

GLOSSARY

Many of the definitions in this glossary can be referenced in the sources listed below. The numbers in parentheses appear at the end of some definitions, indicating their source. Many other definitions are not referenced, but are those in general use within the Forest Service. In an effort toward brevity, those terms which are adequately defined in a typical dictionary are not included in this glossary.

Source List

- (1) 36 CFR 219 National Forest Management Act Regulations
- (2) Regional Guide for the Pacific Northwest Region, 1984.
- (3) SAF Dictionary of Forestry Terms, 1971.
- (4) Wildland Planning Glossary, 1976.
- (5) Wildlife Habitats in Managed Forests, The Blue Mountains of Oregon and Washington, 1979.
- (6) Forest Service Manual or Forest Service Handbook.

Allocation - See **resource allocation**.

Allotment - See **range allotment**

Alternative - One of several policies, plans, or projects proposed for decision making. (2) (6)

Anadromous fish - Those species of fish that mature in the sea and migrate into streams to spawn. Salmon, steelhead, and sea-run cutthroat trout are examples.

Analysis file - A file containing records of the scoping and analysis process conducted in the preparation of a NEPA document. The file is typically stored at the Forest Service office from which a final decision is issued.

Best management practices - A practice or combination of practices that is determined by a 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 (Federal Register, Volume 40, No. 230 dated 11/28/75).

Bureau of Land Management (BLM) - An agency within the Department of the Interior, with land management responsibility for the Public Domain lands.

Capital investment - (A) An input that increased the stock of natural or manmade 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 1 year; (B) activities that create or improve capital assets to obtain benefits occurring during several planning periods. (6)

Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) - A codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the Executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government. (1)

Congressionally classified and designated areas - Areas that require congressional enactment for their establishment, such as National Wildernesses, National Wild and Scenic Rivers, and National Recreation Areas.

Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) - An advisory council to the President established by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. It reviews federal programs for their effect on the environment, conducts environmental studies, and advises the President on environmental matters. (Abstracted from the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as Amended.)

Cultural resource - The remains of sites, structures, or objects used by humans in the past--historic or prehistoric. (2)

Cumulative effects or impacts - Cumulative effect or impact is the impact on the environment which 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 non-federal) or person undertakes such actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time. (40 CFR 1508.7 - these regulations use effects and impacts synonymously.)

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.

Desired future condition (DFC) - A portrayal of the land or resource condition which are expected to result if goals and objectives are fully achieved. (1)

Developed recreation - 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. (2)

Dispersed recreation - 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. (2)

Diversity - The distribution and abundance of different plant and animal communities and species within the area covered by a land and resource management plan. (1) (2)

Draft environmental impact statement (DEIS) - The draft statement of environmental effects which is required for major federal actions under Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act, and released to the public and other agencies for comment and review. (4)

Drop Camp - Transportation of a non-boating party, by powerboat, to a river campsite for recreational purposes.

Economic impacts -

Direct economic impact - Effects caused directly by forest product harvest or processing or by forest uses. (6)

Indirect economic impact - Effects that occur when supporting industries sell goods or services to directly affected industries. (6)

Induced economic impact - Effects that occur when employees or owners of directly or indirectly affected industries spend their income within the economy. (6)

Edge - An area where plant communities meet or where successional stages or vegetation conditions within the plant communities come together. (2)

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 and impacts as used in the DEIS are synonymous. 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)

Endangered species - Any species of animal or plant that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Plant or animal species identified by the Secretary of the Interior as endangered in accordance with the 1973 Endangered Species Act. (4)

Environmental analysis - 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. (2)

Environmental impact statement - 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 the National Environmental Policy Act (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 Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) guidelines, and directives of the agency responsible for the project proposal. (4)

Final environmental impact statement (FEIS) - The final version of the statement of environmental effects required for major federal actions under section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act. It is a revision of the draft environmental impact statement to include public and agency responses to the draft. (4)

Forest Service Handbook (FSH) - For Forest Service use, directives that provide detailed instructions on how to proceed with a specialized phase of a program or activity. (6)

Forest Service Manual (FSM) - A system of manuals which provides direction for Forest Service activities.

HCNRA - Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

Historic site - Site associated with the history, tradition, or cultural heritage of national, state, or local interest, and of enough significance to merit preservation or restoration. (4)

ID team - See **Interdisciplinary team**.

Impacts - See **effects**.

Impact, economic, direct - Impacts, caused directly by forest product harvest or processing, or forest uses.

Impact, economic, indirect - Impacts that arise from supporting industries selling goods or services to directly-affected industries.

Impacts, economic, induced - Impacts resulting from employees or owners of directly or indirectly-affected industries spending their income within the economy.

Indicator species - See **management indicator species**.

Inholding - Privately-owned land inside the National Forest boundary.

Interdisciplinary team (ID team) - a group of individuals with different training assembled to solve a problem or perform a task. The team is assembled out of recognition that no one scientific discipline is sufficiently broad to adequately solve the problem. (4)

Issue - A point, matter, or question of public discussion or interest to be addressed or decided through the planning process. (2)

Jetback - Upriver transportation of a float party, by powerboat, to a takeout location.

