

Appendix F

Road Glossary

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Road Terminology

Best Management Practices: Known as BMPs, they are methods, measures, or practices selected by an agency to meet its nonpoint pollution source control needs. Such practices include, but are not limited to, structural and nonstructural control, standard operating procedures, and required maintenance procedures. They can be applied before, during, and after pollution-producing activities to reduce or eliminate the introduction of pollutants to a waterway. (18)

Bridge: A road or trail structure, including supports, erected over and depression or an obstruction, such as water, a road, a trail, or railway, and having a deck for carrying traffic or other loads. (41)

CFR: Code of Federal Regulations

Easement: A right held by one person to make use of another's land for a limited purpose, such as a special-use authorization for a right-of-way that conveys a limited interest in National Forest System land and is compensable according to its terms.

Facility: Structures needed to support the management, protection, and utilization of the national forests and national grasslands, including building, utility systems, and other construction features. There are three categories of facilities: recreation, administrative, and permitted.

Forest Road: As defined in 23 U.S.C. 101, any 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. (41)

Forest Transportation Facility: A classified road, designated trail, or designated airfield, including bridges, culverts, parking lots, log transfer facilities, safety devices, and other transportation network appurtenances under Forest Service jurisdiction that is wholly or partly within or adjacent to National Forest System lands (36 CFR 212.1). (41)

Forest Transportation System Management: The planning, inventory, analysis, classification, record-keeping, scheduling, construction, reconstruction, maintenance, decommissioning, and other operations undertaken to achieve environmentally sound, safe, and cost effective access for use, protection, administration, and management of NFS lands. (41)

Infrastructure: The facilities, utilities, and transportation systems needed to meet public and administrative needs. (18)

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): A legal agreement between the Forest Service, other agencies, private parties, or individuals resulting from consultation between them that states specific measures they will follow to accomplish a project. A memorandum of understanding is not a fund-obligating document.

National Forest System: The term used to include the National Forests, National Grasslands, and other related lands that the Forest Service has administers responsibility. (18)

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 Forest System Road: A classified road under jurisdiction of the Forest Service. The term "National Forest System road is synonymous with the term Forest Development Road used in 23 U.S.C. 205. (41)

New Road Construction: Activity the results in the addition of forest classified or temporary road miles (36 CFR 212.1). (41)

Off Highway Vehicle (OHV): Any self-propelled vehicle which is designed to travel on wheels or tracks in contact with the ground, which is designed primarily for use off of the public highways, and which is generally and commonly used to transport persons for recreational purposes. "Off-highway vehicle" does not include the following: (a) vehicles designed and used primarily for travel on, over, or in the water; (b) snowmobiles; (c) military vehicles; (d) golf carts; (e) vehicles designed and used to carry disabled persons; (f) vehicles designed and used specifically for agricultural, logging, or mining purposes; or (g) vehicles registered pursuant to article 3 of title 42, C.R.S. (Colorado Legislature House Bill No. 1329, signed into law by Roy Romer, June 7, 1989.)

Public Roads: Any road or street under jurisdiction of and maintained by a public authority and open to public travel (23 U.S.C. 101(a)). (41)

Reconstruction: Construction activities performed on an existing facility. Reconstruction includes those activities that alter the facility from its originally constructed or subsequently reconstructed condition.

Rights-of-Way: 1) Land authorized to be used or occupied for the construction, operations, maintenance, and termination of a project or facility passing over, upon, under, or through such land (36 CFR 251.51). 2) The privilege that one person or persons particularly described may have of passing over the land of another in some particular line.

