

Appendix M - Glossary of Acronyms and Terms

M.1. Common Abbreviations and Undefined Acronyms

ac.	acres	govt.	government
C	Celsius (centigrade)	i.e.	id est [that is]
Cal-IPC	California Invasive Plant Council	in.	inch(es)
CARB	California Air Resources Board	lb.	pound (libra)
CDFA	California Department of Food and Agriculture	kg	kilogram(s)
cm	Centimeter	km	kilometer(s)
cu	Cubic	LTBWCG	Lake Tahoe Basin Weed Coordinating
dv	Deciview	LWRQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region
e.g.	exempli gratia [for example]	m	meters
Ed(s)	Editor(s)	mi.	miles
Et al	et alii [and others]	mm	millimeters
F	Fahrenheit	NDA	Nevada Department of Agriculture
FS	Forest Service	pub.	published
gen.	general	rev.	revised

R5 (Region 5)	US Forest Service headquarters office managing national forests in California and the Pacific	TRPA	Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
		unk.	unknown
RSL	Remote Sensing Laboratory	USDA	United States Department of Agriculture
S&PF-FHP	State and Private Forestry, Forest Health Protection	yd.	yard
sq.	square		

M.1. Defined Acronyms

- CAR** **Critical aquatic refuge:** Forest Plan land allocation from the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment to designate areas for management emphasis on aquatic resources.
- CASQA** **California Stormwater Quality Association:** Assists the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and municipalities throughout the state of California in implementing the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater mandates of the Federal Clean Water Act.
- CWD** **Coarse woody debris:** Material usually 12 inches or larger in diameter within stream channels or floodplains. Provides fish habitat and floodplain roughness.
- CWHR** **California Wildlife Habitats Relationships computer program:** Functions as a predictive model of habitat suitability for wildlife species, describing vegetation conditions through metrics such as tree size classes and canopy closure.
- EIP** **Environmental Improvement Program:** An interagency partnership among the public land management entities of the Lake Tahoe Basin, to manage projects needed to stem the degradation of Lake Tahoe, funded by Federal, California, Nevada, and local jurisdictions.

- EIS** **Environmental Impact Statement:** The document required by the NEPA for disclosing to the public the activities and effects of an action by a federal agency.
- FMP** **Fire Management Plan:** A plan, which identifies and integrates all wildland fire management and related activities within the context of approved land/resource management plans.
- FMU** **Fire Management Unit:** May be any land management area definable by objectives, management constraints, topographic features, access, values to be protected, political boundaries, fuel types, major fire regime groups, and so on, that set it apart from the management characteristics of an adjacent FMU. The FMUs may have dominant management objectives and pre-selected strategies assigned to accomplish these objectives.
- HRCA** **Home range core area:** Approximately 1,000 acre area designated as the area surrounding the protected activity center (PAC) to be maintained as foraging and PAC replacement habitat for CA spotted owls.
- HUC** **Hydrologic unit code:** Designation by the United States Geologic Survey (USGS) that labels watersheds based on their relative size (from 1, being major river systems, to 12 (being very small subwatersheds of only a few acres).
- LEED™** **Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design:** National standard rating system for what constitutes a “green building.” Through the Green Building Council’s use as a design guideline and third-party certification tool, it aims to improve occupant well-being, environmental performance and economic returns of buildings.
- LOP** **Limited operating period:** A restriction placed on a management action within a specific defined area, as to when during the year an event can take place; a management strategy to reduce disturbance to wildlife species and habitats.

LTRA **Lake Tahoe Restoration Act:** Public Law 106-506, Nov. 13, 2000 (at time of publication, the renewal bill has been introduced in Congress as “S. 432: Lake Tahoe Restoration Act of 2011”), States that the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit shall be administered by the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service, in accordance with this Act and the laws applicable to the National Forest System, in cooperation with the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency.

LTRA Provisions include:

- Developing an environment restoration priority list for the Lake Tahoe Basin. Sets forth project areas, including: (1) erosion and sediment control; (2) acquisition of environmentally sensitive land; (3) fire risk reduction; (4) cleaning up methyl tertiary butyl ether contamination; and (5) parking and traffic management
- Authorizing appropriations for priority projects.
- Coordinating fire risk reduction activities with State and local agencies, including local fire departments and volunteer groups.

ML **Maintenance level:** Roads are classified into maintenance levels 1-5 depending on the use of the road. Level 1 roads are project roads generally closed to public access, while level 5 roads are paved two-land roads accessible by passenger cars for public use.

