

Appendix B

Glossary

Adaptive Management – An interdisciplinary planning and implementation process that identifies desired conditions, defines criteria for modifying management when progress toward achieving the desired conditions is not being made, and specifically defines the monitoring strategy and protocols.

Affected Environment - The biological and physical environment that may be changed by proposed actions and the relationship of people to that environment.

Allotment - A designated area of land available for livestock grazing upon which a specified number and kind of livestock may be grazed under a range allotment management plan. It is the basic land unit used to facilitate management of the range resource on National Forest System lands, including national grasslands.

Allotment Management Plan (AMP) - The document containing the action program needed to manage the range resource for livestock utilization, and possibly wildlife utilization, while considering the soil, watershed, wildlife, recreation, timber, and other resources in a range allotment.

Analysis Area - One or more capability areas combined for the purpose of analysis in formulating alternatives and establishing various impacts and effects.

Animal Unit Month (AUM) - The amount of feed or forage required by an animal-unit for one month.

Animal-Month - A month's tenure upon the rangeland by one animal. Must specify kind and class of animal. Note: This term is not synonymous with animal unit month (AUM).

Animal-Unit - Considered to be a mature 1,000-pound cow or the equivalent, based on an average daily forage consumption of 26 pounds dry matter per day.

Aquatic Ecosystem - An ecosystem (biological and physical components and their interactions) in which water is the principal medium. Examples include wetlands, streams, reservoirs, and areas with plants or animals suited to either permanently or seasonally inundated soils.

Base Property - Those lands in a ranching enterprise that are owned and required to hold a term grazing permit.

Benchmarks – Benchmarks are reference points that are sensitive to management changes. These are the small areas where *long-term* trend studies are installed and maintained so that the manager can assess the resource impacts from management.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) - Land management methods, measures or practices intended to minimize or reduce water pollution as well as practices that result in healthy ecosystems. Usually, BMPs are applied as a system of practices rather than a single practice. BMPs are selected based on site-specific conditions that reflect natural background conditions and political, social, economic, and technical feasibility.

Biological Diversity - The full variety of life in an area, including the ecosystems, plant and animal communities, species and genes, and the processes through which individual organisms interact with one another and their environments. Emphasis is on the diversity of native or endemic species.

Buffer Zone - An area on the edge of protected areas with restrictive land-use controls allowing only activities compatible with protection of the core area, such as research, environmental education, recreation, and tourism.

Candidate Species – Species for which the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has on file sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threat(s) to support issuance of a proposed rule to list the species for protection under the Endangered Species Act.

Capable Rangeland - The potential of an area of land to produce resources, supply goods and services and allow resource uses under an assumed set of management practices and at given levels of management intensity. Capability depends on current conditions and site conditions such as climate, slope, landform, soils, and geology, as well as the application of management practices such as silviculture or protection from fire, insects, and disease.

Carrying Capacity - The maximum possible stocking rate that is consistent with maintaining or improving vegetation or related resources. It may vary from year to year in the same area due to fluctuating forage production. Also called grazing capacity.

Continuous Grazing - The grazing of a specific unit by livestock throughout a year.

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) - An advisory council to the President established by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969.

Cover Type - The vegetative species that dominates a site. Cover types are named for one plant species or non-vegetative condition presently (not potentially) dominant, using canopy or foliage cover as the measure of dominance. In several cases, sites with more than one dominant species have been lumped together into one cover type. Co-dominance is not necessarily implied.

Critical Habitat (Threatened, Endangered, and Proposed Species) - Habitat of federally listed threatened or endangered species where those physical and biological features essential to conservation of the species are found and which may require special management considerations or protection. This habitat may currently be occupied or may be determined by the Secretary of the interior to be essential for areas outside the species' current range.

Cumulative Impact - The impact on the environment that results from the incremental effect of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of the source (federal or nonfederal agencies, individuals). Cumulative effects can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over time.

