

Recreation Primer

- Overview of Important Concepts and Analysis Tools to Prepare You to Better Understand Pre-work for April Meeting
- Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
- Recreation Facilities Development Scales
- Scenic Character and Scenic Integrity Objectives
- Recreation Access and Trail Classes

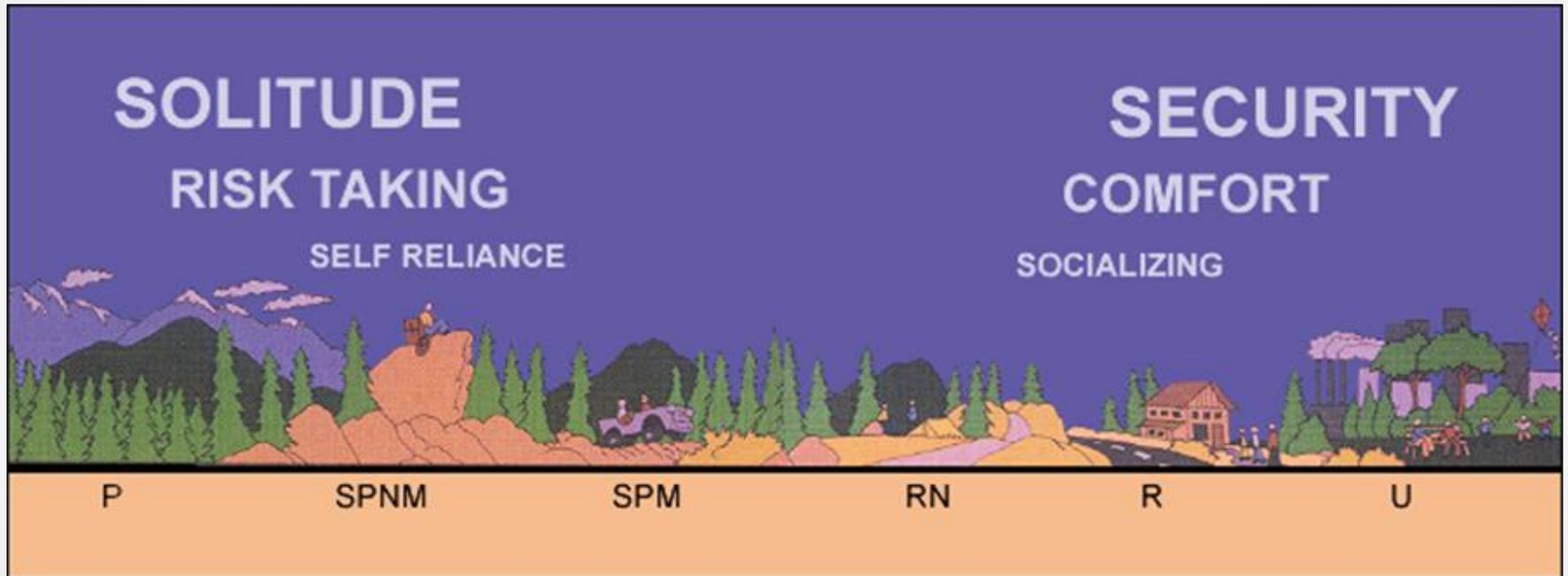
Recreation Primer

ROS

- ROS has been used as a framework for identifying, classifying, planning, and managing recreation settings since 1980s
- Analysis tool for inventory and allocation of recreation settings and opportunities.
- ROS uses the physical, managerial and social attributes of settings to define six distinct ROS classes: urban, rural, roaded natural, semi-primitive motorized, semi-primitive non-motorized, and primitive.
- As the names indicate, the settings follow a continuum ranging from very structured settings (urban) to those with little to no structure (primitive).

