

# APPENDIX D: ACRONYMS AND GLOSSARY

## Acronyms

ADP	Application for Permit to Drill	MVUM	motor vehicle use map
AMS	Analysis of the Management Situation	NAGPRA	Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act
ATV	all-terrain vehicle	NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
BA	biological assessment	NF	National Forest
BE	biological evaluation	NFMA	National Forest Management Act
BLM	Bureau of Land Management	NFS	National Forest System
CDNST	Colorado Divide National Scenic Trail	NFSR	National Forest System road
CDOW	Colorado Division of Wildlife	NFST	National Forest System trail
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality	NOI	notice of intent
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
DAU	data analysis unit	NRT	National Recreation Trail
DEIS	draft environmental impact statement	NST	National Scenic Trail
EIS	environmental impact statement	NTSA	National Trail System Act
EO	Executive Order	NVUM	National Visitor Use Monitoring Survey
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	NWSRS	National Wild and Scenic Rivers System
ESA	Endangered Species Act	NWPS	National Wilderness Preservation System
ESI	existing scenic integrity	OHV	off-highway vehicle
FEIS	final environmental impact statement	PAOT	persons at one time
FS	Forest Service	PEIS	programmatic environmental impact statement
FSH	Forest Service Handbook	P/J	pinyon-juniper
FSM	Forest Service Manual	RIM	Recreation Information Management
FSV	full-sized vehicle	RMRIS	Rocky Mountain resource inventory system
GIS	geographic information system	RNA	research natural area
GMU	game management unit	ROD	record of decision
HABCAP	habitat capability computer model program	ROS	Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
HRV	historic range of variability	RMBO	Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory
HUC	hydrologic unit code	RPA	Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act
IDT	interdisciplinary team	RVD	recreation visitor day
IRI	integrated resource inventory	SIA	special interest area
IWM	Integrated Noxious Weed Management	SMS	Scenery Management System
LAU	lynx analysis unit	SIO	scenic integrity objective
LRMP	land and resource management plan	SUPO	Surface Use Plan of Operations
LSAA	late successional assessment area	TCP	Traditional Cultural Property
MA	management area	TES	threatened and endangered species
MCB	Monitoring Colorado Birds program	TMP	White River National Forest Travel Management Plan
MIC	management indicator communities	USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture
MIS	management indicator species	USDI	U.S. Department of the Interior
MBF	thousand board feet	WCP	watershed conservation practices
MDP	master development plan		
MMBF	million board feet		
MMCF	million cubic feet		
MRVD	million recreation visitor days		



## Glossary

---

access	The opportunity to approach, enter and make use of public or private land.
access rights	A privilege or right of a person or entity to pass over or use another person's or entity's travel way.
acre-foot	The amount of water covering one acre to a depth of one foot.
activity	A measure, course of action, or treatment that is undertaken to directly or indirectly produce, enhance, or maintain forest and rangeland outputs or achieve administrative or environmental quality objectives.
activity area	An area of land affected by a management activity or activities. An activity area can range from a few acres to an entire watershed depending on the type of monitoring being conducted.
adaptive management	A type of natural resource management in which decisions are made as part of an ongoing process. Adaptive management involves testing, monitoring, evaluation, and incorporating new knowledge into management approaches based on scientific findings and the needs of society. Results are used to modify management policy.
affected environment	The biological and physical environment that will or may be changed by proposed actions and the relationship of people to that environment.
air pollution	Any substance or energy form (heat, light, noise, etc.) that alters the state of the air from what would naturally occur.
airshed	Basic geographic units in which air quality is managed.
allocation	The assignment of a land area to a particular use or uses to achieve management goals and objectives.
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.
allowable sale quantity (ASQ)	The amount of chargeable timber volume that can be sold from the area of suitable land covered by the forest plan for a time period specified by the plan. This quantity is usually expressed on an annual basis as the "average annual allowable sale quantity."
all-terrain vehicle (ATV)	Any motorized, off-highway vehicle 50 inches or less in width, having a dry weight of 800 pounds or less that travels on three or more low-pressure tires with a seat designed to be straddled by the operator.
alluvial	Of or pertaining to sand, mud, and other sediments deposited on land by streams.
alpine	Those portions of mountains that rise above the cold limits of trees.
alternative	A combination of management prescriptions applied in specific amounts and locations to achieve a desired management emphasis as expressed in goals and objectives. One of several policies, plans, or projects proposed for decision making. An alternative need not substitute for another in all respects.

analysis area	One or more capability areas combined for the purpose of analysis in formulating alternatives and establishing various impacts and effects.
annual maintenance	Work performed to maintain serviceability or to repair failures during the year in which they occur. Includes preventive and/or cyclic maintenance performed in the year in which it is scheduled to occur.
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 characteristic of either permanently or seasonally inundated soils.
arc	A line defined as a set of ordered x, y coordinates used to represent linear features and polygon boundaries.
arterial road	Provides service to large land areas and usually connects with public highways or other arterial roads to form an integrated network of primary travel routes. The location and standard are often determined by a demand for maximum mobility and travel efficiency rather than specific resource management service. It usually is developed and operated for long-term land and resource management purposes and constant service.
aspect	(1) The visual first impression of vegetation or a landscape at a particular time or as seen from a specific point; (2) the predominant direction of slope of the land; (3) seasonal changes in the appearance of vegetation.
attribute column	A field within a database table.
attenuated flooding	Flooding lessened in severity because of natural or man-made structures or areas that disperse water or slow flows.
available lands	Those portions of a national forest not administratively excluded from timber harvest or livestock grazing or other activities.
background	A term used in visual management to describe that part of a scene or landscape that is farthest from the viewer, usually 3 miles to infinity from the observer.
benchmark	Reference points that define the bounds within which feasible management alternatives can be developed. Benchmarks may be defined by resource output or economic measures.
big game	Certain wildlife that may be hunted for sport under state laws and regulations, including elk, pronghorn antelope, mule and white-tail deer, turkey and bighorn sheep.
biogeography	The study of the geographic distribution of plants and animals.
biodiversity	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.
biological assessment	A biological assessment evaluates the potential effects of an action on listed and proposed species under the Endangered Species Act and on designated and proposed critical habitat. A biological assessment also determines whether any such species or habitat is likely to be adversely affected by the action. An assessment is used in determining whether formal consultation or a conference is necessary.