Jetout - Downriver transportation of a float party, by powerboat, to a takeout location.

Kicker - A small horsepower engine, equipped with a propellor and mounted on a raft or other floatcraft, used primarily for downstream steerage. Kickers are used for traveling through long stretches of flat water or as an aid to offset upstream winds while traveling downstream.

Landform - An area of land that is defined by its particular combination of bedrock and soils, erosion processes and climatic influences.

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. (4)

Management area - An area with similar management objectives and a common management prescription. (1) (6)

Management direction - A statement of multiple use and other goals and objectives, and the associated management prescriptions, and standards and guidelines for attaining them. (1)

Management indicator species - 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. (5)

Mitigation - Mitigation includes: (a) avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action; (b) minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation; (c) rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; (d) reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; and, (e) compensation for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments. (40 CFR Part 1508.20)

Mitigation measures - Actions to avoid, minimize, reduce, eliminate, or rectify adverse impacts of management practices.

Monitoring and evaluation - The periodic evaluation of Forest Plan management practices on a sample basis to determine how well objectives have been met.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 - 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. (The Principal Laws Relating to Forest Service Activities, Agriculture Handbook No. 453, USDA, Forest Service, 359 pp.)

National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan - A Plan which "...shall provide for multiple use and sustained yield of goods and services from the National Forest System in a way that maximizes long-term net public benefits in an environmentally sound manner." (1)

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 Regional Guides and Forest Plans and the preparation of regulations to guide that development.

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. (4)

National Register of Historic Places - A listing (maintained by the U.S. National Park Service) of areas which 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. (4)

Nonpoint source pollution - Pollution whose source is general rather than specific in location. It is widely used in reference to agricultural and related pollutants -- for example, production of sediments by logging operations, agricultural pesticide applications, or automobile exhaust pollution. (4)

Noxious weeds - Undesirable plant species that are unwholesome to the range or to animals. (4)

Objective - A concise, time-specific statement of measurable planned results that responds 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. (1)

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. (4)

Passerines - Small or medium-sized perching songbirds; more than half of all birds belong to this group.

Permittee - Any person or business formally allowed to graze livestock on the land of another person or business (e.g., on state or federal land). (3)

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. (1)

Prehistoric site - An area which contains important evidence and remains of the life and activities of early societies which did not record their history.

Primitive recreation - Those types of recreation activities associated with unroaded land -- e.g., hiking, backpacking, cross-country travel. (4)

Project - An organized effort to achieve an objective identified by location, timing, activities, outputs, effects, and time period and responsibilities for executions. (6)

Range allotment - An area designated for use by a prescribed number and kind of livestock under one management plan. (4)

Range allotment management plan (AMP) - An approved plan for managing a range allotment resulting in resolution of resource conflicts including riparian areas. Resource damages may still be occurring; however, the action items identified in the AMP are expected to stop resource damage or resolve resource conflicts over time.

Raptors - Predatory birds, such as falcons, hawks, eagles, or owls.

Record of Decision - A document separate from but associated with an Environmental Impact Statement which states the decision, identifies all alternatives, specifying which were environmentally preferable, 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)

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. (2)

Recreational opportunity - The availability of choices for users to participate in the recreational activities they prefer within the settings they prefer.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) - A framework for stratifying and defining classes of outdoor recreation environments, activities, and experience opportunities. The settings, activities,

and opportunities for obtaining experiences have been arranged along a continuum or spectrum divided into seven classes: Primitive, Semiprimitive Nonmotorized, Semiprimitive Motorized, Roaded Modified, Roaded Natural, Rural, Urban.

Redd - Nest in gravel of stream bottom where fish deposit eggs.

Regulations - Generally refers to the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Chapter II, which covers management of the Forest Service. (2)

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 USDA 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. (4)

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 view points, or recreation opportunities. (4)

Resource allocation - The action of apportioning the supply of a resource to specific uses or to particular persons or organizations. (4)

Riverine - On or near the banks of a river; riparian.

Scenic river areas - See **wild and scenic river**.

Scoping process - A part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process; early and open activities used to determine the scope and significance of the issues, and the range of actions, alternatives, and impacts to be considered in an Environmental Impact Statement. (40 CFR 1501.7)

Sensitive species - Plant or animal species which are susceptible or vulnerable to activity impacts or habitat alternations. 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. (2)

Standards and guidelines (S&G) - Principles specifying conditions or levels of environmental quality to be achieved.

Threatened species - Those plant or animal species likely to become endangered species throughout all or a significant portion of their range within the foreseeable future. (See also **endangered species**.) (2)

Tiering - Refers to the coverage of general matters in broader environmental impact statements (such as the Forest Plan) with subsequent narrower statements or environmental analyses (such as the Comprehensive Management Plan, or ultimately, site-specific statements) incorporating, by reference, the general discussions and concentrating solely on the issues specific to the statement subsequently prepared. (40 CFR 1508.28)

Wild and scenic river - Those rivers or sections of rivers designated as such by congressional action under the 1968 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as supplemented and amended. Within this document 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.

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 - Areas designated by congressional action under the 1964 Wilderness Act. 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. (2)

Xeric - A 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. (3)