

## CHAPTER 4. CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

### 4.1 Preparers and Contributors

The Forest Service consulted the following individuals, Federal, State, and local agencies, tribes and non-Forest Service persons during the development of this environmental assessment:

#### ***ID TEAM MEMBERS:***

<b>Kris Rutledge</b>	<b>Forest Environmental Coordination</b>
Project Role and Responsibility	Interdisciplinary Planning Team leader and primary document writer
Degree	BS Wildlife Sciences, Oregon State University, 1988.
Experience	20 years with the Forest Service focusing on biological sciences, project planning, and NEPA.
<b>Don Jaques</b>	<b>Forest Partnership Coordinator</b>
Project Role and Responsibility	Cooperator outreach, co-writer/editor and co-project leader
Degree	BS Agribusiness Management/Business Administration, Animal Science minor, Utah State University, 1993.
Experience	3 years with the Ashley National Forest as partnership coordinator, 10 years with other federal agencies (FSA, FmHA, and FAA) and 4 years in private industry focusing on communication, program administration and management.
<b>Omero Torres</b>	<b>Vernal Ranger District Recreation and Lands Staff</b>
Project Role and Responsibility	Recreation resource analysis and co-project leader
Degree	BS Rangeland Resource Science, BS Natural Resources Recreation. Humboldt State University, 2000.
Experience	6 years with the Forest Service and 2 years with the Bureau of Land Management focusing on developed and dispersed recreation, and motorized and non-motorized trails management.
<b>Ron Brunson</b>	<b>Roosevelt/Duchesne Ranger District Fisheries Biologist</b>
Project Role and Responsibility	Fisheries and aquatic resource specialist
Degree	B.S. Fisheries and Wildlife Management, Utah State University, 1995.
Experience	3 years as fisheries biologist with the Ashley National Forest, Roosevelt/Duchesne Ranger District. 10 years as a native aquatic biologist with the Utah Division of Wildlife Resources; experience with conservation biology, fisheries management and research.

<b>Bob Christensen</b>	<b>Roosevelt/Duchesne Ranger District Wildlife Biologist</b>
Project Role and Responsibility	Terrestrial wildlife specialist
Degree	B.S. Fisheries and Wildlife Management, Utah State University, 1996.
Experience	8 years as wildlife biologist and 2 years as range management specialist with the Forest Service focusing in range and wildlife ecology.
<b>Shauna Derbyshire</b>	<b>Forest Lands and Minerals Program Manager</b>
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Experience	21 years with the Bureau of Land Management and 1 year with the Ashley National Forest focusing on Lands & Mineral Development, Land Use Planning, and NEPA.
<b>Clay Johnson</b>	<b>Forest Archaeological Technician</b>
Project Role and Responsibility	Cultural resource analysis
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Experience	9 years experience with the Ashley National Forest as an archaeological technician.
<b>Helen Kempenich</b>	<b>Forest Physical Scientist</b>
Project Role and Responsibility	Physical Scientist - watershed resource analysis
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Experience	7.5 years with the Ashley National Forest working with the watershed group focusing on biological and physical sciences.
<b>Valton Mortenson</b>	<b>Forest Civil Engineer</b>
Project Role and Responsibility	Forest Civil Engineer
Degree	BS Civil Engineering, Utah State University 1993, MS Civil and Environmental Engineering, Utah State University 1995
Experience	9 years with the Forest Service as an engineer. Licensed Professional Engineer in Utah.
<b>Chris Plunkett</b>	<b>Forest Hydrologist</b>
Project Role and Responsibility	Watershed resource analysis
Degree	BA Physical Geography, Georgia State University, 1993
Experience	11 years with the Forest Service as a hydrologic technician and hydrologist.
<b>Diane Probasco</b>	<b>Flaming Gorge and Vernal Ranger District - Wildlife Biologist (transferred)</b>
Project Role and Responsibility	Terrestrial wildlife specialist
Degree	BS Wildlife Biology, University of Montana, 2003.
Experience	8 years with the Forest Service as a terrestrial wildlife biologist.

<b>Gina Reese</b>	<b>Forest Recreation Trails Manager</b>
Project Role and Responsibility	Field operations
Experience	30 years with the Forest Service providing technical work in Engineering and Recreation.
<b>Jeffrey Rust</b>	<b>Forest Archaeologist</b>
Project Role and Responsibility	Cultural Resource Specialist
Degree	MA Anthropology, Brigham Young University, 1999 BA Anthropology, Brigham Young University, 1993
Experience	9 years as federal agency archaeologist (National Park Service, U.S. Army, U.S. Forest Service). 6 years as archaeologist with private archaeological firms.

***FOREST LEADERSHIP TEAM MEMBERS:***

Name	Assigned Unit	Position
Kevin B. Elliott	Ashley National Forest	Forest Supervisor
Mike Elson (transferred)	Roosevelt/Duchesne Ranger District	Deputy District Ranger
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Earl Kerns	Ashley National Forest	Ecosystem Management
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Nicholas T. Schmelter	Vernal Ranger District	District Ranger
Earl Kerns (acting)	Vernal Ranger District	District Ranger
Jeff Schramm (transferred)	Flaming Gorge Ranger District	District Ranger
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Bureau of Land Management (Department of Interior) [BLM Field Office] - Vernal UT  
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 Duchesne County Commissioners - Duchesne, UT  
 Duchesne County Planning Office - Duchesne, UT  
 Duchesne Water Conservation District - Duchesne, UT  
 Environmental Protection Agency - Denver, CO  
 Sweetwater County Commissioners - Rock Springs, WY  
 Sweetwater Conservation District - Rock Springs, WY  
 Uintah County Commissioners - Vernal, UT  
 Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest - Salt Lake City, UT  
 Utah Department of Game and Fish