biological evaluation	A review of all Forest Service planned, funded, executed or permitted programs and activities for possible effects on regionally listed sensitive species. A biological evaluation may be used or modified to satisfy consultation requirements for biological assessments of construction projects requiring an environmental impact statement.
biological opinion	An official report by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service issued in response to a formal Forest Service request for consultation or conference. It states whether or not the federal action is likely to jeopardize the continued existence of listed species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of critical habitat.
biomass	The total amount of living plants and animals above and below ground in an area at a given time.
board foot	The amount of wood contained in an unfinished board one inch thick, 12 inches long and 12 inches wide (2.54 x 30.5 x 30.5 cm).
browse	Twigs, leaves, and young shoots of trees and shrubs upon which animals feed; in particular, those shrubs that are used by livestock and big-game animals for food.
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.
Bureau of Land Management (BLM)	An agency in the U.S. Department of the Interior responsible for administering public lands.
canopy cover	The percentage of the ground covered by a vertical projection of the natural spread of the branches and leaves of the trees in an area.
carrying capacity	The maximum number of animals that can be supported in a given environment without deteriorating that environment.
cave	Any naturally formed void, cavity, recess or system of interconnected passages that occur beneath the surface of the earth or within a cliff or ledge, including natural subsurface water and drainage systems large enough to permit a person to enter, whether or not the entrance is naturally formed or created by humans. The term "cave" also includes any natural pit, sinkhole or other feature that is an extension or component of a cave.
ceded lands	Lands that tribes ceded to the U.S. by treaty in exchange for reservation of specific land and resource rights, annuities and other promises in the treaties.
channel	A passage, either naturally or artificially created, that periodically or continuously contains moving water, or that forms a connecting link between two bodies of water. River, creek, run, branch and tributary are some of the terms used to describe natural channels. Natural channels may be single or braided. Canal and floodway are some of the terms used to describe artificial channels.
class I area	All international parks, national parks larger than 6,000 acres, and designated wilderness areas larger than 5,000 acres that existed on August 7, 1977, are considered class 1 areas. The 1977 Clean Air Act amendments provide the most protection to these pristine lands, severely limiting the amount of additional air pollution that can be added to these areas.

class II area	A geographic area designated by Congress for a moderate degree of protection from future air quality degradation. Moderate increases in new pollution may be permitted in class II areas. All wilderness designated after August 7, 1977, are automatically class II areas, as are all other National Forest System lands (except additions to existing class I areas).
climax	(1) The final or stable biotic community in a successional series that is self-perpetuating and in dynamic equilibrium with the physical habitat; (2) the assumed end point in succession.
closed road	An intermittent service road in maintenance level 1 that is closed to all vehicular traffic for more than 1 year.
collector road	A road that serves smaller land areas than a forest arterial road and usually is connected to a forest arterial road or public highway. Collects traffic from forest local roads and/or terminal facilities. The location and standard are influenced both by long-term multi-resource service needs and by travel efficiency. May be operated for either constant or intermittent service, depending on land use and resource management objectives for the area served by the facility.
commercial timber sale	The selling of timber from National Forest System lands for the manufacture of commercial products, such as lumber, plywood, etc.
commercially valuable species	Tree species that are used in the production of wood products and are often bought by purchasers within the White River National Forest's regional timber market. The list of commercially valuable species is subject to change over time depending on the market supply and demand for individual species. The White River National Forest's current list includes Englemann spruce, subalpine fir, Douglas-fir, lodgepole pine, ponderosa pine, and aspen.
composition	The proportion of each tree species in a stand expressed as a percentage of either the total number, basal area, or volume of all tree species in the stand.
concessionaire	A special-use permittee who provides goods and services primarily at Forest Service developed sites (excluding ski areas).
conflict	Goal interference attributed to another's behavior.
conformity determination	An area conforms to air quality standards as determined by the Environmental Protection Agency or state or local entity.
connected disturbed areas	High runoff areas like roads and other disturbed sites that discharge surface runoff into a stream or lake.
connectivity	The arrangement of habitats that allows organisms and ecological processes to move across the landscape. Patches of similar habitats are close together or linked by corridors of appropriate vegetation. The opposite of fragmentation.
construction	The erection, construction, installation, or assembly of a new fixed asset. The supervising, inspecting, actual building, and all expenses incidental to the development of a new facility, including locating, surveying, mapping, costs and acquisition of rights-of-way and elimination of hazards.

consultation	(1) An active, affirmative process that (a) identifies issues and seeks input from appropriate American Indian governments, community groups and individuals; and (b) considers their interests as a necessary and integral part of the BLM and Forest Service decision-making process. (2) The federal government has a legal obligation to consult with American Indian tribes. This legal obligation is based on such laws as Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, the American Indian Religious Freedom Act and numerous other executive orders and statutes. The legal responsibility is, through consultation, to consider Indian interests and account for those interests in the decision. (3) Consultation also refers to a requirement under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for federal agencies to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and/or the National Marine Fisheries Service with regard to federal actions that may affect listed threatened or endangered species or critical habitat.
cooperating agency	Any federal agency other than the lead agency that has jurisdiction by law or special expertise with respect to any environmental impact involved in a proposal (or a reasonable alternative) for legislation or other major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment.
cost	The negative or adverse effects or expenditures resulting from an action. Costs may be monetary, social, physical or environmental in nature.
cost efficiency	The usefulness of specified inputs (costs) to produce specified outputs (benefits). In measuring cost efficiency, some outputs, including environmental, economic, or social impacts, are not assigned monetary values but are achieved at specific levels in the least cost manner. Cost efficiency is usually measured using present net value, although use of benefit-cost ratios and rates of return may be appropriate.
coverage	An Arc/Info term for a collection of similar spatial features organized within a GIS. It generally represents a single set of geographic objects such as roads. A coverage supports the georelational model—it contains both the spatial (location) and attribute (descriptive) data for geographic features.
cover type	A descriptive classification of vegetation based on the present dominant tree species.
critical habitat	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 determined by the Secretary of the Interior to be essential for areas outside the species' current range.
cubic foot	A unit of true volume that measures 1 x 1 x 1 foot (30.48 x 30.48 x 30.48 centimeters).
cumulative impact	The impact on the environment that 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 other actions. Cumulative effects can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.
culvert	A conduit or passageway under a road, trail, or other obstruction. A culvert differs from a bridge in that it is usually constructed entirely below the elevation of the traveled way.

decommission	Activities that result in the stabilization and restoration of unneeded roads or trails to a more natural state. The road or trail is permanently removed from the transportation system. The activities range from blocking the entrance, scattering boughs on the roadbed, revegetating and water barring, to removing fills and culverts, reestablishing drainage-ways, pulling back shoulders, and recontouring the slopes for full obliteration.
design capacity	The maximum theoretical amount of use a developed recreational site was built to accommodate. This is usually expressed in PAOTs (persons at one time).
designated OHV route or area	A National Forest System road, a National Forest System trail, or an area on National Forest System lands that is designated for motor vehicle use pursuant to §212.51 in a use map.
designated route	A route that has been designated for a particular use or type of traffic such as a scenic byway, a groomed snowmobile trail, a road for high clearance vehicles, a trail for mountain bikes, etc. Routes may be designated by an order, act of Congress, state legislature, Forest Service decision, or NEPA decision. Designated routes may have either the “allow” strategy or the “encourage” strategy.
desired future condition	A portrayal of the land or resource conditions that are expected to result if goals and objectives are fully achieved.
developed recreation	This type of recreation is dependent upon facilities provided to enhance recreation opportunities in concentrated-use areas. Examples include campgrounds and ski areas. Facilities in these areas might include roads, parking lots, picnic tables, drinking water, toilets, ski lifts, and buildings.
developed recreation sites	Relatively small, distinctly defined areas where facilities are provided for concentrated public use, such as campgrounds, picnic areas and swimming beaches.
direct effects	Environmental effects caused by an action and that occur at the same time and place.
dispersed campsite	An individual/family-sized campsite that has a general size of about 600–750 square feet. It includes a hardened area around a fire pit, a barren area, and/or user-constructed facilities.
dispersed recreation	Those forest, range, or desert-oriented outdoor recreation activities that normally take place outside of sites or areas that are developed or managed to concentrate recreational use. Dispersed recreation activities may require facilities for safeguarding visitors, protecting resources, and enhancing the quality of visitor experiences.
district ranger	The official responsible for administering the National Forest System lands on a ranger district.
disturbance	An event that causes a significant change from the normal pattern in an ecological system. Disturbances are often subdivided into natural disturbances and man-caused disturbances.
diversity	The distribution and abundance of different plant and animal communities and species within the area covered by a forest plan. This term is derived from the National Forest Management Act (NFMA). It is not synonymous with “biodiversity.”
draft environmental impact statement (DEIS)	The statement of environmental effects 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.