MOU **Memorandum of understanding:** A document describing a bilateral or multilateral agreement between parties, to include management actions carried out by the Forest Service, Tribal governments, U.S. government agencies at all levels, and private business entities.

MVUM **Motor Vehicle Use Map:** A single-purpose, black-and-white paper map that displays those roads, trails, and areas designated for motor vehicle use. Routes not designated for motor vehicle use (such as non-motorized trails, single-purpose roads and trails, unauthorized roads and trails, and temporary roads and trails) will not be shown on a Motor Vehicle Use Map. Motor vehicle use is allowed only on designated roads and trails and in designated areas. The Motor Vehicle Use Map does not replace visitor maps, travel maps, or other maps intended to convey visitor information.

NEPA **National Environmental Policy Act:** Law that requires federal agencies to disclose major actions and their environmental consequences to the public.

NFS **National Forest System:** Federally owned reserves of 191 million acres (77.4 million hectares), administered by the Forest Service of the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. The system is made up of 155 national forests and 19 national grasslands in 41 states and Puerto Rico (USDA et al 1984).

- NVUM** **National Visitor Use Monitoring:** U.S. Forest Service national monitoring and reporting system that provides estimates of the volume of recreation visitation to National Forests and Grasslands, and includes descriptive information about that visitation, including activity participation, demographics, visit duration, measures of satisfaction, and trip spending connected to the visit.
- OHV** **Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV):** Any motor vehicle designed for or capable of crosscountry travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other natural terrain (36 CFR 212.1).
- OSVUM** **Over Snow Vehicle Use Map (Snowmobile Guide):** A single-purpose, paper map that displays those areas which contain routes and areas designated for over snow vehicle (e.g. snowmobile) use. The map identifies restrictions or prohibitions on over-snow vehicle use within defined geographic areas Over-snow vehicle use other than in accordance with the restrictions or prohibitions of the Snowmobile Guide is prohibited (36 CFR 261.14).
- PAC** **Protected activity center:** Approximately 300 acre area designated as centered on a nest tree to be managed as nesting habitat for CA spotted owls.
- PSW** 1) **Pacific Southwest Research Station:** US Forest Service Research & Development office responsible for natural resources research within the states of California and Hawaii and the US-affiliated Pacific islands. PSW Research Station headquarters office is located in Albany, CA.
<http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/>
- 2) **Pacific Southwest Regional Office:** US Forest Service regional office with the responsibility for management of national forests and grassland within California, Hawaii, and the US-affiliated Pacific islands (including the LTBMU), commonly referred to as “Regions 5 (or R5)”. R5 Headquarters office is located on Mare Island in Vallejo, CA.
<http://www.fs.usda.gov/main/r5/about-region/overview>. *see also Region*
- RAWS** **Remote Automated Weather Stations:** A network of stand-alone dispersed stations on Forest Service and BLM managed lands that monitor the weather and provide weather data assists land management agencies with a variety of projects such as monitoring air quality, rating fire danger, and providing information for research applications. RAWS stations are powered by battery, solar energy, or generator, and broadcast atmospheric and system data at regular intervals.
- RCA** **Riparian conservation area:** A buffer for streams, special aquatic features and other hydrological depressions as defined by the Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment (SNFPA 2004)

- ROD** **Record of decision:** A concise public record of decision is required by the Forest Service at the time the responsible official makes a formal environmental impact statement (EIS) decision, (§1506.10). The record, which may be integrated into any other record prepared by the Forest Service, will include:
- (a) The decision made; (b) Identification of all alternatives considered by the Forest Service in reaching the decision, specifying the alternatives which were considered to be environmentally preferable (which may include factors for economic and technical considerations that were balanced in the decision making, stating how those considerations entered into the decision); and (c) Stating whether all practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm from the alternative selected have been adopted, and if not, why they were not. A monitoring and enforcement program shall be adopted and summarized where applicable for any mitigation.
- RNWMS** **Regional Noxious Weed Management Strategy:** Management strategy for the U.S. Forest Service in California, developed to address this threat, and to work cooperatively with partners check the spread of weeds statewide. Published in August 2000. Reference: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/noxiousweeds/>
- SEZ** **Stream Environment Zone:** Biological communities, as defined by TRPA and the Lahontan Water Board, that owe their characteristics to the presence of surface water or a seasonally high groundwater table. The criterion for defining SEZs includes indicators of vegetation, hydrology, and soil type (State of CA WQCP 2005).
- SIA** **Special Interest Areas:** Geographically defined federally protected management area consisting of archaeological, botanical, geological, historical, scenic, paleontological and zoological or other special characteristics or unique values.; recreation or cultural significance; or historic importance.
- SNFPA** **Sierra Nevada Forest Plan Amendment:** Amendment to the Forest Plans of 11 national forests in the Sierra Nevada mountain range, including the LTBMU. Published in January, 2004 by the Pacific Southwest Region (National Forests in California), Vallejo, CA.
Reference: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/snfpa/final-seis/index.html>
- SNYLF** **Sierra Nevada (mountain) yellow-legged frog (*Rana sierra*):** a candidate species for listing under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and as Sensitive on the Region 5 Regional Forester's Sensitive Species List. See the Aquatic Wildlife section in Chapter 3.

