

GLOSSARY

This glossary defines terms used by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to explain natural resource concepts and management activities specific to this final environmental impact statement and proposed plan amendment.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT. The natural, physical and human-related environment that is sensitive to changes from the alternatives.

AIR POLLUTANT. Any substance in air that could, if in high enough concentration, harm humans, animals, vegetation, or material. Air pollutants may include almost any natural or artificial matter capable of being airborne, in the form of solid particles, liquid droplets, gases, or a combination of these.

AIR QUALITY. Refers to standards for various classes of land as designated by the Clean Air Act, P.L. 88-206: Jan. 1978.

ALTERNATIVE. A mix of management prescriptions applied to specific land areas to achieve a set of goals and objectives. Each alternative represents a different way of achieving a set of similar management objectives. Sometimes the term “action alternative” is used when it is desirable to recognize that there is a “no action” alternative under which the proposed activity would not take place.

AMENITY. Resource use, object, feature, quality, or experience that is pleasing to the mind or senses; typically refers to values for which monetary values are not or cannot be established, such as scenic or wilderness values.

ANALYSIS AREA. The geographic area defining the scope of analysis for the project. Sometimes for a particular resource, the analysis area may have to be larger when effects have potential to extend beyond the boundaries of the proposal.

BENEFICIAL USES. Attributes that are considered useful products of the resource. They may include (but are not limited to) recreation, production of salmonid fishes, drinking water, power generation, and irrigation.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES. Methods, measures or practices to prevent or reduce water pollution including, but not limited to, structural and non-structural controls, operation and maintenance procedures, other requirements, scheduling and distribution of activities. Usually, BMP’s are selected on the basis of site-specific conditions that reflect natural background conditions and political, economic, and technical feasibility.

BIG GAME. Those species of large mammals normally managed as a sport hunting resource.

BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY. The variety of life and its processes, including bacteria and fungi as well as higher forms of life, such as plants, insects, birds, fish and mammals.

CASUAL USE (BLM Locatable). Mining activities that only negligibly disturb federal lands and resources. Casual use does not include the use of mechanized earth moving equipment or explosives or the use of motorized equipment in areas closed to off-road vehicles. Under casual use, operators do not have to notify BLM and operations do not need to be approved, but operations are subject to monitoring by BLM to ensure that federal lands do not undergo unnecessary or undue degradation. Casual use operations must be reclaimed.

CLASS I AREA. Under the 1977 Clean Air Act and amendments, all international parks, national parks greater than 6,000 acres, and national Wilderness Areas greater than 5,000 acres which existed on August 7, 1977. This class provides the most protection to pristine lands by severely limiting the amount of additional air pollution that can be added to these areas.

CLASSIFIED ROADS. Roads wholly or partially within or adjacent to National Forest System lands that are determined to be needed for motor vehicle access, such as state roads, county roads, privately owned roads, National Forest System roads authorized by the Forest Service that are intended for long-term use.

CLIMATE. The composite or generally prevailing weather conditions of a region throughout the year, averaged over a series of years.

CLOSED ROAD. A road or segment which is restricted from certain types of use during certain seasons of the year. The prohibited use and the time period of closure must be specified.

CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS (CFR). The official, legal tabulation or regulations directing federal government activities.

COMMUNITY. A group of one or more populations of plants and animals in a common spatial arrangement; an ecological term used in a broad sense to include groups of various sizes and degrees of integration.

CONIFER. Any of a group of needle- and cone-bearing evergreen trees.

COVER. Vegetation used by wildlife for protection from predators, breeding and rearing of young (hiding cover), or to ameliorate conditions of weather (thermal cover).

CULTURAL RESOURCES. The physical remains of human activity (artifacts, ruins, burial mounds, petroglyphs, etc.) having scientific, prehistoric, or social values.

CUMULATIVE EFFECT. The impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other actions. Cumulative impacts can also result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

DECIDING OFFICER. The Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management employee who has the authority to select and/or carry out a specific planning action.