easement	A special-use authorization for a right-of-way that conveys a conditioned interest in National Forest System land and is compensable according to its terms.
ecosystem	A functional unit consisting of all the living organisms (plants, animals, and microbes) in a given area, and all the non-living physical and chemical factors of their environment, linked together through nutrient cycling and energy flow. An ecosystem can be of any size—a log, pond, field, forest or the earth’s biosphere—but it always functions as a whole unit. Ecosystems are commonly described according to the major type of vegetation; for example, forest ecosystem or range ecosystem.
ecosystem composition	The plant and animal species and communities in the plan area.
ecosystem structure	The biological and physical attributes that characterize ecological systems.
ecotone	A transition area between two adjacent ecological communities usually exhibiting competition between organisms common to both.
elk security habitat	An area whose geography, topography, vegetation, or a combination of those features will hold elk during periods of stress. .
endangered species	A taxonomic group of organisms in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.
environmental assessment (EA)	A document that discloses the environmental impacts to be expected from a proposed action and from specific alternatives to the proposed action. An EA is prepared when significant environmental impacts are not anticipated or when there is a question as to the extent of the impacts. Comments are accepted within 30 days of release of an EA, and are considered before a final decision is made. Responses to comments appear in an appendix to the EA.
environmental impact statement (EIS)	A formal public document prepared to analyze the impacts on the environment of a proposed project or action and released for comment and review. An EIS is prepared, instead of an EA, when significant environmental impacts are anticipated. Comments by the public and by other agencies are accepted within 90 days after the release of a Draft EIS, and are considered before the final decision is documented in a Final EIS. Responses to comments appear in an appendix to the Final EIS.
essential habitat	Essential habitat is designated by a Regional Forester. It possesses the same characteristics as critical habitat without having been declared as critical habitat by the Secretary of the Interior or Commerce. The term includes habitats necessary to meet recovery objectives for endangered, threatened, and proposed species and those necessary to maintain viable populations of sensitive species.
exotic species	Non-native fish, wildlife or plant species that were deliberately or accidentally introduced in an ecosystem and that have become permanently established.
extirpated	A species that has become locally extinct; a species or subspecies that has disappeared from a locality or region without becoming extinct throughout its entire range.
federal recognition	Acknowledgement of an Indian tribe as a government entity that has a special relationship with the U.S. government. This relationship recognizes that Indian tribes receive some rights not available to other citizens; for example, health and education benefits from the trust relationship or off-reservation hunting and fishing rights related to treaties with tribal governments.

federally recognized Indian tribes	An Indian group for which: (1) Congress or an executive order created a reservation for the group either by treaty (before 1871), statutory expression, agreement by executive order, or other valid administrative action; and (2) the U.S. has some continuing political relationship, such as providing services through the Bureau of Indian Affairs.
fire management	The activities concerned with the protection of people, property and forest areas from wildfire and the use of prescribed burning for the attainment of forest management and other land use objectives, all conducted in a manner that considers environmental, social and economic criteria.
forest road	Any road that is wholly or partly within, or adjacent to, and serving the National Forest System and that is necessary for the protection, administration, and utilization of the National Forest System and the use and development of its resources.
forest trail	Any trail wholly or partially within, adjacent to, and serving national forests and other areas.
forest highway	A designated forest road under the jurisdiction of and maintained by a public authority that is subject to the Highway Safety Act.
forest land not suitable for timber production	Lands not selected for timber production in a forest plan alternative because: (a) the multiple-use objectives for the alternative preclude timber production; (b) other management objectives for the alternative limit timber production activities to the point at which it is not possible to meet management requirements set forth in 36 CFR 219.27; or (c) the lands are not cost-efficient, over the planning horizon, in meeting forest objectives that include timber production. In the preferred alternative and forest plan, lands not appropriate for timber production are designated as unsuitable.
forest system transportation 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 National Forest System lands.
forest visitor map	A map that provides detailed information about a national forest. It is to be used by the forest visitor and those interested in specific activities such as driving, camping, hunting, or other recreational activities.
four-season resort	Any recreation facility on National Forest System lands permitted to operate during more than one season of the year. Resorts with either a winter or summer emphasis may be authorized for facilities to remain open to allow additional recreational use during alternative seasons. Permit holders who operate ski-based facilities during the winter season and permit holders with summer-based resorts with overnight lodging normally are assigned responsibility for public safety and resource protection and are required to manage their permit area 365 days per year.
fragmentation	The process of transforming large continuous patches of similar vegetation into one or more smaller patches surrounded by disturbed areas. This may occur naturally through such agents as fire, landslides, windthrow and insects and disease, or through development action of humans. The primary distinction between fragmentation and perforation is in scale; fragmentation impacts usually are large in scale and may inhibit or prevent one or more species from moving from one patch of suitable habitat to another.
geographic information system	Computer software that links geographic information (where things are) with descriptive information (what things are).

habitat	The place where an organism lives and/or the conditions of that environment, including the soil, vegetation, water, and food.
habitat capability	The capability of a given habitat to meet the needs of species, either seasonally or year-round.
habitat effectiveness	Percentage of available habitat that is usable by elk during the non-hunting season. This includes habitat that is considered cover and forage, and is measured against the effects of roads.
historic range of variability	The natural fluctuation of components of healthy ecosystems over time. Refers to the range of conditions and processes that are likely to have occurred prior to settlement of the project area by people of European descent (approximately the mid-1800s), which would have varied within certain limits over time. Historical conditions and processes portrayed include such variables as forest or grassland vegetation types, compositions, and structures; fish and wildlife habitats and populations; and drought, grazing, and fire regimes.
hydrologic unit code (HUC)	Divides watersheds into a series of progressively smaller nested levels, with the first level being the largest land area relative to higher-numbered levels in that watershed. Each level is identified systematically by a hydrologic unit code number. A first-level watershed can be divided into a number of second-level watersheds; each second-level watershed may be further subdivided into third-level watersheds, and so forth.
Indian land	Any land in collective tribal holding or ownership for which the Secretary of the Interior has a continuing trust responsibility to manage for the benefit of the respective tribe. In the past, this term described certain parcels or areas where Indians lived and represented a smaller concept than Indian territory.
Indian territory	Unsurveyed lands that were recognized by the federal government to be occupied or used by Indians. Prior to the U.S. Constitution, lands occupied or used by American Indians were referred to as "Indian Territory." Historical documents dating back to the 16 <sup>th</sup> century refer to these unsurveyed regions as a "territory."
infrastructure	The facilities, utilities and transportation systems needed to meet public and administrative needs.
jurisdiction	The legal right to control or regulate use of a transportation facility. Jurisdiction requires authority but not necessarily ownership. The authority to construct or maintain a road may be derived from fee title, an easement, an agreement, or other method.  Forest Service jurisdiction includes National Forest System roads and National Forest System trails, which are roads or trails located on National Forest System lands, other than a road or trail: that has been authorized by a legally documented right-of way held by a state, county, or local public road authority; or that an authorized officer has ascertained, for administrative purposes and based on available evidence, is within a public right-of way for a highway, such as a right-of-way for a highway pursuant to R.S. 2477.
karst	A type of landform that develops when soluble rocks (such as limestone, dolomite, gypsum, anhydrite, and halite) are dissolved. A karst landscape is characterized by well-developed subsurface drainage, collapse features such as sinkholes, dry valleys, vertical shafts, caves, and fluted rock surfaces (epikarst).
land exchange	A discretionary, voluntary transaction involving mutual transfers of land or interests in land between the Secretary of Agriculture acting by or through the Forest Service and a non-federal entity.