- SPLAT** **Strategically placed area treatment**: Fuel reduction treatments placed in a pattern to interrupt fire progression such that the fire reduces in intensity and becomes a surface fire in these areas. The overall pattern impedes fire spread.
- TOC** **Threshold of Concern**: Watersheds have a natural sensitivity, or threshold, to absorb disturbance, human or natural, specific to geology, soil, and slope.
- WUI** **Wildland urban interface (intermix)**: An area where human habitation is mixed with areas of flammable wildland vegetation. It extends out from the edge of developed private land into Federal, private, and State jurisdictions.

M.2. Glossary of Terms

Access	<p>A function of the transportation system on Forest Service lands managed by the LTBMU to provide for safe travel that reflects appropriate access, considers needs of adjacent landowners, and meets public demand. This occurs through the management of Recreation and Engineering resources, to include: dispersed/developed parking and trailhead facilities, snow removal, and proper signage.</p>
Aggradation	<p>Aggradation involves the raising of the streambed elevation, an increase in width/depth ratio, and a corresponding decrease in channel capacity. Over-bank flows occur more frequently with less-than-high-water events. Excess sediment deposition in the channel and on floodplains is characteristic of the aggrading river. Often, the cause of aggradation is an increase in upstream sediment load and/or size of sediment exceeding the transport capacity of the channel. (US EPA: http://water.epa.gov/scitech/datait/tools/warsss/sedsource_index.cfm).</p>
Alternatives	<p>Alternatives to the proposed action have been Identified and explored. Comments received have been considered in preparation of the draft environmental impact statement. The listed range of alternatives are considered after public comments have been received and analyzed. One of those considered will be a "No Action" alternative. (36 CFR 219.12(f))</p>
Aquatic Ecosystem	<p>An ecosystem in a body of water. Communities of organisms that are dependent on each other and on their environment live in aquatic ecosystems. Aquatic ecosystems are categorized in freshwater ecosystem types (e.g. Lake Tahoe) as well as marine ecosystem types.</p> <p>There are three basic types of freshwater ecosystems:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lentic: slow-moving water, including pools, ponds, and lakes.• Lotic: rapidly-moving water, for example streams and rivers.• Wetlands: areas where the soil is saturated or inundated for at least part of the time.
Basal area	<p>The cross-sectional area of a single stem, including the bark, measured at breast height (4.5 feet above the ground). Also, the cross-sectional area of all stems of a species or all stems in a stand measured at breast height and expressed per unit of land area. (Helms 1998)</p>
Backing fire	<p>A fire spreading, or ignited to spread, into (against) the wind, in the absence of wind, or downslope.</p>

Bog	A wet, poorly drained, highly acid, nutrient poor, peat-accumulating wetland with surface vegetation of acidophilic mosses (particularly Sphagnum) and possibly some shrubs or trees.
Climate	Climates – and climate change – are mentioned explicitly in the management principles chapter of the [agency’s FY 2007–2012] strategic plan. Strategic goals would directly or indirectly contribute toward enhancing the resilience of forest and grassland resources to the impacts of climate change. (USDA Forest Service Strategic Plan, FY 2007–2012 Climate Change Companion Document, Oct. 14, 2008).
Collaboration	A structured manner in which a collection of people with diverse interests share knowledge, ideas, and resources while working together in an inclusive and cooperative manner toward a common purpose. Collaboration, in the context of this part, falls within the full spectrum of public engagement described in the Council on Environmental Quality’s publication: <i>Collaboration in NEPA—A Handbook for NEPA Practitioners</i> . The Forest Service retains decisionmaking authority and responsibility for all decisions throughout the process.
Composition	The proportion of each tree species in a [forest] stand expressed as a percentage of the total number, basal area, or volume of all tree species in the stand. (<i>Helms 1998</i>)
Connectivity	Pertaining to the extent to which conditions exist or should be provided between separate national forest or grassland areas to ensure habitat for breeding, feeding, or movement of wildlife and fish within their home range or migration areas.
Danger Tree	See <i>Hazard Tree</i>
Deciview	An index of atmospheric haziness based on the logarithm of the light extinction coefficient. A given change in deciviews is assumed to be perceived approximately the same by a human observer, independent of the absolute level of the haziness (Air Resource Specialists, 1993).
Desired basal area	The spacing or stocking levels used to guide thinning in order to leave a desired density in developing stands.