Decreaser (Plant) - Plant species of the original or climax vegetation that will decrease in relative amount with continued disturbance (heavy defoliation, fire, drought) to the norm. Some agencies use this only in relation to response to overgrazing.

Deferment - Delay of livestock grazing on an area for an adequate time to allow plant reproduction, establishment of new plants, or restoration of vigor of existing plants.

Deferred Rotation - To discontinue grazing on various parts of a range in succeeding years, allowing each part of the range to rest successively during the growing season to permit seed production, establishment of seedlings, or restoration of plant vigor. Each rested part of the range is grazed during the year. At least two, but usually three or more, separate grazing units are required.

Dependent Communities - Communities whose social, economic, or political life would become discernibly different in important respects if market or no market outputs from the national forest or national grasslands were significantly disrupted.

Desired Future Condition - A portrayal of the land or resource conditions that are expected to result if goals and objectives are fully achieved.

Desired Plant Community - A plant community that produces the kind, proportion, and amount of vegetation necessary for meeting or exceeding the land use plan/activity plan objectives established for an ecological site. The desired plant community must be consistent with the site's capability to produce the desired vegetation through management, land treatment, or a combination of the two.

Deteriorated Range - Range where vegetation and soils have significantly departed from the natural potential. Corrective management measures, such as seeding, would change the designation from deteriorated range to some other term.

Direct Effects - Environmental effects caused by an action and that occur at the same time and place.

Dispersed Recreation - This type of recreational use requires few, if any, improvements and may occur over a wide area. This type of recreation involves activities related to roads, trails and undeveloped waterways, and beaches. The activities do not necessarily take place on or adjacent to a road, trail, or waterway, only in conjunction with them. Activities are often day-use oriented and include hunting, fishing, boating, off-road vehicle use, hiking, and others.

Disturbance - A discrete event, either natural or human induced, that causes a change in the existing condition of an ecological system.

Diversity - Diversity refers to the distribution and abundance of different plant and animal communities and species within the area covered by land and resource management plans. This term is derived from the National Forest Management Act (NFMA). This term is not synonymous with biological diversity.

Ecological Diversity - The variety of ecosystems occurring within a given landscape.

Economic Efficiency - The usefulness of inputs (costs) to produce outputs (benefits) and effects when all costs and benefits that can be identified and valued are included in the computations. Economic efficiency is usually measured using present net value, though use of benefit-cost ratios and rates-of-return may sometimes be appropriate.

Ecosystem – 1) A community of living plants and animals interacting with each other and with their physical environment. A geographic area where it is meaningful to address the interrelationships with human social systems, sources of energy, and the ecological processes that shape change over time. 2) A community of organisms and its environment functioning as an ecological unit in nature.

Ecosystem Management - Scientifically based land and resource management that integrates ecological capabilities with social values and economic relationships to produce, restore, or sustain ecosystem integrity and desired conditions, uses, products, values, and services over the long term.

Effects - Physical, biological, social, and economic results (expected or experienced) resulting from achievement of outputs. Effects can be direct, indirect, and cumulative.

Effects (Heritage Resources) - Impacts to the characteristics that qualify a heritage resource for the National Register of Historic Places. These can include alterations in location, setting, use design, materials, feeling, and association. Adverse effects include:

- Physical destruction or damage.
- Isolation from or alteration of setting.
- Introduction of visual, audible, or atmospheric elements.
- Physical deterioration from neglect or from any action.
- Transfer, lease, or sale.

Eligible (Heritage Resources) - Indicates that a specific heritage resource qualifies for or is already listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Endangered Species - Any species of animal or plant in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range and so designated by the Secretary of Interior in accordance with the 1973 Endangered Species Act.

Endangered Species Act of 1973 - An act to conserve ecosystems for endangered species and threatened species, to conserve the endangered species and threatened species themselves, and to take appropriate steps to achieve the purposes of the (relevant) treaties and conventions.

