



# Glossary

## *Northwest Forest Plan Amendment*

**Active Management:** Direct human intervention in forests to achieve desired outcomes. Interventions may include planting and harvest of timber, forest thinning, and planned fire ignitions to maintain forest health, enhance biodiversity, and reduce wildfire risk.

**Adaptive Management Areas (AMAs):** A land use allocation (LUA) designated under the 1994 NWFP for testing new ecosystem management approaches to improve forest health and resilience.

**Alternatives (DEIS):** Different strategies evaluated in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, each offering a distinct approach to managing the plan landscape.

**Biodiversity:** The variety of plant and animal life in a habitat; an indicator of ecosystem health.

**Community Buffers:** Areas around communities at high fire risk, where treatments aim to reduce fire behavior and intensity, prioritizing human health and safety.

**Community Protection Area:** Areas near communities with special management practices to reduce wildfire risk to communities, tribal values, and infrastructure.

**Cultural burning:** Cultural burning is rooted in Indigenous Knowledge, practice, and belief systems. In a very general sense, it is the intentional application of fire to the land by Indigenous people for Tribally defined desired purposes. The purpose and types of cultural burning are broad and can include ceremonial, resource revitalization (eco/cultural/medicinal/First Foods, etc.), risk/fuels reduction, or an integration of these. It is important to keep in mind that Tribes are diverse and may perform cultural burning activities across diverse contexts and circumstances.

**Desired Outcomes:** Specific goals that proposed actions and management strategies aim to achieve, focusing on forest health, resilience, and sustainability.

**Disturbance:** A discrete event that disrupts the structure or function of an ecosystem, watershed, species or community, changing resources or the physical environment.

**Ecological forestry:** An ecosystem management approach to managing forests and landscapes that may include conservation goals and sustainable forest management.

**Ecosystem:** A defined area that includes interacting organisms and environmental elements, described by its composition, structure, function, and connectivity.

**Fire Resilience:** The ability of an ecosystem or community to withstand or recover quickly from wildfires.

**Fuels Management:** Manipulation of wildland fuels through mechanical, chemical, biological, or manual means, or by fire, in support of land management objectives to control or mitigate the effects of future wildland fire.

**Government-to-Government Consultation:** Also “Tribal Consultation.” The timely, meaningful, and substantive dialogue between Forest Service officials who have delegated authority to consult, and the official leadership of federally recognized Indian Tribes, or their designated representative(s), pertaining to decisions or actions that may have tribal implications.

**Heterogeneity:** Diversity in character or context, such as the uneven distribution of species within an area.

**Key Watersheds:** Watersheds that are expected to serve as refugia for aquatic organisms, particularly in the short term, for at-risk fish populations that have the greatest potential for restoration, or to provide sources of high-quality water.

**Late-successional forest:** Forests that have developed after long periods of time (typically at least 100 to 200 years) following major disturbances, and in moist forests that generally contain shade-tolerant tree species that can regenerate beneath a canopy and eventually grow into the canopy.

**Managed Late-Successional Areas (MLSAs):** A land use allocation (LUA) managed similarly to Late-Successional Reserves, but in dry landscapes where northern spotted owls are located, requiring recognition of the role of regular and frequent fire as a natural part of the ecosystem.

**Matrix:** Federal and other lands outside of specifically designated reserve areas, particularly the late-successional reserves under the NWFP, that are managed for timber production and other objectives.

**Moist Forests:** Forests with higher moisture levels and high levels of organic matter including large logs and snags, that may also experience somewhat cooler temperatures than dry forests.

**National Forest System:** Includes national forests, national grasslands, and other areas such as the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area.

**Passive Management:** Minimizing human intervention in forests, allowing natural processes like succession and fire regimes to shape the ecosystem.

**Proposed Action:** The Forest Service's initial plan in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement to address identified issues, including updates to forest management practices.

**Riparian Areas:** Land areas directly influenced by water, such as river sides and lake borders, with visible vegetation or physical characteristics reflecting water influence.

**Riparian Reserves:** A land use allocation (LUA) designated under the 1994 NWFP that establishes areas near water bodies managed to protect water quality and aquatic resources.

**Salvage Harvest:** Removing dead, dying, or damaged trees after events like wildfires or storms to reduce hazards and recover economic value.

**Stressors:** Factors that degrade or impair ecosystems, such as invasive species or loss of connectivity.

**Survey and Manage Program:** A program under the 1994 NWFP that requires surveys for rare species, identifying species needing protection, managing known sites, and reviewing species' conservation status.

**Survey and Manage Species:** Species identified under the Survey and Manage program as requiring special attention for monitoring and protection.

**Sustainability:** The ability to meet present needs without compromising future generations' ability to meet theirs, including ecological, economic, and social aspects.

**Tribal Co-stewardship:** Collaborative land management practices involving Indigenous tribes, incorporating traditional knowledge and cultural practices, with respect to their shared interests in the management of federal lands, waters, and associated resources to protect treaty, religious, subsistence, and cultural interests. Meaningful and continued engagement allows for tribal collaboration in the development and implementation of management plans and engages tribes as primary partners.

**Wilderness:** Land designated by Congress as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System, established by the Wilderness Act of 1964.

**Wildland-Urban Interface:** The area where human development meets or intermingles with undeveloped wildland or vegetation fuels.

**Young Stands:** Forest areas with trees established after significant disturbances, typically after 1905, as referred to in this plan.