Dead fuels (Fire Behavior and Fuels)

Estimating the moisture content of dead woody fuels is critical when predicting fire behavior. Dead fuels are divided into four size classes: 1 hour (flashy fuels), 10 hour (1/2-inch diameter), 100 hour 3-inch diameter) and 1,000 hour (8-inch diameter). In general, the larger fuels take longer to absorb or lose moisture.

In general, drier fuels increase the rate of fire spread, fireline intensity, and fuel consumption. Prescribed burns are used to meet a number of resource management objectives. Fire managers rely on fire behavior prediction to determine the optimum conditions for prescribed burning.

Disturbance

Any relatively discrete event in time that disrupts ecosystem, watershed, community, or species population structure and/or function and changes resources, substrate availability, or the physical environment.

Ecosystem Diversity

The variety and relative extent of ecosystem types, including their composition, structure, and processes.

Ecosystem Services

Benefits people obtain from ecosystems, including:

- 1) **Provisioning services**, such as clean air and fresh water, as well as energy, fuel, forage, fiber, and minerals;
- 2) **Regulating services**, such as long term storage of carbon; climate regulation; water filtration, purification, and storage; soil stabilization; flood control; and disease regulation;
- 3) **Supporting services**, such as pollination, seed dispersal, soil formation, and nutrient cycling; and
- 4) **Cultural services**, such as educational, aesthetic, spiritual, and cultural heritage values, as well as recreational experiences and tourism opportunities.

Endlining

Moving logs using cables where the log is in full or partial contact with the ground

Ephemeral stream

A stream or portion of a stream that flows only in direct response to precipitation, receiving little or no water from springs and no long-continued supply from snow or other sources, and whose channel is at all times above the water table.

Fen	A peat-accumulating wetland that receives some drainage from surrounding mineral soils and usually supports marshlike vegetation including sedges, rushes, shrubs, and trees. Fens are less acidic than bogs, and derive most of their water from groundwater rich in calcium and magnesium.
Fire Management Plan (FMP)	A plan, which 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 not limited to preparedness plans, preplanned dispatch plans, and prevention plans. Fire Management Plans assure that wildland fire management goals and components are coordinated.
Fire Management Unit (FMU)	May be any land management area definable by objectives, management constraints, topographic features, access, values to be protected, political boundaries, fuel types, major fire regime groups, and so on, that set it apart from the management characteristics of an adjacent FMU. The FMUs may have dominant management objectives and pre-selected strategies assigned to accomplish these objectives. (USDA & USDI 2004)
Flag and avoid	The hanging of flagging in order to identify for the purpose of avoidance of a special feature in an area.
Forest	an ecosystem characterized by a more or less dense and extensive tree cover, often consisting of stands varying in characteristics such as species, composition, structure, age class, and associated processes, and commonly including meadows, streams, fish, and wildlife. (<i>Helms 1998</i>)
Forest Development Road	See Road Categories
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 or disease, and resilience to disturbance. (<i>Helms 1998</i>). See also <i>Resilience</i> .
Forest Land	Land that is at least 10 percent stocked by forest trees of any size, including land that formerly had such tree cover and that will be naturally or artificially regenerated (<i>Helms 1998</i>).

Forest Transportation Atlas	A display of the system of roads, trails, and airfields of an administrative unit, including: a. Road and trail management objectives; b. Identification of needed and unneeded NFS roads; c. Travel management decisions; and d. Road management priorities (FSM 7700 – Travel Management).
Forest-wide Scale	The greatest, most expansive spatial management scale, incorporating management emphasis areas, and may incorporate multiple uses and resources within the NFS lands managed by the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit.
Grapple piling	Use of a track-laying low-ground pressure excavator with a thumb and claw, typically mounted on articulating arm. This machine is capable picking up slash or other material to pile on slopes up to 30%.
Hand removal or thinning	Consists of removing trees with chain saws or lopping shears and piling or scattering the debris in open areas for later burning.
Hazard Tree	A tree that has been identified as a potential risk for failure that would cause injury to a person or damage to property.
Heterobasidion (annosus) root disease	<p>Annosus root disease, caused by <i>Heterobasidion annosum</i>, is found in many temperate coniferous forests around the world. It is an endemic pathogen that is common and widely distributed in North America. (FSH 3409.11, Ch. 60, R5 Supplement No.: 3409.11-2010-1).</p> <p>Common symptoms of annosus root disease are the same as for many other root diseases and include yellowing or thinning of crowns, reduction in tree height and lateral branches, and stress cone crops (Rippy et al, 2005, p. 11).</p>
Heterogeneity	Biometrics term related to Forest Vegetation structure and composition: the state of being not identical in some or all parameters in one or more samples or populations (Helms 1998).
Hot piling	Placing and consolidating unburned fuel into an already burning pile for the purpose of isolating or localizing a prescribed fire.
Hydrophobicity	Resistance to water absorption by severely burned soils.