landscape	A heterogeneous land area composed of a cluster of interacting ecosystems that are repeated in similar form throughout. Landscapes vary in size, down to a few kilometers in diameter.
landscape ecology	The study of the distribution patterns of communities and ecosystems, the ecological processes that affect those patterns, and changes in pattern and process over time.
lentic	Standing water habitat such as lakes, ponds, seeps, bogs and meadows (wet).
lifeways	Manner and means by which a group of people lives—their way of life. Components include language, subsistence strategies, religion, economic structure, physical mannerisms, and shared attitudes.
limits of acceptable change (LAC)	A framework for establishing acceptable and appropriate resource and social conditions in recreation settings.
lithic	Stone used as raw material for the production of artifacts, such as tools or other utilitarian objects. It may also be used strictly for ceremonial purposes.
local road	Connects terminal facilities with forest collector or forest arterial roads or public highways. The location and standard are usually controlled by topography and a specific resource activity rather than travel efficiency. Forest local roads may be developed and operated for long-term, intermittent, or short-term service.
lotic	Running water habitat such as rivers, streams and springs.
lynx analysis unit (LAU)	The LAU is a project analysis unit upon which direct, indirect, and cumulative effects analyses are performed. LAU boundaries should remain constant to facilitate planning and allow effective monitoring of habitat changes over time. An area of at least the size used by an individual lynx, about 25–50 square miles.
lynx habitat	Lynx occur in mesic coniferous forests that have cold, snowy winters and provide a prey base of snowshoe hare. Lynx records occur predominantly in the following vegetation types: In the western U.S. lodgepole pine, subalpine fir, Engelmann spruce, and aspen cover types on subalpine fir habitat types; cool, moist Douglas-fir, grand fir, or western larch forest, where they are interspersed with subalpine forests, also provide habitat for lynx. In the Southern Rocky Mountain Geographic Area, mature and late-successional spruce/fir forests, provide structure and forage that is superior to mature lodgepole pine forests. (Many parts of the southern Rockies currently have a shortage of regenerating lodgepole pine stands.) In the absence of widespread regenerating forest stands, mature and late-successional spruce-fir forests may constitute some of the most important habitat for lynx. These stands not only provide components necessary for denning habitat, but also produce red squirrels, grouse, and snowshoe hares. Although these forest types may support a lower density of hares than do densely regeneration stands, they also likely provide stable populations of both hares and red squirrels over time.
lynx denning habitat	Habitat used during parturition and rearing of young until they are mobile. The common component appears to be large amounts of coarse woody debris, either down logs or root wads. (In some studies this was estimated at greater than 80 downed logs per acre, but it could be less if properly arranged.) Coarse woody debris provides escape and thermal cover for kittens. Denning habitat may be found either in older mature forest of conifer or mixed conifer/deciduous types, or in regenerating stands (greater than 20 years since disturbance). Denning habitat must be located within daily travel distance of foraging habitat (typical maximum daily distances for females is 3–6 miles).

lynx diurnal security habitat	In lynx habitat, areas that provide secure winter daytime bedding sites for lynx in highly disturbed landscapes; for example, large developed winter recreational sites or areas of concentrated winter recreational use. It is presumed that lynx may be able to adapt to the presence of regular and concentrated human use during winter, so long as other critical habitat needs are being met and security habitat blocks are present and adequately distributed in such disturbed landscapes. Security habitat will provide lynx the ability to retreat from human disturbance during winter daytime hours and to emerge at dusk to hunt when most human activity ceases. Security habitats generally will be sites that naturally discourage winter human activity because of extensive forest floor structure, or stand conditions that otherwise make human access difficult; security habitat should be protected to the degree necessary. Security habitats are likely to be most effective if they are sufficiently large enough to provide effective visual and acoustic insulation from winter human activity and easily allow movement away from infrequent human intrusion. These winter habitats must be distributed such that they are in proximity to foraging habitat.
lynx foraging habitat	Habitat that supports primary prey (snowshoe hare) and/or important alternate prey (especially red squirrels) that are available to lynx. The highest quality snowshoe hare habitats are those that support a high density of young trees or shrubs (greater than 4,500 stems or branches per acre from studies done in the Northern Rocky Mountain Geographic Area, but estimated at 1,000 to 2,000 stems per acre in the lodgepole pine and spruce/fir forests in the Southern Rocky Mountain Geographic Area), tall enough to protrude above the snow. These conditions may occur in early successional stands following some type of disturbance, or in older forests with a substantial understory of shrubs and young conifer trees. Coarse woody debris, especially in early successional stages (created by harvest regeneration units and large fires), provides important cover for snowshoe hares and other prey. Red squirrel densities tend to be highest in mature cone-bearing forests with substantial quantities of coarse woody debris.
lynx habitat connectivity (landscape)	Cover (vegetation) in sufficient quantity and arrangement to allow for the movement of lynx. Narrow forested mountain ridges or shrub-steppe plateaus may provide a linkage between more extensive areas of lynx habitat. Wooded riparian communities may provide travel cover across otherwise open valley floors between mountain ranges; lower elevation ponderosa pine or pinyon-juniper woodlands may link high-elevation spruce/fir forests.
lynx habitat currently in unsuitable condition	Areas within identified/mapped lynx habitat that are in early successional stages as a result of recent fires or vegetation management, in which the vegetation has not developed sufficiently to support snowshoe hare populations during all seasons. Management-created openings would likely include clearcuts and seed tree harvest units and might include shelterwood and commercially-thinned stands depending on unit size and remaining stand composition and structure.
lynx habitat matrix	Matrix is defined as the most extensive and most connected landscape element type present, which plays the dominant role in landscape functioning. A landscape surrounding a patch. For lynx, this is an area that is predominantly lynx habitat but because of natural fragmentation also includes stringers or isolated patches of vegetation such as aspen, riparian areas, sagebrush, grasslands, or alpine. These stringers or patches may have value to lynx for alternate prey species or travelways. Activities in these areas could have effects on adjacent lynx habitat.
lynx unsuitable habitat areas	Areas such as lakes, low-elevation ponderosa pine forest, and alpine tundra that do not support snowshoe hare populations and are not considered to be capable of providing lynx habitat. See also <i>lynx habitat currently in unsuitable condition</i> .
lynx key linkage areas	Critical areas for lynx habitat. Usually, the factors that place connectivity at risk are highways or private land developments. Special management emphasis is recommended to maintain or increase the permeability of key linkage areas.