Road: A motor vehicle travelway over 50 inches wide, unless designated and managed as a trail. A road may be classified, unclassified, or temporary (36 CFR 212.1). (41)

Classified Roads: Roads wholly or partially within or adjacent to NFS lands that are determined to be needed for long-term motor vehicle access, including stat, county, and privately owned roads, NFS roads, and other roads authorized by the Forest Service (36 CFR 212.1). (41)

Temporary Roads: Roads authorized by contract, permit, lease, other written authorization or emergency operation not intended to be part of the forest transportation system and not necessary for long-term management (36 CFR 212.1). (41)

Unclassified Roads: Roads on NFS lands that are not managed as part of the forest transportation system, such as unplanned roads, abandoned travelways, and off-road vehicle tracks that have been designated and managed as trails; and those roads that were once under permit or other authorization and were not decommissioned upon the termination of the authorization (35 CFR 212.1). Unclassified roads were

previously called primitive roads¹ under the ROS (Recreation Opportunity Spectrum) classification. (41)

Forest Arterial Road: A Forest road that provides service to large land areas and usually connects with other arterial roads or public highways. (FSH 7709.54)

Forest Collector Road: A Forest road that serves smaller land areas than an arterial road. Usually connects forest arterial roads to local forest roads or terminal facilities. (FSH 7709.54)

Forest Local Road: A Forest road that connects terminal facilities with forest collector, forest arterial or public highways. Usually Forest local roads are single purpose transportation facilities. (FSH 7709.54)

Road Construction: The building of new vehicular transportation facilities to a specific construction standard. Includes all new road construction regardless of functional classification, resource area served, or construction source. This includes roads constructed by timber purchasers, mineral claimants or lessees, and other permittees, as well as those constructed with appropriated funds- all of which become a part of the forest development road system. (18)

Road Decommissioning: Activities that result in the stabilization and restoration of unneeded roads to a more natural state (36 CFR 212.1, FSM 7703). (41) Decommissioning includes applying various treatments, which may include one or more of the following:

- a. Reestablishing former drainage patterns, stabilizing slopes, and restoring vegetation;
- b. Blocking the entrance to a road; installing water bars;
- c. Removing culverts, reestablishing drainage-ways, removing unstable fills, pulling back road shoulders, and scattering slash on the roadbed;
- d. Completely eliminating the roadbed by restoring natural contours and slopes; or
- e. Other methods designed to meet the specific conditions associated with the unneeded roads.

Roadless Areas: Undeveloped areas that meet eligibility criteria for wilderness consideration under the Wilderness Act. (36CFR 219.17) (18)

Road Maintenance: The ongoing upkeep of a road necessary to retain or restore the road to the approved management objective (FSM 7712.3). (41)

Road Reconstruction: Activity that results in improvement or realignment of an existing classified road as defined below:

Road Improvement: Activity that results in an increase of an existing road's traffic service level, expands its capacity or changes its original design function. (41)

Road Realignment: Activity that results in a new location of an existing road or portions of an existing road and treatment of the old roadway (36 CFR 212.1). (41)

Roads Closed: National Forest System roads that are not continuously open to motor vehicles on a yearlong basis. (18)

¹ In the 1986 ROS Book, primitive roads are described as those not constructed or maintained and used by vehicles not primarily intended for highway use.

Roads Obliterated: Roads that have been decommissioned by a method that completely eliminates the roadbed by restoring natural contours and slopes.

Roads Subject to the Highway Safety Act: National Forest System roads that are open to use by the public for standard passenger cars. This includes roads with access restricted on a seasonal basis and roads closed during extreme weather conditions or for emergencies but which are otherwise open for general public use. (41)

Traffic Service Level: Describes the significant characteristics and operating conditions of a road (FSH 7709.56, Ch 4). (41)

Transportation Facility Jurisdiction: The legal right to control or regulate use of transportation facility derived from fee title, an easement, an agreement, or other similar method. While jurisdiction required authority, it does not necessarily reflect ownership. (41)

Travelway: A way for passage of vehicles, conveyances, person, or domestic livestock (stock driveways), developed by construction or use; may be referred to as a road or trail. (40)

Utility Corridor: A designated parcel of land, either linear or areal in character, which has ecological, technical, economic, social, or similar advantages over other areas for the present and future location of transportation and/or utility rights of way within its boundaries. Utilities include but are not limited to major energy and telecommunications facilities.

Sources for Terms and Definitions

18. Terms/definitions with this reference have been taken from the 1995 RPA Program Glossary.
40. Forest Service Manual 7700, Region 2 Supplement 7700-93-1, Sec. 7705
41. Forest Service Manual 7700 – Transportation System, WO Amendment 7700-2001-1, Section 7705 – Definitions.