Intermittent stream	A stream or portion of a stream, that does not flow year-round but only when it (a) receives base flow solely during wet periods, or (b) receives groundwater discharge or protracted contributions from melting snow or other erratic surface and shallow subsurface sources
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, cultural, physical or mechanical methods, biological control agents, and general land management practices, such as manipulation of livestock or wildlife grazing strategies, which accomplish vegetation management objectives. (FSM 2900 – Noxious Weed Management)
Invasive Species	An alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. (Executive Order 13112)
Inventoried Roadless Area	<p>The formal process for Inventoried Roadless Area designation varies by state; In general, geographic areas qualify for placement on the inventory to be designated if they meet one or more of the following criteria:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. They contain 5,000 acres or more.2. They contain less than 5,000 acres, but<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Due to physical terrain, natural conditions can be preserved.b. They are self-contained ecosystems, such as an island, that can be effectively managed as a separate unit of the National Wilderness Preservation System.c. They are contiguous to existing wilderness, primitive areas, Administration-endorsed wilderness, or potential wilderness in other federal ownership, regardless of their size.3. They do not contain improved roads maintained for travel by standard passenger-type vehicles, except as permitted in areas east of the 100th meridian.
Lacustrine	Lake ecosystem; includes the lake and lake shore.
Landscape Character	A combination of physical, biological, and cultural images that gives an area its visual and cultural identity and helps to define a “sense of place.” Landscape character provides a frame of reference from which to determine scenic attractiveness and to measure scenic integrity.

Lentic	Stream ecosystem; includes the stream and stream bank.
Lotic	Stream ecosystem; rapidly-moving water, for example streams and rivers.
Maintenance Levels (Road management)	<p>Level 5 – Roads that provide a high degree of user comfort and convenience. These roads are normally double-lane, paved facilities.</p> <p>Level 4 – 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.</p> <p>Level 3 – Roads open and maintained for travel by prudent drivers in a standard passenger cars. User comfort and convenience are low priorities.</p> <p>Level 2 – 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.</p> <p>Level 1 – Intermittent service roads during the time 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 an acceptable level and to perpetuate the road to facilitate future management activities.</p> <p>(Forest Service Handbook (FSH) 7709.58,10,12.3)</p>
Managed Wildfire	The management of naturally ignited fires to achieve resource desired conditions and objectives where fire is a major component of the ecosystem.
Management Area	A land area identified within the planning unit that has the same set of applicable plan components. A management area does not have to be spatially contiguous.

Management Direction	<p>The Forest Plan provides management direction that governs the design and conduct of human activities throughout the forest boundary. Management direction is provided at three different scales depending on the location of a proposed activity and its potential impact on resources (addressed within the appropriate plan components).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Forest-wide scale. (Vision/Desired Future Condition/Standards & Guides) 2) Resource Overlays (Desired Future Condition/Standards & Guides) 3) Management Area Scale (Desired Future Condition/Standards & Guides, Suitability, unique local conditions).
Mesic	<p>Of sites or habitats characterized by intermediate moisture conditions, i.e., neither decidedly wet nor dry.</p>
Monitoring	<p>A systematic process of collecting information over time and space to evaluate effects of actions or changes in conditions or relationships.</p>
National Forest System	<p>A nationally significant system of Federally owned units of forest, range, and related land consisting of national forests, purchase units, national grasslands, land utilization project areas, experimental forest areas, experimental range areas, designated experimental areas, other land areas, water areas, and interests in lands that are administered by the USDA Forest Service or designated for administration through the Forest Service. (USDA Forest Service FS-383 2012)</p>
National Wild and Scenic River	<p>Area designated by Congress as part of the National Wild and Scenic River System. (USDA Forest Service FS-383 2012)</p>
Native plant species	<p>A plant species which occurs naturally in a particular region, state, ecosystem and habitat without direct or indirect human actions. (FSM, 2070 Vegetation Ecology)</p>
Noxious Weed	<p>A plant species designated as a noxious weed by the Secretary of Agriculture pursuant to the Plant Protection Act of 2000 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 non-native or new to or not common to the United States or parts thereof. (FSM, 2070 Vegetation Ecology)</p>