DEMOGRAPHIC. Related to the vital statistics of human populations (size, density, growth, distribution, etc.) and the effect of these on social and economic conditions.

DESIGNATED ROADS AND TRAILS. Specific roads and trails identified by the agencies where some type of motorized vehicle use is appropriate and allowed either seasonally or yearlong.

DIRECT EFFECTS. Effects on the environment which occur at the same time and place as the initial cause or action.

DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION. A portrayal of the land or resource conditions which are expected to result if goals and objectives are fully achieved.

DEVELOPED RECREATION. Outdoor recreation requiring significant capital investment in facilities to handle a concentration of visitors on a relatively small area. Examples are ski areas, resorts, and campgrounds.

DISPERSED RECREATION. Outdoor recreation in which visitors are diffused over relatively large areas. Where facilities or developments are provided, they are more for access and protection of the environment than for the comfort or convenience of the people.

DIVERSITY. The relative distribution and abundance of different plant and animal communities and species within an area.

ECOSYSTEM. The complete system formed by the interaction of a group of organisms and their environment.

ECOTONE. An ecological community of mixed vegetation formed by the overlapping of adjoining communities.

EFFECTS (or impacts). Environmental consequences (the scientific and analytical basis for comparison of alternatives)

as a result of a proposed action. Effects may be either direct, which are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place, or indirect, which are caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable, or cumulative.

EMISSION. A release into the outdoor atmosphere of air contaminants.

ENDANGERED SPECIES. Any plant or animal species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range. (Endangered Species Act of 1973).

ENVIRONMENT. The aggregate of physical, biological, economic, and social factors affecting organisms in an area.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS. An analysis of alternative actions and their predictable environmental effects, including physical, biological, economic, and social consequences and their interactions; short- and long-term effects; direct, indirect, and cumulative effects.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS). A detailed statement prepared by the responsible official in which a major Federal action which significantly affects the quality of the human environment is described, alternatives to the proposed action provided, and effects analyzed.

EPHEMERAL STREAMS. Streams that flow only as a direct response to rainfall or snowmelt events. They have no baseflow.

EROSION. Detachment or movement of soil or rock fragments by water, wind, ice, or gravity. Accelerated erosion is much more rapid than normal, natural, or geologic erosion, primarily as a result of the influence of activities of people, animals, or natural catastrophes.

FEDERAL LAND POLICY AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976 (FLPMA). Public Law 94-579, October 21, 1976, often referred to as the BLM's "Organic Act," which provides the majority of the BLM's legislated authority, direction, policy and basic management guidance.

FEDERAL REGISTER. A daily publication which reports Presidential and Federal Agency documents.

FISH HABITAT. The place where a population of fish species lives and its surroundings; includes the provision of life requirements such as food and cover.

FISHERY. The total population of fish in a stream or body of water and the physical, chemical, and biological factors affecting that population.

FLOODPLAIN. The lowland and relatively flat areas adjoining inland and coastal waters, including, at a minimum, that

area subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year.

FLORA. The plant life characteristic of a region, period, or special environment.

FORAGE. Vegetation used for food by wildlife, particularly big game wildlife and domestic livestock.

FORB. Any herbaceous (herb-like) plant, other grass or grass-like plants.

FOREST COVER TYPE. A descriptive classification of forest land based on the present vegetative species composition and/or locality (i.e., lodgepole pine, mixed conifer). Most stands are given a classification (stratum label), based on aerial photo interpretation, that includes the forest cover type, size class, density class, and stand development phase.

FOREST PLAN. Refers to the various land and resource management plans for each national forest.

FOREST ROAD. A road wholly or partly within or adjacent to and serving the National Forest System and which is necessary for the protection, administration and utilization of the National Forest System and the use and development of its resources.

FRAGMENTATION. Process by which habitats are increasingly subdivided into smaller units, resulting in their increased insularity as well as losses of total habitat area.

HABITAT. The sum total of environmental conditions of a specific place occupied by a wildlife species or a population of such species.