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ROS



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ROS

- Primitive ROS
 - 3 miles from open roads/trails
 - 5,000 acres or more
 - Non-Motorized Uses
 - No Public Facilities and Minimal Signage
 - May be Administrative Structures
 - Few Trail Structure (bridges)
 - High Opportunity for Solitude, Self-reliance, and Challenge
 - Natural Appearing Landscapes



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ROS

- Semi-Primitive Non-Motorized
 - 2500 acres or more
 - Non-Motorized Uses
 - May Contain Closed Roads
 - Few Public Facilities and Signage - Rustic
 - May be Administrative Structures
 - Some Trail Structures (bridges)
 - High Opportunity for Self-reliance, and Challenge
 - Some Interaction with Others
 - Natural Appearing Landscapes



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ROS

- Semi-Primitive Motorized
 - Same as Non-Motorized with a mix of Motorized and Non-Motorized Uses on High Clearance Roads and Trails
 - Moderate Opportunities for Solitude



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ROS

- Roaded Natural
 - No size limit
 - Mix of Motorized and Non-Motorized Uses on Low Clearance Roads and Trails
 - Developed Campgrounds, Trailheads, Boat Launches
 - Wayfinding and Interpretive Signing
 - High Interaction with Others
 - Evidence of Management Activities



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- Roaded Modified
 - A Subset of Roaded Natural
 - Higher Road Density
 - Management Activities May Dominate the Landscape



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ROS Map

- ROS Model: Mapped using National Protocol
- Existing condition only based primarily on open/closed roads and trails. Needs site-specific verification.
- We want collaborative to help us modify map to define Desired Condition.
- Designated areas will need to be revisited in May, so don't spend too much time on these areas.
- On HD Map Tool – next week

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Scenery

- The Scenery Management System (SMS) provides a methodology for inventorying, analyzing and monitoring the aesthetic values of National Forest lands.
- The SMS considers the following components:
 - Landscape Character and Scenic Attractiveness
 - Concern Level of Visitors
 - Landscape Visibility
- Scenic Integrity Objectives (SIO) expresses the desired condition for scenic character across the forest.
- Scenic Classes include the following:
 - Very High, High, Moderate Low, and Very Low

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Scenery Pictures

Very High



Landscape character *is* intact.

High



Landscape character *appears* unaltered.

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Scenery Pictures

Moderate



Activities are noticeable but are *subordinate* to the landscape character.

Low/Very Low



Activities are *evident* and sometimes *dominate* the landscape character.

Recreation Primer Development Scale

0	<p>No site modification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ No constructed improvements evident at the site○ Little to no controls or regimentation○ Primary access usually over primitive roads○ Spacing informal and often established by user
1	<p>Almost no site modification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Rustic or rudimentary improvements designed for protection of the site rather than comfort of the users.○ Use of synthetic materials excluded.○ Minimum controls are subtle.○ No obvious regimentation.○ Primary access usually over primitive roads○ Spacing informal and extended to minimize contacts between users.
2	<p>Minimal site modification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Rustic or rudimentary improvements designed primarily for protection of the site rather than the comfort of the users.○ Use of synthetic materials avoided.○ Minimum controls are subtle.○ Little obvious regimentation.○ Spacing informal and extended to minimize contacts between users.○ Primary access usually over primitive roads.○ Interpretive services informal, almost subliminal.

Recreation Primer Dev. Scale Photos



Level - 0



Level - 1



Level - 2

Recreation Primer Development Scale

3	<p>Moderate site modification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Facilities about equal for protection of natural site and comfort of users. ○ Contemporary/rustic design of improvements is usually based on use of native materials. Inconspicuous vehicular traffic controls usually provided. ○ Roads may be hard surfaced and trails formalized. ○ Development density about 3 family units per acre. ○ Primary access may be over high standard roads. ○ Interpretive services informal if offered, but generally direct.
4	<p>Heavy site modification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Some facilities designed strictly for comfort and convenience of users. ○ Luxury facilities not provided. ○ Facility design may incorporate synthetic materials. ○ Extensive use of artificial surfacing of roads and trails. ○ Vehicular traffic control usually obvious. ○ Primary access usually over paved roads. ○ Development density 3-5 family units per acre. ○ Plant materials usually native. ○ Interpretive services, if offered, often formal or structured.
5	<p>Extensive site modification.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Facilities mostly designed for comfort and convenience of users and usually include flush toilets; may include showers, bathhouses, laundry facilities, and electrical hookups. ○ Synthetic materials commonly used. ○ Formal walks or surfaced trails. ○ Regimentation of users is obvious. ○ Access usually by high-speed highways. ○ Development density 5 or more family units per acre. ○ Plant materials may be non-native. ○ Formal interpretive services usually available. Designs formalized and architecture may be contemporary. ○ Mowed lawns and clipped shrubs not unusual.