Environmental Analysis - An analysis of alternative actions and their predictable short- and long-term environmental effects, which include physical, biological, economic, social, and environmental design factors and their interactions.

Environmental Assessment - A concise public document, for which a federal agency is responsible, that serves to:

- Briefly provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or a finding of no significant impact.
- Aid an agency's compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act when no environmental impact statement is necessary.
- Facilitate the preparation of an environmental impact statement when one is necessary.

Forage - Vegetation used for food by wildlife and livestock, particularly ungulate wildlife and domestic livestock.

Forage Production - The weight of forage that is produced within a designated period of time on a given area. The weight may be expressed as green, air dry, or oven dry. The term may also be modified as to time of production such as annual, current year, or seasonal forage production.

Forbs - Any herbaceous plant other than those in the grass, sedge, and rush families. For example, any non grass-like plant that has little or no woody material.

Forest Development Roads - A Forest road under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service. Forest Development Roads are not intended to meet the transportation needs of the public at large. Generally, these are roads constructed to a standard to serve expected traffic generated by resource management. Although generally open and available for public use, the Forest Service may restrict or control use to meet specific management direction.

Forest Plan (Forest Land and Resource Management Plan) - A document that guides natural resource management and establishes standards and guidelines for a national forest or national grassland. Required by the National Forest Management Act.

Forest System Roads - Roads that are part of the Forest Development Transportation System, which includes all existing and planned roads, as well as other special and terminal facilities designated as part of the Forest Development Transportation System.

Fragmentation - The breakup of a large land area (such as a grassland) into smaller patches isolated by areas converted to a different land type. The opposite of connectivity.

Fuels Management - Manipulation or reduction of fuels to meet protection and management objectives while preserving and enhancing environmental quality.

Graminoid - Grass or grass-like plant, such as *Poa*, *Carex*, or *Juncus* species

Grass - A member of the grass family, Poaceae.

Grassland - Any land on which the dominant plants are grasses or on which grasses originally dominated.

Grazing - The act of animals consuming plants on range or pasture.

Grazing Capacity - The maximum number of livestock under management that a given range area is capable of supporting within guidelines found in the allotment management plan.

Grazing Fee - A charge, usually on a monthly basis, for grazing use by a given kind of animal.

Grazing Permit - Official, written permission to graze a specified number, kind, and class of livestock for a specific period on a defined range allotment.

Grazing Response Index – A monitoring tool used to assess the effects of annual grazing pressures, and the effects of repetitive defoliation during the growing season. GRI considers three key concepts related to plant health: frequency, intensity, and opportunity.

Grazing Season – 1) A period of grazing to obtain optimum use of the forage resource. 2) On public lands, an established period for which grazing permits are issued.

Grazing System - A specialization of grazing management that defines systematically recurring periods of grazing and deferment for two or more pastures or management units. Some examples are: deferred grazing, rotation grazing, deferred-rotation grazing, and short-duration grazing.

Grazing, Short-duration - A grazing system in which animals are concentrated on less than one-half of the total land area and the lengths of deferment exceed the lengths of grazing.

Ground Cover - The percentage of material, other than bare ground, covering the land surface. It may include live and standing dead vegetation, litter, cobble, gravel, stones, and bedrock. Ground cover plus bare ground would total 100 percent.

Guilds - A group of organisms that share a common food source.

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

Habitat Capability – The capacity of a vegetative community to support selected wildlife and fish species for all or a part of its life cycle. Habitat capacity is normally expressed as projected populations or densities of animals.

Habitat Effectiveness - As used in this document, habitat effectiveness refers to the capability of an area to support big game based on forage, cover, open roads, and the spatial distribution of the three factors, regardless of the time of year.

Habitat Suitability – A measure of current habitat quality relative to the local biological potential of an area to provide habitat for a species. Habitat suitability is usually expressed as low, moderate or high or is quantitatively presented as an index value scaled from 0 (unsuitable) to 1.0 (optimum habitat).