- maintenance The act of keeping fixed assets in acceptable condition. It includes preventive maintenance normal repairs, replacement of parts and structural components, and other activities needed to preserve a fixed asset so that it continues to provide acceptable service and achieves its expected life. Maintenance excludes activities aimed at expanding the capacity of an asset or otherwise upgrading it to serve needs different from or significantly greater than those originally intended. Maintenance includes work needed to meet laws, regulations, codes, and other legal direction as long as the original intent or purpose of the fixed asset is not changed. The upkeep of the entire forest development transportation facility including surface and shoulders, parking and side areas, structures, and such traffic-control devices as are necessary for its safe and efficient utilization.
- maintenance level Defines the level of service provided by, and maintenance required for, a specific road, consistent with road management objectives and maintenance criteria. Operational is the current status. Objective is what is intended for the future.
- maintenance level 1 Assigned to intermittent service roads during the time they are closed to vehicular traffic. The closure period must exceed 1 year. Basic custodial maintenance is performed to keep damage to adjacent resource to an acceptable level and to perpetuate the road to facilitate future management activities. Emphasis is normally given to maintaining drainage facilities and runoff patterns. Planned road deterioration may occur at this level. Appropriate traffic management strategies are “prohibit” and “eliminate”. Roads receiving level 1 maintenance may be of any type, class, or construction standard and may be managed at any other maintenance level during the time they are open for traffic. However, while being maintained at level 1, they are closed to vehicular traffic but may be open and suitable for non-motorized uses.
- maintenance level 2 Assigned to roads open for use by high clearance vehicles. Passenger car traffic is not a consideration, 4x4 traffic is often recommended. Traffic is normally minor, usually consisting of one or a combination of administrative, permitted, dispersed recreation, or other specialized uses. Log haul may occur at this level. Appropriate traffic management strategies are either (1) discourage or prohibit passenger cars or (2) accept or discourage high-clearance vehicles.
- maintenance level 3 Assigned to roads open and maintained for travel by a prudent driver in a standard passenger car. User comfort and convenience are not considered priorities. Roads in this maintenance level are typically low speed, single lane with turnouts and spot surfacing. Some roads may be fully surfaced with either native or processed material. Appropriate traffic management strategies are either “encourage” or “accept.” “Discourage” or “prohibit” strategies may be for certain classes of vehicles or users.
- maintenance level 4 Assigned to roads that provide a moderate degree of user comfort and convenience at moderate travel speeds. Most roads are double lane and aggregate surfaced. However, some roads may be single lane. Some roads may be paved and/or dust-abated. The most appropriate traffic management strategy is “encourage.” However, the “prohibit” strategy may apply to specific classes of vehicles or users at certain times.
- maintenance level 5 Assigned to roads that provide a high degree of user comfort and convenience. Normally, roads are double-lane, paved facilities. Some may be aggregate surfaced and dust-abated. The appropriate traffic management strategy is “encourage.”
- management indicator community Management indicator communities are important habitats that are selected to predict the likely effects of management actions that are identifiable, measurable, and predictable and can be related to habitat of associated species.

management indicator species	Includes the following endangered and threatened species identified on state and federal lists for the planning area: species with special habitat needs that may be influenced significantly by planned management programs; species commonly hunted, fished or trapped; and additional species selected because their population changes are believed to indicate effects of management activities on other species of a major biological community or on water quality.
map scale	The ratio of the distance on a map to the distance on the earth. It is typically expressed as a fraction (such as 1:24,000; this means that 1 unit on the map equals 24,000 units on the ground).
mature forest	Generally used in an economic sense to indicate that a forest has attained harvest age.
mechanized vehicle	Any contrivance that provides mechanical assistance and has moving parts for the purpose of transporting one or more people across land or water and that is powered by a living or non-living power source. Examples include wagons, bicycles, rollerblades, and paddle-wheeled watercraft. Not included are wheel chairs when used as a necessary medical appliance. Also not included are skis, snowshoes, rafts, canoes, sleds, travois, or similar devices without moving parts.
motor vehicle	Any vehicle that is self propelled, other than a vehicle operated on rails; and any wheelchair or mobility device including one that is battery-powered, that is designed solely for use by a mobility-impaired person for locomotion and that is suitable for use in an indoor pedestrian area.
National Environmental Policy Act (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 simulate the health and welfare of people, 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 law passed in 1976 amending the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act; NFMA requires the preparation of regional and forest plans and the preparation of regulations to guide that 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 Forest System road	A forest road other than a road which has been authorized by a legally documented right-of-way held by a State, county, or other local public road authority.
National Forest System trail	A forest trail other than a trail which has been authorized by legally documented right-of-way held by a State, county or other local public road authority.
National Recreation Trails	Trails designated by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture as part of the national system of trails authorized by Section 4 of the National Trails System Act in or reasonably accessible to urban areas.
National Register of Historic Places (NHRP)	A list of heritage resources that have local, state, or national significance maintained by the Secretary of the Interior.
National Wild and Scenic River System	Rivers with outstanding scenic, recreational, geological, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values designated by Congress under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act for preservation of their free-flowing condition. See also <i>wild, scenic, and recreational rivers</i> .

National Wilderness Preservation System	All lands covered by the Wilderness Act and subsequent wilderness designations, irrespective of the department or agency having jurisdiction.
natural appearing landscapes	Whether naturally evolved, or culturally established, the landscape appears natural.
natural regeneration	The establishment of a plant or a plant age class from natural seeding, sprouting, suckering, or layering.
new road construction	Activity that results in the addition of forest or temporary road miles.
No-action alternative	An alternative that maintains established trends or management direction.
non-forested area	Lands never having or incapable of having 10 percent or more of the area occupied by forest trees, or lands previously having such cover and currently developed for non-forest use.
non-motorized activities	Activities that do not incorporate the use of a motor, engine or other non-living power source. Excluded by this classification would be such machines as aircraft, hovercraft, motorboats, automobiles, motor bikes, snowmobiles, bulldozers, chainsaws, rock drills and generators.
non-system road or trail	See <i>unauthorized road or trail</i> .
notice of intent	Formal notification that an environmental impact statement will be prepared and considered. The notice briefly describes the proposed action and possible alternatives, the agency's scoping process, and the address and name of the agency to contact regarding questions about the proposed action and the environmental impact statement.
noxious weed	An alien plant that aggressively invades or is detrimental to native plant communities. The direct or indirect effect of the presence of this plant is detrimental to environmentally sound management of natural ecosystems.
obliteration	The act of eliminating the functional characteristics of a travelway and the reestablishment of natural resource production capability. The intent is to make the corridor unusable as a road or a trail and stabilize it against soil loss.
off-highway vehicle (OHV)	As defined by Colorado Revised Statute 33-14.5-101: "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. <i>Off-highway vehicle</i> 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."
open road density	See <i>road density</i> .
outfitter/guide	A special-use permittee who provides all commercial outfitting operations involving services for accommodating guests, transporting persons, and providing equipment, supplies, and materials. The permittee also provides guiding activities wherein the guide furnishes personal services or serves as a leader or teacher.
over-snow vehicle	A vehicle that is designed for use over snow and that runs on a track or tracks and /or a ski or skis, while in use over snow. The vehicle is primarily designed for over-snow use, not retrofitted for over-snow use.