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Development Scale Pictures



Level - 3



Level - 4



Level - 5

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Trail Class

Trail Attributes	Trail Class 1 Minimally Developed	Trail Class 2 Moderately Developed	Trail Class 3 Developed	Trail Class 4 Highly Developed	Trail Class 5 Fully Developed
Typical Recreation on Environs & Experience³	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Natural, unmodified ◆ ROS: Typically Primitive to Roded Natural ◆ Wild ROS: Typically Primitive to Semi-Primitive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Natural, essentially unmodified ◆ ROS: Typically Primitive to Roded Natural Typically ◆ Wild ROS: Typically Primitive to Semi-Primitive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Natural, primarily unmodified ◆ ROS: Typically Primitive to Roded Natural ◆ Wild ROS: Typically Semi-Primitive to Transition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ May be modified ◆ ROS: Typically Semi-Primitive to Rural Roded Natural to Rural setting ◆ Wild ROS: Typically Portal or Transition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ May be highly modified ◆ Commonly associated with visitor centers or high-use recreation sites ◆ ROS: Typically Roded Natural to Urban ◆ Generally not present in Wilderness¹⁷

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Trail Class Pictures

TC1 – Tread: Tread intermittent and indistinct



TC2 – Tread: Tread continuous and discernible, but narrow and rough.



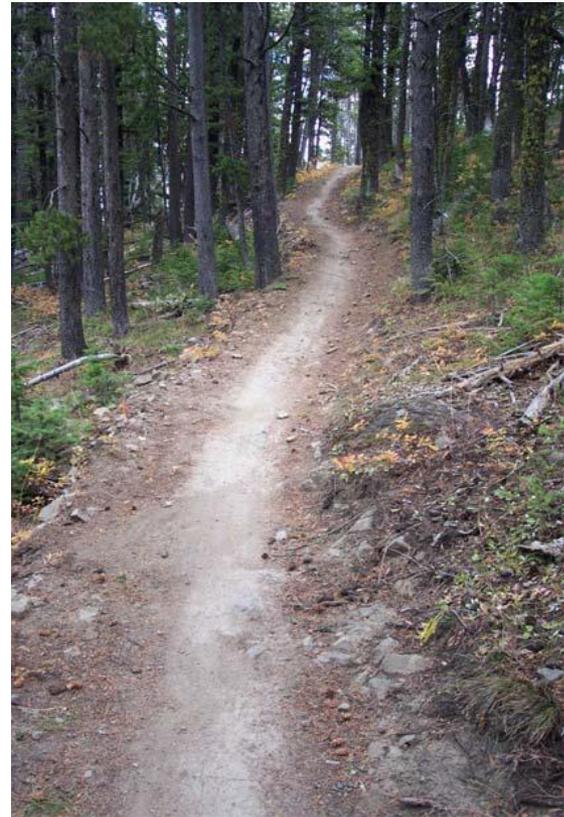
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Trail Class Pictures

TC3 – Tread: Tread continuous and obvious



TC4 – Tread: Tread wide and relatively smooth, with few irregularities.



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Trail Class Pictures

TC5 – Tread: Tread wide, firm, stable, and generally uniform. Commonly hardened with asphalt or other imported material



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Wrap it Up

- Access is provided by Forest Roads, Trails, Rivers & Backcountry Airstrips
- Suitability of Uses: is found in ROS Setting (not in recreational access FP components)
- Trail Classes are part of ROS Suitability Component
- Scenery looks at character and integrity. The objective varies across the forest based on ROS, designated areas and travel corridors.
- ROS map: Existing condition based on a model of open/closed roads and trails
 - Map needs to be modified to display DFC with Collaborative Input; but DFC for Designated Areas (i.e. Wilderness, W&S Rivers and Recommended Wilderness) will be addressed at May Session
- Many “discussions” regarding fiscal capability of maintenance; priorities for maintenance; management information (i.e. manage according to Tread Lightly/Leave No Trace) belongs in FP Chapter: “Other Management and not in
- FP DFC’s or other Components (I.e. guidelines)

PRE-Work

Available As You Leave and On-line Next Week

- Primer Document
 - ROS Definitions and Field Guide
 - Recreation Facilities Development Scale
 - Scenery Management Overview
 - Trail Classification
- Draft Forest Plan Components
 - ROS
 - Scenic Character
 - Recreation Facilities
 - Dispersed Recreation
 - Recreation Access
 - Scenic Byways
 - Interpretation and Education
 - Recreation Special Uses
- Maps
- Assessment (Available next week)