Objection	The written document filed with a reviewing officer by an individual or organization seeking pre-decisional administrative review of a plan, plan amendment, or plan revision.
Over-snow Vehicle	A motor vehicle that is designed for use over snow and that runs on a track or tracks and/or a ski or skis, while in use over snow. (36 CFR Part 212 Sec. 1)
Potential Wilderness Area	All areas within the National Forest System lands that satisfy the definition of wilderness found in section 2(c) of the 1964 Wilderness Act. Inventory criteria are listed in Forest Service Handbook 1909.12—Land Management Planning Handbook, Chapter 70—Wilderness Evaluation.
Perennial stream	A creek or river that flows all year (see intermittent and ephemeral).
Plant Material	Seeds, spores, parts of plants or whole plants. (FSM, 2070 Vegetation Ecology)
Prescription	Direction given for land and resource management in a given area.
Proposed Action	A proposal made by the Forest Service that is a project or activity implementing a land and resource management plan on National Forest System lands and is subject to the notice and comment provisions of 36 CFR 215.5 and opportunity 36 CFR 215.6, respectively. (36 CFR Part 215.2)
Reference Conditions	The range of historic (or natural) variability in ecological structures and processes, reflecting recent evolutionary history and the dynamic interplay of biotic and abiotic conditions and disturbance patterns that form the basis for comparison with contemporary ecosystem processes and structures and are a frame of reference for designing ecological restoration treatments and conservation plans (adapted from Fulé et al. 1997).
Region	An administrative area containing units of the National Forest System. There are nine NFS Regions: The Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit is administered by the Pacific Southwest Regional Office (R5), also referred to as the “National Forests in California”. (USDA Forest Service FS-383 2012)
Rehabilitation	Reparation of ecosystem processes, productivity and services based on functioning pre-existing or existing ecosystems, but allowing for adaptation of sites to specific current or future uses. (FSM, 2070 Vegetation Ecology)

Resilience	The capacity of a community or ecosystem to maintain or regain normal function and development following disturbance. (Helms 1998). See also Forest Health.
Restoration	Assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged or destroyed including the re-establishment of the pre-existing biotic integrity in terms of species composition and community structure. (FSM, 2070 Vegetation Ecology)
Revegetation	Re-establishment of plants on a site. (FSM, 2070 Vegetation Ecology)
Riparian areas	Referring to the interface between freshwater habitats and the terrestrial landscape. (Environmental Management Glossary).
Ripping	A process to mitigate soil compaction. Using equipment with a toothed blade or set of heavy tines mounted at the front or rear of the equipment to break up hard ground or to tear out stumps and boulders; can be synonymous with subsoiling and tilling.
Risk	A combination of the likelihood that a negative outcome will occur and the severity of the subsequent negative consequences.
Riverine	Pertaining to rivers and river bank environments.

Road activity

Road Construction – Supervising, inspecting, building, and all expenses incidental to the construction or reconstruction of a forest development transportation facility, including: location, surveying, and mapping (including the establishment of temporary and permanent geodetic markers in accordance with the specifications of the Coast and Geodetic Survey in the Department of Commerce), costs of rights-of way, and elimination of hazards. (36 CFR 212.1(h)).

Road Maintenance – The upkeep of the entire forest development transportation facility including surface and shoulders, parking and side area structures, and such traffic-control devices as are necessary for its safe and efficient utilization. (36 CFR 212.1(I)).

Road Reconstruction - Activities that result in betterment, restoration, or realignment of a road as defined below.

1. Betterment – Investment in construction activity that raises the traffic-service level of a road or improves its safety or operating efficiency.

2. Restoration – Investment in construction activity required to rebuild a road to its approved traffic-service level.

3. Realignment – Investment in construction activity that results in the new location of an existing road or portion thereof.

Road categories

Forest Development Road – A road wholly or partially within or adjacent to NFS boundary that the Forest Service has authorized and maintains jurisdiction over and that is necessary for the protection, administration, and use of lands under the agency's jurisdiction.

Temporary road – A road associated with timber sale contracts, fire activities, or other short-term access needs that are unnecessary for future resource management and not intended to be part of the forest development transportation plan.