paleontological area	A unit of land that contains fossils of plants and animals, shellfish, early vertebrates, coal swamp forests, early reptiles, dinosaurs, and other prehistoric plants and animals.
particulates	Small particles suspended in the air and generally considered pollutants.
patented mining claim	A parcel of land originally claimed under the Mining Law of 1872 for which title has now passed from the federal government to the mining claimant. A patented mining claim is private land.
permit	A special-use authorization that provides permission, without conveying an interest in land, to occupy and use National Forest System lands or facilities for specific purposes, and which is both revocable and terminable.
persons at one time (PAOT)	A recreational capacity measurement term indicating the number of people who can use a facility or area at one time.
planning area	The area of the National Forest System, including national grasslands, covered by a regional or forest plan.
planning criteria	Standards, tests, rules, and guidelines by which the planning process is conducted and upon which judgments and decisions are based.
planning records	Documents and files that contain detailed information and decisions made in developing the forest plan. Available at the forest supervisor's office.
plant association	The distinctive combination of trees, shrubs, grasses, and herbs occurring in a theoretical terminal or climax community or series of communities.
plant community	A grouping of plants that have reached dynamic equilibrium with the local environmental conditions and is equivalent to climax. On site, there is no evidence of replacement by other dominant plant species and there is no evidence of serious disturbances.
prescribed burning	Controlled application of fire to wildland 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 fireline intensity and rate of spread required to attain planned resource management objectives. Also called <i>management-ignited</i> .
prescribed fire	A fire burning within prescription, resulting from planned or unplanned ignition.
primitive	See <i>recreation opportunity spectrum</i> .
private road	A road under private ownership authorized by easement to a private party, or a road that provides access pursuant to a reserved or private right.
proposed action	In terms of the National Environmental Policy Act, the project, activity, or action that a federal agency intends to implement or undertake and that is the subject of an environmental analysis.
proposed species	Any species of fish, wildlife, or plant that is proposed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to be listed as threatened or endangered.
public	The people of an area, state, or nation that can be grouped together by a commonality of interests, values, beliefs, or lifestyles.
public access	Usually refers to a road or trail route over which a public agency has secured a right-of-way for public use.

public involvement	A Forest Service process designed to broaden the information base upon which agency decisions are made by (1) informing the public about Forest Service activities, plans and decisions; and (2) encouraging public understanding about participation in the planning processes that lead to final decision-making.
public issue	A subject or question of widespread public interest identified through public participation relating to management of National Forest System lands.
public-private ventures	Opportunities for private, profit-oriented businesses to invest in the development of campgrounds and other appropriate facilities on National Forest System lands.
range	Land supporting indigenous vegetation that is grazed or that has the potential to be grazed and that is managed as a natural ecosystem.
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 and other associated lands administered by the Forest Service.
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.
ranger district	Administrative subdivision of a national forest supervised by a district ranger who reports to a forest supervisor.
reclamation	Returning disturbed lands to a form and productivity that will be ecologically balanced, often in conformity with a predetermined reclamation plan.
reconstruction	Construction activities performed on an existing facility. Reconstruction includes those activities that alter the facility from its originally constructed or subsequently reconstructed condition.
recontouring	Obliteration of a road or trail by means of decompaction, reestablishment of sub-surface flow, debris and rock placements, treatments to gullies and to their connectivity to stream systems, vegetation plantings, seeding, mulching, reestablishing original contours or removal of drainage structures.
record of decision (ROD)	A document separate from but associated with an environmental impact statement that publicly and officially discloses the responsible official's decision on the proposed action.
recreation carrying capacity	The level of recreation use beyond which impacts exceed social or biological levels specified by evaluative standards.
recreation information management (RIM)	The Forest Service system for recording recreation facility condition and use. Technically refers to a database system that has been replaced by one called INFRASTRUCTURE.
recreation opportunity	Availability of a real choice for a user to participate in a preferred activity within a preferred setting in order to realize desired experiences.
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 are arranged along a continuum or spectrum divided into seven classes: primitive, semi-primitive non-motorized, semi-primitive motorized, roaded natural, roaded modified, rural and urban.

primitive	Area that is characterized by an essentially unmodified natural environment of fairly large size. Interaction between users is very low and evidence of other users is minimal. The area is managed to be essentially free of evidence of human-induced restrictions and controls. Motorized use within the area is not permitted.
semi-primitive non-motorized	Area is characterized by a predominantly natural or natural-appearing environment of moderate to large size. Interaction between users is low, but there is often evidence of other users. The area is managed in such a way that minimum on-site controls and restrictions may be present, but would be subtle. Motorized recreation is not permitted but local roads used for other resource management activities may be present on a limited basis. Use of such roads is restricted to minimize impacts on recreational experience opportunities.
semi-primitive motorized	Area is characterized by a predominantly natural or natural-appearing environment of moderate to large size. Concentration of users is low but often there is evidence of other users. The area is managed in such a way that minimum on-site controls and restrictions may be present but would be subtle. Motorized use of local primitive or collector roads with predominantly natural surfaces and trails suitable for motor bikes is permitted.
roaded natural	Area is characterized by predominantly natural-appearing environments with moderate evidence of the sights and sounds of people. Such evidence usually harmonizes with the natural environment. Interaction between users may be moderate to high, with evidence of other users prevalent. Resource modification and utilization practices are evident but harmonize with the natural environment. Conventional motorized use is allowed and incorporated into construction standards and design of facilities.
roaded modified	Area is characterized by substantially modified environments except for campsites. Roads, landings, slash and debris may be strongly dominant from within yet remain subordinate from distant sensitive roads and highways. Interaction between users and evidence of others may be moderate on roads but there is little evidence of others or interaction at camp sites. The area is managed in such a way that few on-site controls may be present except for gated roads. Conventional motorized use is allowed and incorporated into construction standards and design of facilities.
rural	Area is characterized by a natural environment that has been substantially modified by development of structures, vegetative manipulation or pastoral agriculture development. Resource modification and utilization practices may be used to enhance specific recreation activities and to maintain vegetative cover and soil. Sights and sounds of humans are readily evident, and the interaction between users is often moderate to high. A considerable number of facilities are designed for use by a large number of people. Facilities often are provided for special activities. Moderate user densities are present away from developed sites. Facilities for intensified motorized use and parking are available.
urban	Area is characterized by a substantially urbanized environment, although the background may have natural-appearing elements. Renewable resource modification and utilization practices are often used to enhance specific recreational activities. Vegetation cover often is exotic and manicured. Sights and sounds of humans are predominant on the site. Large number of users can be expected both on the site and in nearby areas. Facilities for highly intensified motor use and parking are available with forms of mass transit often available to carry people throughout the site.
recreation residence	Cabins on National Forest System land that normally were established in tracts and built for recreation purposes with agency approval and supervision. These cabins are authorized by special-use permit and are not the primary residences of the owners.

