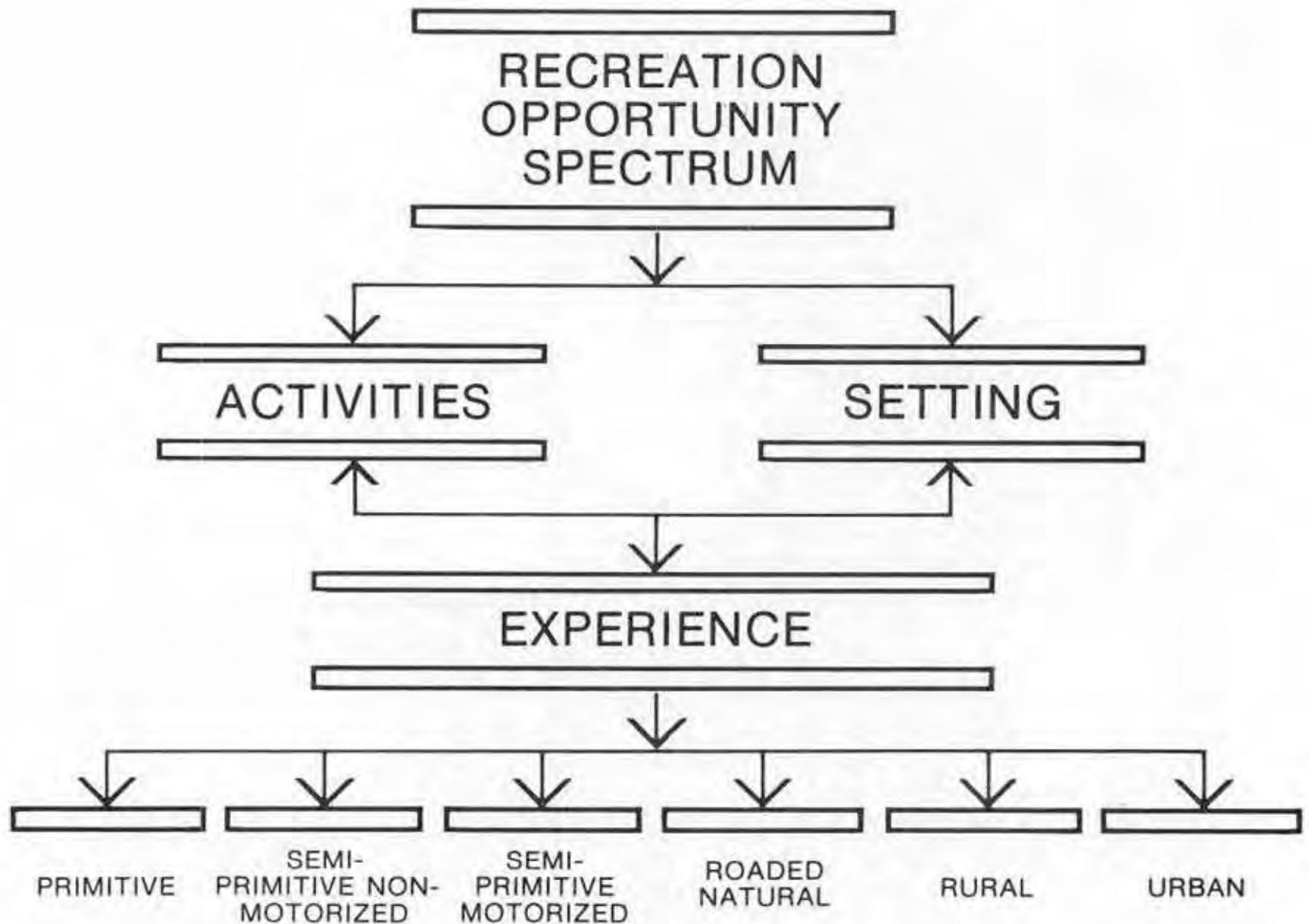
- The Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) is a tool used by Forest Service managers to provide visitors with varying challenges and outdoor experiences.





These people are enjoying the same **activity**, but very different experiences due to the **setting**.