HABITAT TYPE. An aggregation of all land areas potentially capable of producing similar plant communities at climax.

HARDWOODS. A conventional term for the wood of broadleaf trees. In the decision area these trees are generally confined to areas near water.

INDIRECT EFFECTS. Secondary effects which occur in locations other than the initial action or significantly later in time.

IN-MIGRATION. The movement of new residents into an area.

INTERAGENCY GUIDELINES. A document which was originally developed in the Yellowstone grizzly bear ecosystem and later applied to all grizzly habitat through congressional mandate. Previously known as the "Yellowstone Guidelines," it identifies important, specific management measures regarding the conduct of multiple use activities in grizzly bear

habitat and parameters for identifying the sensitivity of grizzly bear habitat to human activities.

INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM (IDT). A group of resource professionals with different expertise that collaborate to develop and evaluate resource management decisions.

INTERMITTENT STREAM. A stream which flows only at certain times of the year when it receives water from springs or from some surface source such as melting snow.

IRRETRIEVABLE IMPACT. Commitment of a resource would be considered "irretrievable" when the project would directly eliminate the resource, its productivity, and/or its utility for the life of the project.

IRREVERSIBLE IMPACT. The commitment of a resource would be "irreversible" if the project started a "process" (chemical, biological, and/or physical) that could not be stopped. As a result, the resource or its productivity, and/or its utility would be consumed, committed, or lost forever.

ISSUE INDICATORS. A "yardstick" for measuring or comparing any changes associated with each issue or concern by alternative.

LANDSCAPE. The aspect of the land that is characteristic of a particular region or area.

LIFEWAYS. The manner and means by which a group of people lives; their way of life. Components include language(s), subsistence strategies, religion, economic structure, physical mannerisms, and shared attitudes.

LOWER MONTANE. A terrestrial community that generally is found in drier and warmer environments than the montane terrestrial community. The lower montane community supports a unique clustering of wildlife species.

MANAGEMENT AREA. Geographic areas, not necessarily contiguous, which have common management direction.

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION. A statement of multiple use and other goals and objectives, along with the associated management prescriptions and standards and guidelines to direct resource management.

MANAGEMENT INDICATOR SPECIES (MIS). A species of wildlife, fish, or plant whose health and vigor are believed to accurately reflect the health and vigor of other species having similar habitat and protection needs to those of the selected indicator species.

MITIGATION. Actions to avoid, minimize, reduce, eliminate, replace, or rectify the impact of a management practice.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION. The evaluation, on a sample basis, of management practices to determine how well objectives are being met, as well as the effects of those management practices on the land and environment.

MONTANE. Inhabiting the cool, moist ecological zone located near the timberline and usually dominated by ever-green trees.

MOTORIZED WHEELED VEHICLE. Includes all types of motorized wheeled vehicles capable of or designed for, travel on or immediately over land or other natural terrain (motorcycles, four-wheel drive vehicles, all-terrain vehicles, sport utility vehicles, pickup trucks, etc.) and includes those vehicles that have the driving wheels moving inside endless tracks, or capable of conversion to such method of travel.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA). An act which encourages productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment; promotes efforts to prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man; enriches the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the Nation; and establishes a Council on Environmental Quality.

NATIONAL FOREST MANAGEMENT ACT (NFMA). A law passed in 1976 as amendments to the Forest and Range-land Renewable Resources Planning Act that requires the preparation of Regional and Forest plans and the preparation of regulations to guide that development.

NATIONAL FOREST SYSTEM. All national forest lands reserved or withdrawn from the public domain of the United States, all national forest lands acquired through purchase, exchange, donation, or other means, the national grasslands and land utilization projects administered under Title 111.

NATIVE FISH. Fish species that are indigenous to a region's waters, as opposed to introduced or exotic fish.

NATIVE SPECIES. Species that normally live and thrive in a particular ecosystem.

NEPA PROCESS. An interdisciplinary process, mandated by the National Environmental Policy Act, which concentrates decision-making around issues, concerns, alternatives and the effects of alternatives on the environment.

NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE. The No Action Alternative is required by regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (40 CFR 1502.14). The No Action Alternative provides a baseline for estimating the effects of other alternatives. Where a project activity is being evaluated, the No Action Alternative is defined as one where no action or activity would take place.

NONDESIGNATED ROADS AND TRAILS. Roads and trails that have not yet gone through site-specific travel planning to determine if they should be open, closed, or restricted to motorized vehicle use or roads and trails that have gone through travel planning and determined that motorized vehicle use is not appropriate and is not allowed.

NONGAME SPECIES. All wild animals not subject to sport hunting, trapping or fishing regulations.

NONPOINT SOURCE POLLUTION. Pollution whose source is not specific in location; the sources of the pollutant discharge are dispersed, not well defined or constant. Examples include sediments from logging activities and runoff from agricultural chemicals.

NOXIOUS WEEDS. A plant species designated by Federal or State law as generally possessing one or more of the following characteristics: aggressive and difficult to manage; parasitic; a carrier or host of serious insects or disease; or nonnative, new, or not common to the United States. According to the Federal Noxious Weed Act (PL 93-639), a noxious weed is one that causes disease or has other adverse effects on people or their environment and therefore is detrimental to the agriculture and commerce of the United States and to the public health.

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLES or OFF-ROAD VEHICLES. Any motorized vehicle designed for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other natural terrain; except that such term excludes (A) any registered motorboat, (B) any military, fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle when used for emergency purposes, and (C) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by the respective agency head under a permit, lease, license, or contract.

OFF-ROAD VEHICLE DESIGNATIONS (BLM)

Open: Designated areas and trails where off-road vehicles may be operated, subject to operating regulations and vehicle standards set forth in BLM Manuals 8341 and 8343; or an area where all types of vehicle use is permitted at all times, subject to the standards in BLM Manuals 8341 and 8343.

Limited: Designated areas and trails where the use of off-road vehicles is subject to restrictions, such as limiting the number or types of vehicles allowed, dates and times of use (seasonal restrictions), limiting use to existing roads and trails, or limiting use to designated roads and trails. Under the designated roads and trails designation, use would be allowed only on roads and trails that are signed for use. Combinations of restrictions are possible, such as limiting use to certain types of vehicles during certain times of the year.

Closed: Designated areas and trails where the use of off-road vehicles is permanently or temporarily prohibited. The use of off-road vehicles in closed areas may be allowed for certain reasons; however, such use shall be made only with the approval of the authorized officer.

OFF-ROAD VEHICLE DESIGNATIONS (FS)

Open: Areas and trails on which all types of motorized vehicles may be operated off roads without restrictions.

Restricted: Areas and trails on which motorized vehicle use is restricted by times or season of use, types of vehicles, vehicle equipment, designated areas or trails, or types of activity specified in orders issued under the authority of 36 CFR 361.

Closed: Areas and trails on which all motorized vehicle use is prohibited, except by permit, under authority of 36 CFR 261 or by law.

OPEN TO PUBLIC TRAVEL. Except during scheduled periods, extreme weather conditions or emergencies, is open to the general public for use with a standard passenger auto, without restrictive gates or prohibitive signs or regulations, other than general traffic control or restrictions based on size, weight, or class of registration. (23 CFR 660).

PERENNIAL STREAMS. Streams that flow continuously throughout the year.

PLAN AMENDMENT. The system that provides a step-by-step process for considering multiple resource values, resolving conflicts, and making resource management decisions.

PLANNING CRITERIA. The factors used to guide development of the resource management plan, or revision, to ensure that it is tailored to the issue previously identified and to ensure that unnecessary data collection and analysis are avoided. Planning criteria are developed to guide the collection and use of inventory data and information, analysis of the management situation, design and formulation of alternatives, estimation of the effects of alternatives, evaluation of alternatives, and selection of the preferred alternative.

POPULATION. In statistics, the aggregate of all units forming the subject of study; otherwise, a community of individuals that share a common gene pool.

PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE. The agency's preferred alternative, one or more, that is identified in the impact statement (40 CFR 1502.14).

PRESCRIBED BURNING. The intentional application of fire to wildland fuels in either their natural or modified state under such conditions as to allow the fire to be confined to a

predetermined area and at the same time to produce the intensity of heat and rate of spread required to further certain planned objectives (i.e., silviculture, wildlife management, reduction of fuel hazard, etc.)

PROGRAMMATIC EIS. An environmental impact statement that establishes a broad management direction for an area by establishing a goal, objective, standard, management prescription and monitoring and evaluation requirement for different types of activities that are permitted. It also can establish what activities are not permitted within the specific area(s). This document does not mandate or authorize the permitted activities to proceed.

PROJECT AREA. The geographic area defining the scope of this document and the alternatives proposed by it.

PROJECT FILE. An assemblage of documents that contains all the information developed or used during an environmental analysis. This information may be summarized in an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement. The project file becomes part of the administrative record for judicial review in case of legal action.

PUBLIC LANDS or BLM LANDS. Any land and interest in land (outside of Alaska) owned by the United States and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Bureau of Land Management.

RANGER DISTRICT. An administrative subdivision of the National Forest, supervised by a district ranger who reports to the forest supervisor.

RECORD OF DECISION. A concise public document disclosing the decision made following preparation of an EIS and the rationale used to reach that decision.

RECREATION VISITOR DAYS (RVD). One 12-hour period of recreation. It can be one person for 12 hours, 2 people for 6 hours, 12 people for 1 hour, etc.

RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES. The combination of recreation settings, activities and experience provided by the forest.

REDD. Spawning nest made by salmon or steelhead in the gravel bed of a river.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN. A BLM planning document, prepared in accordance with Section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, that presents systematic guidelines for making resource management decisions for a planning area. An RMP is based on an analysis of an area's resources, existing management, and capability for alternative uses. RMP's are issue oriented and developed by an interdisciplinary team with public participation.

RESTRICTED ROAD. A National Forest road or segment which is restricted from a certain type of use or all uses during certain seasons of the year or yearlong. The use being restricted and the time period must be specified. The closure is legal when the Forest Supervisor has issued an Order and posted that Order in accordance with 36 CFR 261.

RIPARIAN AREAS/HABITATS. Land areas where the vegetation and microclimate are influenced by perennial and/or intermittent water.

ROADLESS AREA. A national forest area which 1) is larger than 5,000 acres, or if smaller than 5,000 acres, contiguous to a designated wilderness or primitive area; 2) contains no roads; and 3) has been inventoried for possible inclusion in the wilderness preservation system.

SCOPING. The procedures by which the Forest Service and BLM determine the extent of analysis necessary for a proposed action, i.e., the range of actions, alternatives, and impacts to be addressed, identification of significant issues related to a proposed action, and establishing the depth of environmental analysis, data, and task assignments needed.

SEASONAL CLOSURE. Area or road closed part of the year.

SEDIMENT. Any material carried in suspension by water, which will ultimately settle to the bottom. Sediment has two main sources: from the channel area itself and from disturbed sites.

SEMI-ARID. Moderately dry; region or climate where moisture is normally greater than under arid conditions but still definitely limits the production of vegetation.

SENSITIVE SPECIES. Those species identified by the Regional Forester for which population viability is a concern as evidenced by significant current or predicted downward trends in (a) population numbers or density, or (b) habitat capability that would reduce a species' existing distribution.

SENSITIVITY LEVEL. A particular degree or measure of viewer interest in the scenic qualities of the landscape.

SHRINK-SWELL POTENTIAL. The susceptibility of soil to change in volume due to a loss or gain in moisture content. A shrink-swell potential is typically associated with soils that have a high percentage of clay.

SHRUB. A plant with persistent woody stems and relatively low growth form; usually produces several basal shoots as opposed to a single bole; differs from a tree by its low stature and nonarborescent form.