recreation visitor day (RVD)	Twelve visit hours, which may be aggregated continuously, intermittently, or simultaneously by one or more persons. Recreation visitor days are used to measure recreational production or output capacity.
reconstruction (road)	Activity that results in improvement or realignment of an existing forest road as defined as: 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; 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.
reforestation	The reestablishment of forest cover either naturally (by natural seeding, coppice, or root suckers) or artificially (by direct seeding or planting). Reforestation usually maintains the same forest type and is done promptly after the previous stand or forest was removed (synonymous with <i>regeneration</i> ).
Region 2	See <i>Rocky Mountain Region</i> .
rehabilitation	Actions taken to restore or reclaim site productivity, water quality or other values.
research natural area (RNA)	Formally designated tracts of land where natural processes are allowed to continue and where natural features are preserved for education and research. These conditions are ordinarily achieved by allowing natural physical and biological processes to prevail without human intervention. However, under unusual circumstances, deliberate manipulation may be used to maintain the unique feature that the RNA was established to protect.
responsible official	The Forest Service employee who has the delegated authority to make a specific decision.
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 disturbance.
revegetation	The reestablishment and development of plant cover. This may take place naturally through the reproductive processes of the existing flora or artificially through the direct action of reforestation or reseeding.
right-of-way	Land authorized to be used or occupied for the construction, operation, maintenance and termination of a project or facility passing over, upon, under or through such land.
riparian	Refers to land bordering a stream, lake or tidewater, and generally implying a particular type of habitat physiognomy often characterized by an overstory of trees or other large woody plants with a complex understory of other woody and/or herbaceous species.
riparian area	Ecological units with distinctive vegetation, landform, and soil and water regimes consisting of the aquatic ecosystem and wet-to-moist areas located between aquatic ecosystems and adjacent terrestrial ecosystems. They include 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 community	Repeating, classified, defined and recognizable assemblages of plant or animal communities associated with riparian areas.
riparian ecosystem	A transition between the aquatic ecosystem and the adjacent upland terrestrial ecosystem. It is identified by soil characteristics and by distinctive vegetation communities that require free or unbounded water.

road	A motor vehicle route over 50 inches wide, unless identified and managed as a trail.
roadless area	An area in a national forest or national grassland that (1) is larger than 5,000 acres or, if smaller, contiguous to a designated wilderness or primitive area, or lies east of the 100th Meridian and therefore under the jurisdiction of the Eastern Wilderness Act; and (2) contains no roads; and (3) has been inventoried by the Forest Service for possible inclusion in the Wilderness Preservation System.
roaded modified	See <i>recreation opportunity spectrum</i> .
roaded natural	See <i>recreation opportunity spectrum</i> .
Rocky Mountain Region	The Forest Service organizational unit consisting of Colorado, Wyoming, and parts of South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas. Also known as Region 2.
route	A road or trail that is signed and managed as a unique entity. Management can change along its length but it is singularly identified. This term is also used in GIS to denote a linear feature composed of one or more arcs or parts of arcs.
salable minerals	Salable minerals include common varieties of sand, stone, gravel, pumice, pumicite, cinders and clay. In general, these minerals are widespread and relatively low in value. They are generally used for construction materials and for road-building purposes.
scoping process	An early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to the proposed action. Scoping requires examining a proposed action and its possible effects; establishing the depth of environmental analysis needed; and determining analysis procedures, data needed, and task assignments. During the scoping period, the public is encouraged to participate and submit comments on proposed projects.
scenic integrity	A measure of the degree to which landscape is visually perceived to be complete. It can describe an existing situation (ESI) or desired future condition (SIO).
Scenery Management System (SMS)	A systematic approach, founded on an ecological aesthetic, for assessing visual resources in a project area and then using the assessment findings to help make management decisions on a project.
scenic byway	The National Scenic Byways program is part of the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highways Administration which establishes, recognizes, and preserves selected roads throughout the United States. These roads are located in scenic or historic country.
sediment	Material that is suspended in water or air, or the deposition of such material onto the surface underlying such water or air.
sensitive species	Those plant and animal species identified by regional foresters for which population viability is a concern, as evidenced by: (a) significant current or predicted downward trends in population numbers or density, or (b) significant current or predicted downward trends in habitat capability that would reduce a species' existing distribution. (For a list of Region 2 sensitive species that are known or thought to occur on the White River National Forest, see appendix E of the revised forest plan).
silviculture	The art and science of controlling the establishment, growth, health, and quality of forests and woodlands to meet the diverse needs and values of landowners and society on a sustainable basis.

silviculture system	A planned series of treatments for tending, harvesting, and re-establishing a stand.
site	The classification of land based on its climate, physiographic (physical geography), edaphic (soil), and biotic factors that determine its suitability and productivity for particular species and silvicultural alternatives.
size class	Tree size recognized by distinct ranges, usually of diameter or height.
ski area	A site and attendant facilities expressly developed to accommodate alpine or Nordic skiing and from which the preponderance of revenue is generated by the sale of lift tickets and fees for ski rental, skiing instruction and trail passes, or for the use of permittee-maintained ski trails. A ski area also may include ancillary facilities directly related to the operation and support of skiing activities. Operation of Nordic and alpine ski areas for up to 40 years and encompassing such acreage as the forest officer determines sufficient and appropriate is authorized by the National Ski Area Permit Act of 1986.
snowshoe hare habitat	See <i>lynx foraging habitat</i> under <i>lynx habitat</i> .
snowmobile	A motor vehicle that is designed exclusively for use over snow, with a seat that is straddled, and that runs on a track or tracks and/or a ski or skis.
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, stated in some comparable quantitative terms, such as persons or percent of population in each affected social segment. It also includes a subjective analysis of social factors not expressible in quantitative terms.
soil compaction	A physical change in soil properties that results in a decrease in porosity and an increase in soil-bulk density and strength.
soil erosion	The detachment and movement of soil from the land surface by water or wind.
soil productivity	The inherent capacity of a soil to support the growth of specified plants, plant communities or a sequence of plant communities. Soil productivity may be expressed in terms of volume or weight per unit area per year, percent plant cover, or other measures of biomass accumulation.
special-use permit	See <i>permit</i> .
species	A singular or plural term for a population or series of populations of organisms that are capable of interbreeding freely with each other but not with members of other species. <i>endemic</i> : A species originating in, or belonging to, a particular region. <i>exotic</i> : A species introduced accidentally or intentionally to a region beyond its natural range. <i>subspecies</i> : A subdivision of a species. A population or series of populations occupying a discrete range and differing genetically from other subspecies of the same species.
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 kinds of species in a given habitat.