Setting characteristics that define ROS

Physical

- ✧ Type of access
- ✧ Remoteness: distance from the nearest road, access point, or development
- ✧ Size: minimum acreages for P (5,000 acres) and SP (2,500 acres) settings

Social

- ✧ User density: number of people encountered

Managerial

- ✧ Visitor management: regulations, information, interpretation
- ✧ Facilities and site management: level of development
- ✧ Naturalness: evidence of visitor impacts and/or management activities: roads, timber harvest, mining, etc.

There are 6 main ROS classes



Primitive



**Semi- Primitive
Non-Motorized**



**Semi- Primitive
Motorized**



Roaded Natural



Rural

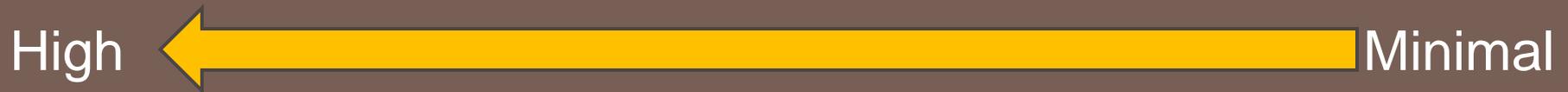


Urban

ROS classes are arranged along a continuum,
as are the individual criteria



Level of access, management, facilities, and social encounters



Level of remoteness

SOLITUDE

RISK TAKING

SELF RELIANCE

SECURITY

COMFORT

SOCIALIZING



P

SPNM

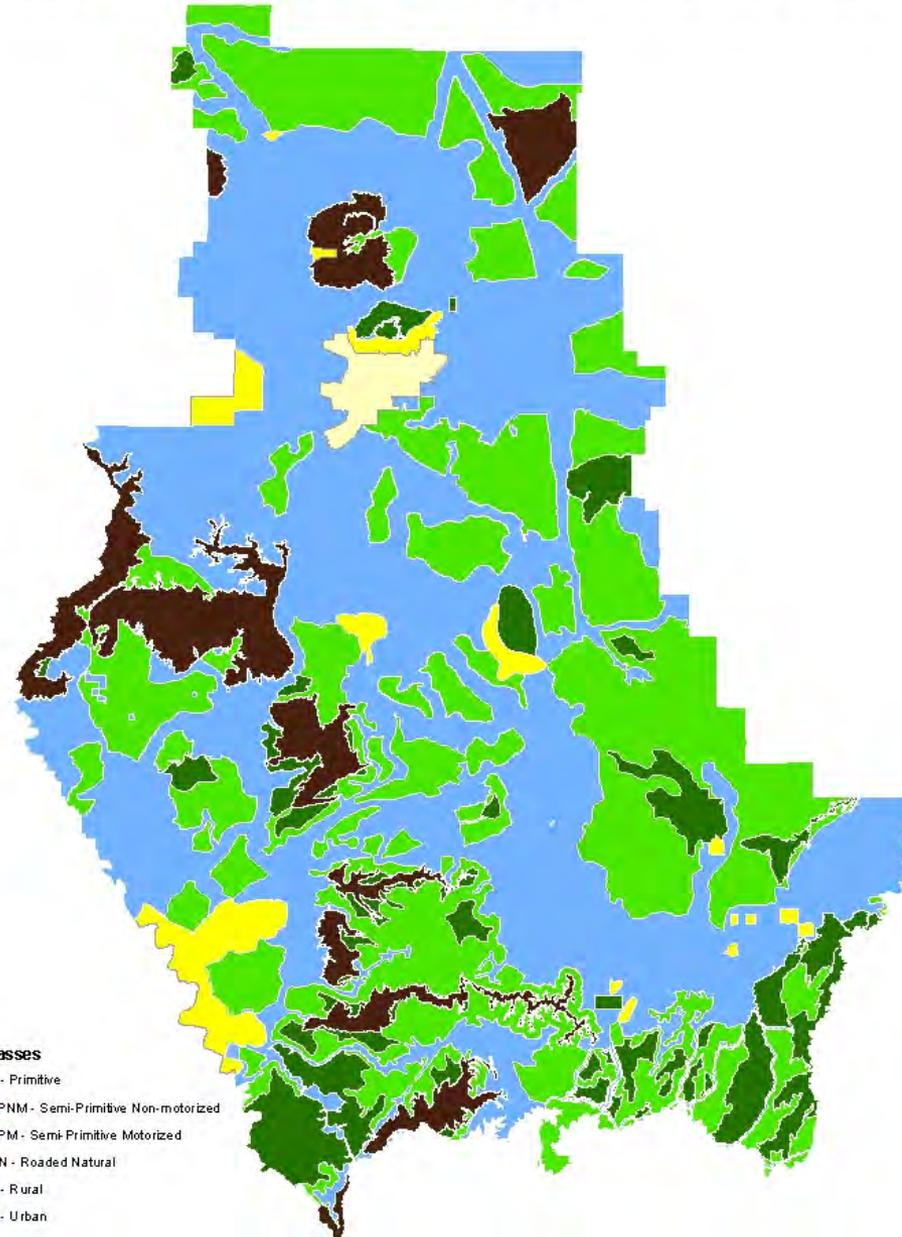
SPM

RN

R

U

Desired Recreation Opportunity Spectrum