Heritage Resources - The physical remains and conceptual content or context of an area. Physical remains may include artifacts, structures, landscape modifications, rock art, trails, or roads. Conceptual content/context includes the setting for legendary, historic, or prehistoric events, such as a sacred area for American Indians.

IDT - Interdisciplinary Team

Increaser (Plant) - Plant species of the original vegetation that increase in relative amount, at least for a time, under continued disturbance (heavy defoliation, fire, drought) to the norm.

Instream Flows - The minimum water volume (cubic feet per second) in each stream necessary to meet seasonal stream flow requirements for maintaining aquatic ecosystems, visual quality, recreational opportunities, and other uses.

Intensive Grazing Management – Grazing management that attempts to increase production or utilization per unit area or production per animal through a relative increase in stocking rates, forage utilization, labor, resources, or capital. Intensive grazing management is not synonymous with rotation grazing. Grazing management can be intensified by using any one or more of a number of grazing methods that use relatively more labor or capital resources.

Interdisciplinary Team (ID Team) - A group of people with different specialized training assembled to solve a problem or perform a task. The team is assembled out of recognition that no one discipline is sufficiently broad to adequately solve the problem. Through interaction, participants bring different points of view and a broader range of expertise to bear on the problem.

Intermittent Stream – 1) A stream that flows only 50 to 90 percent of the year when it receives water from some surface source, such as melting snow. 2) A stream that does not flow continuously, as when water losses from evaporation or seepage exceed the available stream flow.

Invader (Plant) - Plant species that were absent in undisturbed portions of the original vegetation of a specific range site and will invade or increase following disturbance or continued heavy grazing.

Invasive Plant - A species that displays rapid growth and spread, free from natural controls and enhanced by abundant seed production and germination.

Key Area - 1) An area selected to monitor the effects of management activities on ecosystem health. Examples may include, but are not limited to, uplands, riparian areas, and valley bottoms. 2) That portion of a pasture or grazing unit which is selected as a monitoring point because of its location, use, or grazing value.

Management Indicator Species – A plant or animal species selected because their status is believed to (1) be indicative of the status of a larger functional group of species, (2) be reflective of the status of a key habitat type, or (3) act as an early warning of an anticipated stressor to ecological integrity. The key characteristic of a MIS species is that its status and trend provide insights to the integrity of the larger ecological system to which it belongs.

Management Indicators (Fish and Wildlife) - Plant or animal species or habitat components selected in a planning process used to monitor the effects of planned management activities on populations of wildlife and fish, including those that are socially or economically important.

Mitigation - Includes avoiding an impact by not taking certain actions; minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation; rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; and compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

Mitigation (Heritage Resources) - Actions taken to reduce or eliminate adverse effects caused to heritage resources. Avoidance is not considered a mitigation measure.

Monitoring and Evaluation - The sample collection and analysis of information regarding LRMP management practices to determine how well objectives have been met, as well as the effects of those management practices on the land and environment.

Multiple Use - According to the Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act of 1960, multiple use is the management of all the various renewable surface resources of the National Forest System, including national grasslands, so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the needs of the American people. Such management makes the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions. Some lands will be used for less than all of the resources. Harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources is employed, each with the other, without impairment of the productivity of the land. Consideration is given to the relative values of the various resources and not necessarily the combination of uses that gives the greatest dollar return or the greatest unit output.

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) - An act declaring a national policy to encourage productive harmony between people and their environment, to promote efforts that will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and the biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of people and to enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the nation and to establish a Council on Environmental Quality.

National Forest Management Act (NFMA) - A 1976 law that amended the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act and requires the preparation of Regional and Forest Plans and regulations to guide forest plan development.

National Forest System (NFS) Lands - Federal lands designated by Executive Order or statute as national forests, national grasslands, or purchase units, or other lands under the administration of the U.S. Forest Service.

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) - A list of heritage resources that have local, state, or national significance maintained by the Secretary of the Interior.