special interest area	Areas managed with emphasis on protecting or enhancing unusual characteristics. These areas are managed to maintain their special interest values.
standard	In Region 2, a standard is defined as a mandatory requirement. Mandatory adherence to standards is the most important feature distinguishing standards from desired condition statements.
structural stages	Any of several developmental stages of tree stands described in terms of tree age and the extent of canopy closure they create. They include:
structural stage 1	<b>Grass/forb.</b> Forest openings created by disturbances, such as fire or windthrow. Meadows and prairies are also modeled as grass/forb although succession will not move beyond this stage.
structural stage 2	<b>Shrubs/seedlings.</b> Developmental stage dominated by tree seedlings (less than one-inch DBH) and shrub species.
structural stage 3	<b>Sapling/pole.</b> Developmental stage dominated by young trees one to seven inches diameter breast height, 10 to 50 feet tall and usually less than 50 years old. This stage is subdivided into three canopy closure classes: (a) less than 40 percent; (b) 40 to 70 percent; and (c) greater than 70 percent.
structural stage 4	<b>Mature.</b> Consists of trees larger and older than stage 3. Also classified by the same canopy closure categories as stage 3.
structural stage 5	<b>Old growth.</b> This structural stage is characterized by trees at least 200 years old for spruce-fir or Douglas-fir; 150 years old for lodgepole pine; or 100 years old for aspen.
succession	The progress of vegetational development whereby an area becomes successively occupied by different plant communities.
suitable forest lands	Land to be managed for timber production on a regulated basis.
sustainability	A concept that reflects the capacity of a dynamic ecosystem to maintain its composition, function, and structure over time thus maintaining the productivity of the land and a diversity of plants and animals.
temporary road	A road authorized by contract, permit, lease, other written authorization, or emergency operation that may be associated with a timber sale contract, fire activity, or other short-term access need, and not intended to be part of the forest development transportation system and not necessary for future resource management. When intended use is ended, these roads are treated to eliminate motor vehicle traffic and permit the reestablishment of vegetation to minimize erosion with intent to return to a natural state.
thermal cover	Cover used by animals to ameliorate the effects of weather. Optimally, thermal cover is provided by a stand of coniferous trees, 30 to 60 acres in size, at least 40 feet tall, with a canopy cover of at least 70 percent.
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 <i>Federal Register</i> by the Secretary of the Interior as such.
tiering	The elimination of repetitive discussions of the same issue by incorporating by reference the general discussion in an environmental impact statement of broader scope (e.g., a project environmental assessment could be tiered to the forest plan EIS).
timber	A general term applied to tree stands that provide a wood-fiber product.

timber base	The lands within a national forest suitable for timber production.
timber production	The purposeful growing, tending, harvesting and regeneration of regulated crops of trees to be cut into logs, bolts or other round sections for industrial or consumer use, except fuelwood.
traditional	The beliefs, acts, practices, objects, or sites for the perpetuation of an Indian culture originating from or historically located at a specific area. This may include traditional cultural practices that are so interrelated with spiritual activities that they cannot be separated from the land location.
trail	A route 50 inches or less in width or a route over 50 inches wide that is identified and managed as a trail.
trailhead	The parking area, signage, or other facilities available at the beginning of a trail.
trail vehicle	Vehicles designed for trail use, such as bicycles, snowmobiles, trail motorcycles, and all-terrain vehicles (ATVs).
travel management	The integrated planning of and provision for appropriate movement of people and products to and through National Forest System lands.
travel management strategy	A designation of acceptable modes, methods and time periods for travel over a road, trail, or area.
travel order	A travel management decision issued by the Regional Forester or Forest Supervisor to restrict, prohibit or allow the use of a described area or transportation facility over which the Forest Service has jurisdiction.
travelway	A way for passage of vehicles, conveyances, persons or domestic livestock (stock driveways), developed by construction or use; may be referred to as a road or a trail.
treaty	A legally binding agreement between two or more sovereign governments. With respect to American Indian tribes, a treaty is a document negotiated and concluded by a representative of the president of the U.S. and ratified by two-thirds majority vote of the U.S. Senate.
tribe	Term used to designate a federally recognized group of American Indians and their governing body. Tribes may comprise more than one band.
unauthorized roads or trails	Roads or trails on National Forest System 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 not been designated and managed as a road or trail; and those roads that were once under permit or other authorization and were not decommissioned upon the termination of the authorization. Synonyms: <i>non-system road, non-system trail, user-created and way.</i>
understory	The lowest layer of vegetation in a forest or shrub community composed of grass, forbs, shrubs and trees less than 10 feet tall. Vegetation growing under the tree canopy.
undesirable species	(1) Species that conflict with or do not contribute to the management objectives; (2) species that are not readily eaten by animals.

unsuitable forest land (not suited)	Forest land not managed for timber production because: (a) Congress, the Secretary, or the Chief has withdrawn it; (b) it is not producing or capable of producing crops of industrial wood; (c) technology is not available to prevent irreversible damage to soil productivity, or watershed conditions; (d) there is no reasonable assurance based on existing technology and knowledge, that it is possible to restock lands within 5 years after final harvest, as reflected in current research and experience; (e) there is, at present, a lack of adequate information about responses to timber management activities; or (f) timber management is inconsistent with or not cost-efficient in meeting the management requirements and multiple-use objectives specified in the forest plan.
urban	See <i>recreation opportunity spectrum</i> .
utility corridor	A linear strip of land defined for the present or future location of transportation or utility facilities within its boundaries
vegetation management	Any activities undertaken to modify the existing condition of the vegetation.
viable population	A group of individuals of a particular species that produces enough offspring for long-term persistence and adaptation of the species or population in a given place.
viewshed	Total visible area from a single observer's position or the total visible area from multiple observer positions. Viewsheds are accumulated seen areas from highways, trails, campgrounds, towns, cities, or other view locations. Examples are corridors, feature or basin viewsheds.
water influence zone	The land next to water bodies where vegetation plays a major role in sustaining long-term integrity of aquatic systems. It includes the geomorphic floodplain, riparian ecosystem, and inner gorge. Its minimum horizontal width (from top of each bank) is 100 feet or the mean height of mature dominant late-seral vegetation, whichever is most.
watershed	An area of land that collects and discharges water into a single main stream through a series of smaller tributaries. 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, or to a lake, reservoir or other body of water. Also called drainage basin or catchment.
watershed level	Divides watersheds into a series of progressively smaller nested levels, with the first level being the largest land area relative to higher-numbered levels in that watershed. Each level is identified systematically by a hydrologic unit code number, or HUC. A first-level watershed can be divided into a number of second level watersheds; each second-level watershed may be further subdivided into third-level watersheds; and so forth.
water yield	(1) The measured output of surface water, usually measured in acre-feet; (2) the runoff from a watershed, including groundwater outflow.
way	See <i>unauthorized road or trail</i> .
wild, scenic and recreational rivers	Rivers or sections of rivers designated by congressional actions under the 1968 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act as wild, scenic, or recreational by an act of the legislature of the state or states through which they flow. See also <i>National Wild and Scenic Rivers System</i> . Rivers may be classified and administered under one or more of the following categories:

- wild river River or section of river that is free of impoundments with watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.
- scenic river River or section of river that is free of impoundments, with watersheds still largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.
- recreational river River or section of river that is readily accessible by road or railroad that may have some development along its shoreline and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.
- wilderness An area of undeveloped federal land that Congress designated as wilderness and that retains its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, and that is protected and managed to preserve its natural conditions. An area that: (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; 3) comprises at least 5,000 acres of land or is of sufficient size to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and 4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.
- wildfire Any wildland fire not designated and managed as a prescribed fire within an approved prescription. All wildfires will be given an appropriate suppression action.
- wildlife Collectively, non-domesticated vertebrate animals, except fishes. The natural community of animals and plants.