ROS objectives represent desired future conditions

- Validate these objectives

- Make suggestions for changes

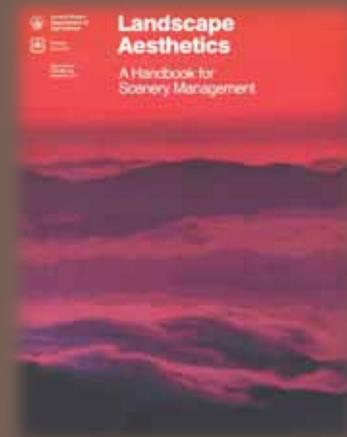
what is scenery?



a combination of features that give identity to a place

Scenery Management System

- § Integrates the benefits, values, desires and preferences of scenery into land management planning.
- § Systematic approach for determining the relative value and importance of scenery in a national forest.



Scenery Management System

- § A methodology to prioritize land based on its scenic value to the public
- § A tool to help managers make land allocation decisions; i.e., zoning
- § A tool to help land managers maintain or restore scenic value of NFS lands in concert with ecological systems

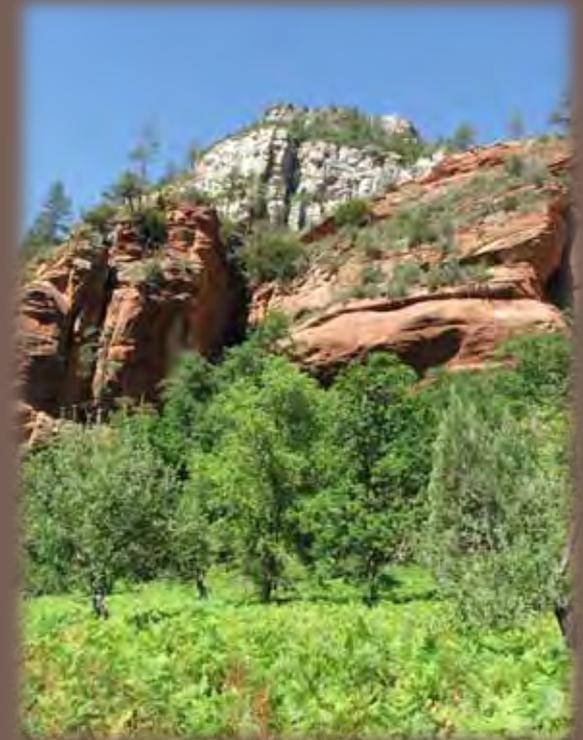
**scenery
management**
key elements



- **SMS addresses social & aesthetic values within an ecosystem management context**
- **ecosystem history is evaluated to identify landscape character evolution, trends and possibilities**