National Wilderness Preservation System - All lands covered by the Wilderness Act and subsequent wilderness designations, irrespective of the department or agency having jurisdiction.

Noxious Weeds - Those plant species designated as weeds by federal or state laws. Noxious weeds generally possess one or more of the following characteristics: aggressive and difficult to manage, poisonous, toxic, parasitic, a carrier or host for serious insects or diseases, and generally non-native.

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) or Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) - Any motorized vehicle designed for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other natural terrain.

Open Range – 1) Range that has not been fenced into management units. 2) All suitable rangeland of an area upon which grazing is permitted. 3) Untimbered rangeland. 4) Range on which the livestock owner has unlimited access without benefit of land ownership or leasing.

Operating Plan - A written plan, approved by a forest officer and prepared by those engaged in mining activity on the national forest or national grassland. It covers prospecting, exploration, or extraction activities that will take place on National Forest System lands, including national grasslands.

Overgrazing - Continued heavy grazing that exceeds the recovery capacity of the community and creates a deteriorated range.

Overstocking - Placing a number of animals on a given area that will result in overuse if continued to the end of the planned grazing period.

Pasture - A land area consisting of grass or other growing plants used as food by grazing animals. Also an area used for grazing, often enclosed and separated from other areas by fences, hedges, ditches, or walls.

Perennial (plant) - A plant that lives for two or more years.

Perennial Streams - Streams that flow continuously throughout most years.

Permitted Grazing - Use of a National Forest System range allotment under the terms of a grazing permit.

Permittee (Grazing) - One who holds a permit to graze livestock on state, federal, or certain privately owned lands.

Plant Associations - A grouping of plants that have reached dynamic equilibrium with the local environmental conditions; equivalent to climax. On site, there is no evidence of replacement by other dominant plant species, and there is no evidence of serious disturbances.

Plant Communities - Assemblages of plant species living in an area. A plant community is an organized unit to the extent that it has characteristics in addition to the individuals and populations and functions as a unit.

Prescribed Burning - Controlled application of fire to wild land fuels in either their natural or modified state, under specified environmental conditions, that allows the fire to be confined to a predetermined area and, at the same time, to produce the fire line intensity and rate of spread required to attain planned resource management objectives.

Present Net Value (PNV) - The difference between the discounted value (benefits) of all outputs to which monetary values or established market prices are assigned and the total discounted costs of managing the planning area.

Present Net Worth - The discounted value of price times the quantity less the cost.

Primary Range - Areas that animals prefer to use and over which they will graze when management is limited. The area on which overuse will occur before secondary range is used when animals are allowed to shift for themselves.

Proper Functioning Condition (PFC) - Riparian/wetland areas achieve proper functioning condition when adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris is present to dissipate stream energy associated with high water flows. This reduces erosion; improves water quality; filters sediment; captures bed load; aids floodplain development; improves floodwater retention and groundwater recharge; develops root masses that stabilize stream banks against cutting action; develops diverse ponding and channel characteristics to provide habitat and water depth, duration, and temperature

necessary for fish production, waterfowl breeding, and other uses; and supports greater biodiversity. The functioning condition of riparian/wetland areas is a result of the interaction among geology, soil, water, and vegetation.

Range Allotment - A designated area of land available for livestock grazing upon which a specified number and kind of livestock may be grazed under a range allotment management plan. It is the basic land unit used to facilitate management of the range resource on National Forest System lands, including national grasslands, and other associated lands administered by the Forest Service.

Range Analysis - Systematic acquisition and evaluation of rangeland resources data needed for allotment management planning and overall land management.

Range Betterment Funds - Funds established by Title IV, section 401 (b)(1), of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to be used for range improvement. This consists of 50 percent of all money received by the United States as fees for grazing livestock on the national forest and national grasslands in the 16 contiguous western states.