Unclassified road – A road that is not constructed, maintained, or intended for long-term highway use. Such roads include all temporary access construction and other remnants of short-term use roads associated with fire suppression, timber harvest, and oil, gas, or mineral activities as well as travel ways resulting from off-road vehicle use.

Roadless Area

See Inventoried Roadless Area

Special Area

Areas of National Forest System public lands designated by law, or administratively, and managed to emphasize recreational and other specific related values. Other uses are permitted in the areas to the extent that these uses are in harmony with the purpose for which the area was designated. The law or order designating each area provides area specific management objectives and guidelines. An area may be nominated locally (at the unit level), and then designated for management under one of the following Special Area categories:

National Recreation Areas – Areas that have outstanding combinations of outdoor recreation opportunities, aesthetic attractions, and proximity to potential users. They may also have cultural, historical, archaeological, pastoral, wilderness, scientific, wildlife, and other values contributing to public enjoyment.

National Monuments – Areas of unique ecological, geologic, historical, prehistorical, cultural, and scientific interest.

National Scenic Areas – Areas that contain outstanding scenic characteristics, recreational values, and geologic, ecologic, and cultural resources.

National Scenic Research Areas – Areas that contain outstanding scenic values for research, scientific, and recreational purposes.

National Management Emphasis Areas – All other areas that contain unique or outstanding physical features and that contain specific physical, cultural, or political characteristics receiving specific emphasis in the legislation. (FSM 1920 and FSM 1950).

Special Interest Area (SIA)

Geographically defined federally protected management area, consisting of archaeological, botanical, geological, historical, scenic, paleontological and zoological or other special characteristics or unique values. SIAs are designated to protect and manage for public use and enjoyment and may include the protection and management of threatened, endangered or sensitive species and other elements of biological diversity; recreation or cultural significance; or historic importance.

Special Place

In the context of Social and Economic Sustainability, phrases such as “sense of place” and “place attachment” are increasingly used to characterize the complex connections people have with the environments they encounter (Cantrill 1998; Williams and Stewart 1998).

Special Use Permit	A locally administered special use authorization to occupy National Forest System lands for Recreation Use (such as Outfitter and Guide, campground or resort operations or commercial filming) and Recreation Resident Use. The laws, regulations, and policies governing the use and maintenance of recreation residences are those necessary to comply with federal, state, and county ordinances, building, and sanitation codes to safeguard the national forests' resources. Restrictions and special rules are designed to fit local conditions. The Forest Service generally is required to obtain fees that reflect fair market value for the rights and privileges authorized by the permits (Forest Service Manual [FSM] 2705, Forest Service Handbook [FSH] 2709.11).
Stand	A contiguous group of trees sufficiently uniform in age-class distribution, composition, and structure, and growing on a site of sufficiently uniform quality, to be a distinguishable unit. (Helms 1998)
Stand Structure	The horizontal and vertical distribution of components of a forest stand including the height, diameter, crown layers, and stems of trees, shrubs, herbaceous understory, snags, and down woody debris. This is based on development stages rather than absolute age. (Helms 1998).
Susceptibility	The probability that a tree or stand will be attacked by, or incur an outbreak of, an insect or pathogen. (Helms 1998)
Sustainability	Capability of meeting the needs of the present generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.
Sustainable Recreation	The set of recreational opportunities, uses and access that, individually and combined, are ecologically, economically, and socially sustainable, allowing the responsible official to offer recreation opportunities now and into the future. Recreational opportunities can include non-motorized, motorized, developed, and dispersed recreation on land, water, and air.
Terrestrial Ecosystems	A community of organisms and their environment that occurs on the land. Four primary terrestrial ecosystems exist: tundra, taiga, temperate deciduous forest, and grassland.

Trail Management Class

The prescribed scale of development for a trail, representing its intended design and management standards. Trail prescriptions describe the desired management of each trail, based on Forest Plan direction. These national prescriptions take into account user preferences, setting, protection of sensitive resources, and other management activities. To meet prescription, each trail is assigned an appropriate Trail Class. These general categories are used to identify applicable Trail Design Parameters and to identify basic indicators used for determining the cost to meet national quality standards.

- 1) **Trail Class 1** – Minimal/Undeveloped Trail
- 2) **Trail Class 2** – Simple/Minor Development Trail
- 3) **Trail Class 3** – Developed/Improved Trail
- 4) **Trail Class 4** – Highly Developed Trail
- 5) **Trail Class 5** – Fully Developed Trail

(Ref. FSH 2309.18 – Trail Management Handbook – Trial Class Matrix, <http://fsweb.wo.fs.fed.us/rhwr/ibsc/docs/trails/trail-class-matrix-2005-01-31.doc>).