Landscape Character Descriptions

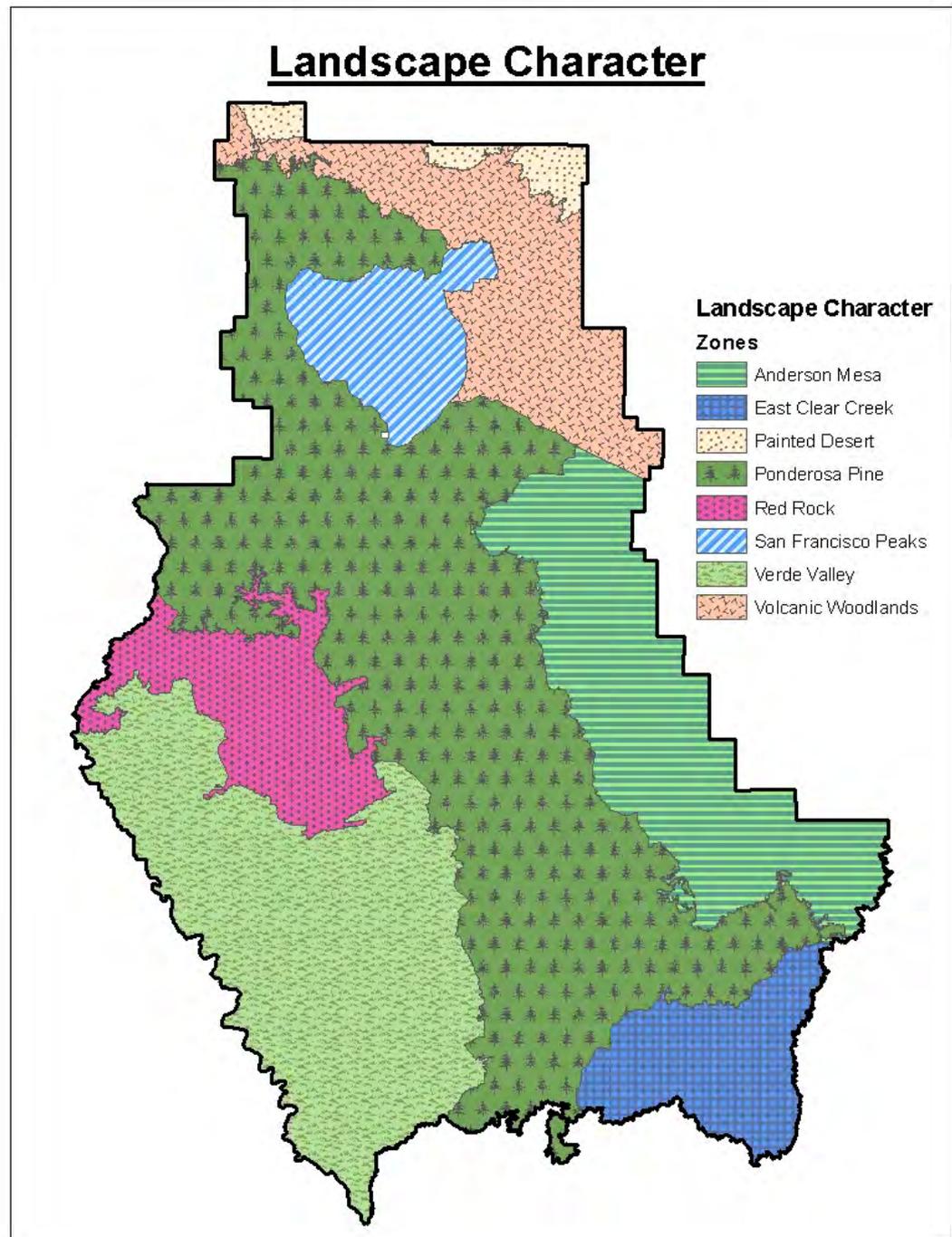
- § A narrative description of the combination of attributes that make each area unique and identifiable.
- § Frame of reference for Scenic Integrity.



The Landscape Character zones = Desired Future Conditions

Landscape character is the core scenery resource to be maintained, restored or enhanced

Is the valued landscape character adequately described?



physical



biological



cultural



Scenic Integrity

measures **degree of deviation** from the **valued scenic character**, in 6 levels:

very high	no deviation
high	unnoticeable deviation
moderate	minor deviation

low	dominant deviation
very low	strong deviation
no integrity	excessive deviation

scenic integrity is emphasized within viewsheds of communities, travel routes, & recreation areas - it can measure **existing** disturbance, **predicted** future disturbance, or to define future **thresholds** for disturbance