Range Condition – 1) A rangeland is considered to be in satisfactory condition when the desired condition is being met or short-term vegetative objectives are being achieved to move the rangeland toward the desired condition or trend. Unsatisfactory condition is when the desired condition is not being met and short-term vegetative objectives are not being achieved to move the rangeland toward the desired condition or trend. 2) Historically, range condition usually has been defined in one of two ways: (a) a generic term relating to present status of a unit of range in terms of specific values or potentials. Specific values or potentials must be stated or (b) the present state of vegetation of a range site in relation to the climax (natural potential) plant community for that site. It is an expression of the relative degree to which the kinds, proportions and amounts of plants in a plant community resemble that of the climax plant for the site.

Range Development, Nonstructural - Any practice designed to improve range condition or facilitate more efficient utilization of the range.

Range Development, Structural - Any structure or excavation to facilitate management of range or livestock.

Range Management - A distinct discipline founded on ecological principles and dealing with the use of rangelands and range resources for a variety of purposes. These purposes include use as watersheds, wildlife habitat, grazing by livestock, recreation, and aesthetics, as well as associated uses. Two kinds of range management can be described:

- **Extensive** range management carries the goal to control livestock numbers within the present capacity of the range, but little or no attempt is made to achieve uniform distribution of livestock. Range management investments are minimal and only to the extent needed to maintain stewardship of the range in the presence of grazing. Past resource damage is corrected and resources are protected from natural catastrophes.
- **Intensive** range management carries the goal to maintain full plant vigor and to achieve full livestock utilization of available forage. This goal is achieved through implementation of improved grazing systems and construction and installation of range improvements. Cultural practices, such as seeding and fertilizing, to improve forage quality and quantity may be used.

Rangeland - Lands on which the native vegetation is predominately grasses, grass-like plants, forbs, or shrubs suitable for grazing or browsing usage. Includes lands revegetated naturally or artificially to provide a forage cover that is managed like native vegetation.

Rangeland Health - The degree to which the integrity of the soil, the vegetation, the water, and air as well as the ecological processes of the rangeland ecosystem is balanced and sustained. Integrity is defined as: Maintenance of the structure and functional attributes characteristic of a particular locale, including normal variability.

Rest Rotation (Livestock Grazing) - An intensive system of management where grazing is deferred on various parts of the range during succeeding years, allowing the deferred part complete rest for one year. At least two, but usually three or more, separate grazing units are required.

Restoration - Holistic actions taken to modify an ecosystem to achieve desired, healthy, and functioning conditions and processes. Generally refers to the process of enabling the system to resume its resiliency to disturbances.

Riparian - The bands and adjacent areas of water bodies, water courses, seeps, and springs whose waters provide soil moisture in excess of what is locally available. This results in a moister habitat than that found on the contiguous flood plains and uplands. Refers to land bordering a stream, lake, or tidewater, and generally implies a particular type of habitat physiognomy often characterized by an over story of trees or other large woody plants with a complex under story of other woody and/or herbaceous species.

Riparian Area - Areas of the aquatic and riparian ecosystems with distinctive resource values and characteristics that are geographically delineated (FSM 2526). Ecological units with distinctive vegetation, landform, soil, and water regimes consisting of the aquatic ecosystem and wet-to-moist areas located between aquatic ecosystems and adjacent terrestrial ecosystems. Includes floodplains and wetlands. Riparian ecosystems are distinguished by soil characteristics and distinctive existing or potential vegetation communities that are adapted to soils with consistently high levels of moisture.

Riparian Ecosystem - A transition between the aquatic ecosystem and the adjacent upland terrestrial ecosystem. It is identified by soil characteristics and by distinctive vegetative communities that require free or unbounded water.

Rotation Grazing - A grazing scheme where animals are moved from one grazing unit (paddock) in the same group of grazing units to another without regard to specific graze/rest periods or levels or plant defoliation.

Season-long Grazing (Livestock Grazing) - Allowing livestock to graze a single pasture throughout one growing season.

Secondary Range - Range that is lightly used or unused by livestock under minimal management and will ordinarily not be fully used until the primary range has been overused.