Trail Type

A category that reflects the predominant trail surface and general mode of travel accommodated by a trail.

- a. **Standard Terra Trail** – A trail that has a surface consisting predominantly of the ground and that is designed and managed to accommodate use on that surface.
- b. **Snow Trail** – A trail that has a surface consisting predominantly of snow or ice and that is designed and managed to accommodate use on that surface.
- c. **Water Trail** – A trail that has a surface consisting predominantly of water (but may include land-based portages) and that is designed and managed to accommodate use on that surface.

(FSH 2309.18 – Trails Management Handbook)

Trails (Standards)

National Quality Standards for Trails. National criteria that establish the level of quality in terms of health and cleanliness, resource setting, safety and security, responsiveness, and condition of facilities for National Forest System trails managed at a full-service level.

(FSH 2309.18 – Trails Management Handbook).

Travel Management	A decision-making process that includes significant public involvement and will result in the publication of a Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM) that identifies the roads, trails and areas open to public motor vehicle use on every national forest. http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/routedesignation/ .
Treatment	A specified method for the purpose of reaching or bringing land and/or resource conditions towards a desired condition or goal.
Ultraoligotrophic	The low biological productivity character of Lake Tahoe: High water transparency due to a low amount of suspended particles and free-floating microscopic plants (phytoplankton) and animals (zooplankton).
Underburn	Fire in the forest understory; a prescribed or wildfire that consumes surface fuels but not trees
Undesirable Plants	Plant species that are classified as undesirable, noxious, harmful, exotic, injurious, or poisonous pursuant to State or Federal laws. Species listed as threatened or endangered by the Secretary of the Interior according to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 are not classified as undesirable plants. (FSM 2900 Noxious Weed Management)
Universal access	Civil rights practice in which programs and facilities are free of barriers to participation or access for persons with disabilities.
Urban Lot Management	The Forest Service initiated the Urban Lot Management Program in 1991 to address management issues on urban intermix parcels acquired through the Santini-Burton Purchase Program. The Forest Service manages these lands with an emphasis on protecting water quality conditions and community open space. Follow the link listed above, for more information.
Vernal pool	A contained basin depression lacking a permanent above ground outlet. An ephemeral (temporary) pool that fills with snowmelt and spring run-off.
Viable populations	A population of a species that continues to persist over the long term with sufficient distribution to be resilient and adaptable to stressors and likely future environments.
Wild and Scenic River	See <i>National Wild and Scenic River</i>

Wilderness	Any area of land designated by Congress as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System that was established in the Wilderness Act of 1964. (16 U.S.C. 1131– 1136).
Wilderness (Qualities of Wilderness)	<p><i>Untrammeled</i> – Wilderness is unhindered and free from modern human control or manipulation.</p> <p><i>Natural</i> – Wilderness ecological systems are substantially free from the effects of modern civilization.</p> <p><i>Undeveloped</i> – Wilderness is substantially without permanent improvements or modern human occupation.</p> <p><i>Outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation</i> – Wilderness provides opportunities for people to experience solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation, including the values of inspiration and physical and mental challenge (1964 Wilderness Act, Section 2(c)).</p>
Wildland Urban Interface (WUI)	<p>An area where human habitation is mixed with areas of flammable wildland vegetation. It extends out from the edge of developed private land into Federal, private, and State jurisdictions. The WUI is comprised of two zones, the Defense Zone and the Threat Zone:</p> <p><i>WUI Defense Zone</i> – the buffer in closest proximity to communities, areas with higher densities of residences, commercial buildings, and/or administrative sites with facilities. Defense zones generally extend roughly ¼ mile out from these areas; however, actual defense zone boundaries are determined at the project level following national, regional and forest policy.</p> <p><i>WUI Threat Zone</i> – typically buffers the defense zone; however, a threat zone may be delineated in the absence of a defense zone under certain conditions, including situations where the structure density and location do not provide a reasonable opportunity for direct suppression on public land, but suppression on the private land would be enhanced by fire behavior modification on the adjacent public land.</p> <p>Threat zone boundaries are determined at the project level following national, regional and forest policy. Threat zones generally extend approximately 1¼ miles out from the defense zone boundary; however, actual extents of threat zones are based on fire history, local fuel conditions, weather, topography, existing and proposed fuel treatments, and natural barriers to fire.</p>

Woody biomass

The wood product obtained (usually) from in-woods chipping of all or some portion of trees including limbs, tops, and unmerchantable stems, usually for energy production