very high



moderate

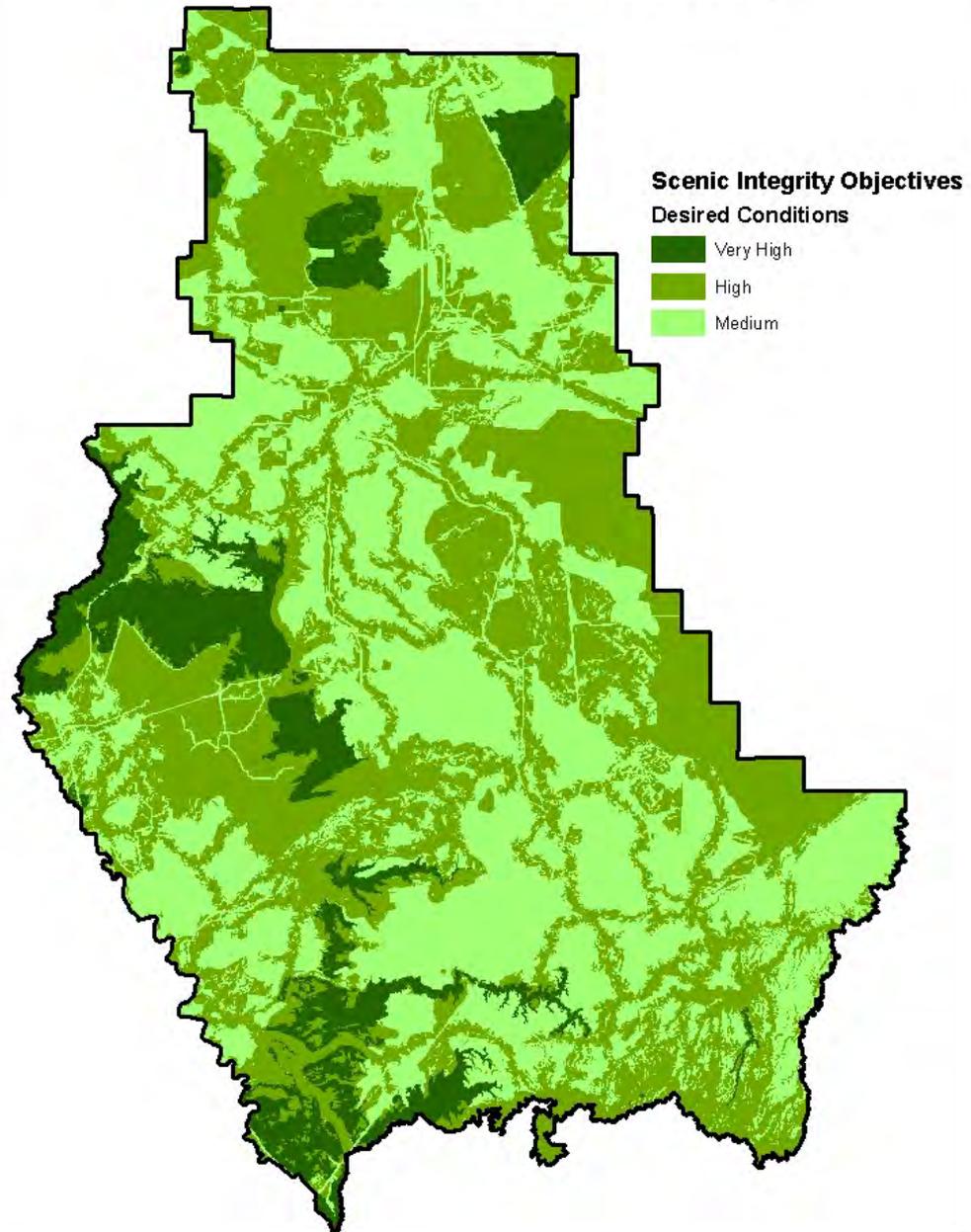


no integrity

SIOs
represent
guidelines to
achieve
landscape
character

- Validate these objectives
- Make suggestions for changes

Scenic Integrity Objectives



**ROLLING HILLS...
JUST FOR YOUR VIEWING PLEASURE**

Ad Council

DiscoverTheForest.org

U.S. Forest Service

The billboard features a photograph of a family of four (a man, a woman, and two children) seen from behind, hiking on a dirt path through a scenic mountain landscape. The sun is shining brightly, creating a lens flare effect. The text is overlaid on the top half of the image. Logos for Ad Council, DiscoverTheForest.org, and the U.S. Forest Service are positioned at the bottom of the billboard.

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Thank you for your feedback

- Work collaboratively
- Respect and appreciate other views
- Share and learn
- Have fun!