SIGNIFICANT. As used in NEPA, requires consideration of both context and intensity. Context means that the significance of an action must be analyzed in several contexts, such as society as a whole and the affected region, interests, and locality. Intensity refers to the severity of impacts (40 CFR 1508.27).

SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES. Refers to federally listed threatened or endangered species, federal candidate species, species recognized as requiring special protection by State agencies, and species managed as sensitive species by the FS and/or BLM.

SPECIAL USE PERMIT. A permit issued under established laws and regulations to an individual, organization, or company for occupancy or use of National Forest System lands for some special purpose.

SPECIES. A unit of classification of plants and animals consisting of the largest and most inclusive array of sexually reproducing and cross-fertilizing individuals which share a common gene pool.

SPECIFIED ROAD. A Forest System Road, including related transportation facilities and appurtenances.

STANDARD. A particular action, level of performance, or threshold specified by the Forest Plan for resource protection or accomplishment of management objectives. Unlike "guidelines" which are optional, standards specified in the Forest Plan are mandatory.

SUBALPINE. A terrestrial community that generally is found in harsher environments than the montane terrestrial community. Subalpine communities are generally colder than montane and support a unique clustering of wildlife species.

SUMMER RANGE. A range, usually at higher elevation, used by deer and elk during the summer; a summer range is usually much more extensive than a winter range.

THERMAL COVER. Vegetation used by animals to modify the adverse effects of weather. A forest stand that is at least 40 feet in height with tree canopy cover of at least 70 percent provides thermal cover. These stand conditions are achieved in closed sapling-pole stands and by all older stands unless the canopy cover is reduced below 70 percent. Deciduous stands may serve as thermal cover in summer, but not in winter.

THREATENED SPECIES. Any species of plant or animal which is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

TIERING. The use of a previously written environmental document with a broad scope to cover discussion of issues common to both.

TRIBE. Term used to designate a Federally recognized group of American Indians and their governing body. Tribes may be comprised of more than one band.

UNCLASSIFIED ROADS. Roads on National Forest System lands that are not needed for and not managed as part of the forest transportation system, such as unplanned roads, abandoned travelways, off-road vehicle tracks which have not been designated and managed as a trail, and those roads no longer under permit or other authorization.

UNDERSTORY. Vegetation (trees or shrubs) growing under the canopy formed by taller trees.

UPLAND. The portion of the landscape above the valley floor or stream.

VIABLE POPULATIONS. A wildlife population of sufficient size to maintain its existence over time in spite of normal fluctuations in population levels.

VISUAL QUALITY OBJECTIVE (VQO). A system of indicating the potential expectations of the visual resource by considering the frequency an area is viewed and the type of landscape.

Maximum Modification: A Visual Quality Objective meaning man's activity may dominate the characteristic landscape but should appear as a natural occurrence when viewed as background.

Modification: A Visual Quality Objective meaning man's activity may dominate the characteristic landscape but must, at the same time, utilize naturally established form, line, color, and texture. It should appear as a natural occurrence when viewed in foreground or middleground.

Partial Retention: A Visual Quality Objective which, in general, means man's activities may be evident but must remain subordinate to the characteristic landscape.

Preservation: A Visual Quality Objective that provides for ecological change only.

Retention: A Visual Quality Objective which, in general, means man's activities are not evident to the casual forest visitor.

VISUAL RESOURCE. The composite of landforms, water features, vegetative patterns and cultural features which create the visual environment.

VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CLASSES. The degree of acceptable visual changes within a characteristic landscape. A class is based upon the physical and sociological characteristics of any given homogenous area and serves as a management objective.

WATERSHED. A region or area bounded peripherally by a water parting and draining ultimately to a particular watercourse.

WEED. A plant considered undesirable, unattractive, or troublesome, usually introduced and growing without intentional cultivation.

WILDERNESS. All lands included in the National Wilderness Preservation System by public law; generally defined as undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence without permanent improvements or human habitation.

WINTER RANGE. A range, usually at lower elevation, used by migratory deer and elk during the winter months; usually better defined and smaller than summer ranges.