Seeps - A spot where water or petroleum flows from the earth, often forming the source of a small stream.

Sensitive Species - Those plant and animal species identified by Regional Foresters for which population viability is a concern, as evidenced by the following:

- Significant current or predicted downward trends in population numbers or density.
- Significant current or predicted downward trends in habitat capability that would

reduce a species' existing distribution.

Social Analysis - An analysis of the social (as distinct from the economic and environmental) effects of a given plan or proposal for action. Social analysis includes identification and evaluation of all pertinent desirable and undesirable consequences to all segments of society.

Species at Risk – Federally listed endangered, threatened, candidate, and proposed species and other species for which loss of viability, including reduction in distribution or abundance, is a concern within the planning area. Other species at risk include sensitive species and state listed species.

Species Composition – The proportions of various plant species in relation to the total on a given area. It may be expressed in terms of cover, density, weight, etc.

Species Diversity - A measurement that relates the density of individuals of a species in a habitat to the number of different species present in the habitat. The number of different species in a given habitat.

Species Viability - A species consisting of self-sustaining and interacting populations that are well distributed through the species' range. Self-sustaining populations are those that are sufficiently abundant and have sufficient diversity to display the array of life history strategies and forms to provide for their long-term persistence and adaptability over time.

State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) - A person appointed by a state's governor to administer the State Historic Preservation Program.

Stocking Rate (Livestock Management) - The actual number of animals, expressed in either animal units or animal unit months, on a specific area for a specific time.

Stream Health - The condition of a stream, relative to robust health, for that stream type and landscape, considering indicators such as channel pattern, slope, particle size, pool frequency and depth, bank vegetation, and woody debris, which reflect the stability and habitat quality of the stream.

Threatened Species - Any species likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range and that has been designated in the Federal Register by the Secretary of Interior as such.

Tiering - Refers to the elimination of repetitive discussions of the same issue by referencing the general discussion in an environmental impact statement of broader scope. For example, a project environmental assessment could be tiered to the Forest Plan EIS.

Trampling - Treading underfoot. The damage to plants or soil brought about by movements or congestion of animals.

Undesirable Species - 1) Species that conflict with or do not contribute to the management objectives. 2) Species that are not readily eaten by animals.

Ungulate - A hoofed animal, including ruminants (cattle, but also horses, elk, deer, sheep, and swine).

Unpalatable Species (Range Management) - Plant species that are not readily eaten by an ungulate animal.

Utilization Levels (Livestock Grazing) - The portion of the current year's forage production by weight consumed or trampled by livestock. Utilization levels are usually expressed as a percentage.

Water Development - A facility constructed or placed to hold water for livestock use.

Water Influence Zone - The water influence zone (WIZ) includes the geomorphic floodplain, riparian ecosystem, and inner gorge. Its minimum horizontal width (from top of each bank) is the greater of 100 feet or the mean height of mature dominant late-seral vegetation. It includes adjacent unstable and highly-erodible soils. The WIZ protects interacting aquatic, riparian, and upland functions by maintaining natural processes and resilience of soil, water, and vegetation systems (Reid and Ziemer, 1994).

Water Rights - Rights given by state and federal governments for the diversion and use of water.

Watershed - The area of land, bounded by a divide, that drains water, sediment, and dissolved materials to a common outlet at some point along a stream channel (Dunne and Leopold, 1978), or to a lake, reservoir, or other body of water. Also called drainage basin or catchment.

Wet Meadow - A meadow where the surface remains wet or moist throughout the growing season, usually characterized by sedges and rushes.

Wetland Communities - Plant communities that occur on sites with soils typically saturated with or covered with water most of the growing season.

Wetlands - Those areas that are inundated by surface water or groundwater with a frequency sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances do or would support, a prevalence of vegetative or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas such as sloughs, potholes, wet meadows, river overflows, mudflats, and natural ponds.

Winter Range - Rangeland that is grazed during the winter months.