Utah Dept. of Natural Resources - Salt Lake City, UT  
 Utah Public Lands - Salt Lake City, UT  
 US Fish and Wildlife Service (Department of Interior)  
 Utah State Parks - Salt Lake City, UT  
 Utah State Historic Preservation Office - Salt Lake City, UT  
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 Uinta Mountain Club  
 Uinta County Trails Coalition  
 Western Resource Advocates  
 Wildlands CPR

**4.2 Distribution of the Environmental Impact Statement \_\_\_\_\_**

This environmental impact statement has been distributed to individuals who specifically requested a copy of the document. In addition, copies have been sent to the Federal agencies, federally recognized tribes, State and local governments, and organizations listed above representing a wide range of views regarding the proposed designation of motorized routes on the Ashley National Forest.

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# GLOSSARY

**administrative road**

Authorized vehicle use of otherwise closed roads and/or areas to carry out Forest management activities. Includes but is not limited to access for prescribed burning, fish and wildlife habitat improvement, and timber sales. Also includes use by permittees as authorized by permit to conduct authorized activities.

**affected environment**

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

**air quality**

The composition of air with respect to quantities of pollution therein; used most frequently in connection with standards of maximum acceptable pollutant concentrations.

**all-terrain vehicle (ATV)**

See off-highway vehicle.

**analysis area**

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

**annual maintenance**

Maintenance performed to maintain serviceability or repair failures during the year in which they occur.

**archaeological site**

Any site that is attributed to prehistoric American Indian cultures. A site is any location of use or occupation by human beings. In this part of the country, this generally refers to sites dated to pre-1700.

**availability**

For Wilderness Potential is the degree to which the area is available for wilderness designation, and is based on the demand for resource uses that are inconsistent with wilderness. For example, oil and gas development, timber harvest, and motorized recreational travel are inconsistent with wilderness as it is currently defined and lower the availability of an area. Requirements for documenting availability include a discussion of existing and planned activities by resource, and an evaluation of the degree to which the area is available based on potential for conflicts with other resource commitments.

**beneficial uses**

Water uses necessary for the survival or well-being of humans, plants, or wildlife.

**Best Management Practices (BMPs)**

A practice or combination of practices that are the most effective and practical means of achieving resource protection objectives during resource management activities.

**big game**

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

**capability**

For Wilderness Potential is the degree to which the area contains the basic characteristics that make it suitable for wilderness. The amended FS Manual lists naturalness, undeveloped, outstanding opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation, special features, and manageability as evaluation factors.

**closed road**

See **administrative road, decommission, and obliteration.**

**Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)**

A codification of the general and permanent rules published in the Federal Register by the Executive departments and agencies of the federal government.

**community**

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

**cross-country travel**

Traveling across the countryside (as fields and woods) rather than by roads or trails. Travel off of designated roads or trails.

**cultural resources**

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

**cultural site**

Any location that includes prehistoric and/or historic evidence of human use, or that has important sociocultural value.

**cumulative effect**

The impact on the environment that results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other actions over time and space. Individual impacts can either amplify or negate each other depending on the location, timing, and types of interactions involved. Individually minor but collectively significant actions can result from cumulative effects.

**cumulative effects area**

An area with a mapable boundary where individual impacts can accumulate and result in cumulative effects. Cumulative effects areas are often different for each resource or plant and animal species, and often require consideration of more than one spatial temporal scale.

**deciding official**

The Forest Service employee who has the authority to select and carry out a specific planning action.

**decommission**

To deactivate or dismantle a road; the denial of use, elimination of travelway functionality, and removal of the road from the forest transportation system; and the return of the road corridor to resource production by natural or designed means.

**deferred maintenance**

Maintenance that was not performed when it should have been or when it was scheduled, and therefore was put off or delayed for a future period.

**designated road, trail, 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 on a motor vehicle use map (36 CFR 212.1).

**direct effects**

Effects on the environment that occur at the same time and place as the initial cause of action.

**developed recreation**

Recreation that requires facilities and results in the concentrated use of an area (e.g., campgrounds or ski resorts).

**dispersed campsite**

Temporary undeveloped campsites that are typically created and maintained by forest users. Existing temporary campsites can be distinguished by evidence of rock fire rings, old tent sites, and tracks from earlier vehicle accesses.

**dispersed recreation**

Recreation that occurs outside a developed setting (e.g., hunting, scenic driving, or backpacking).

**disturbance**

Any event that alters the structure, composition, or function of an ecosystem, including grazing, human trampling, logging, foraging by wildlife ungulates, wind, flood, insects, disease, and fire.

**diversity**

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

**effects**

Environmental consequences (the scientific and analytical basis for comparison of alternatives) because of a proposed action. Effects may be either direct, which are caused by the action and occur at the same time and place, or indirect, which are caused by the action and are later in time or farther removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable or cumulative.

**endangered species**

“ . . . [A]ny species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range . . . ” which is designated by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Commerce (Endangered Species Act of 1973 Sec. 3(6)).

**environment**

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

**environmental impact statement (EIS)**

A detailed statement prepared by the responsible official when a major federal action that significantly affects the quality of the human environment is described, alternatives to the proposed action provided, and effects analyzed.

**erosion**

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

**existing route**

A road or trail that currently exists on the ground but that may or may not be designated as open to motorized use. Includes constructed roads and trails maintained by the Forest Service or cooperating agencies. Constructed roads and trails are often characterized by a road or trail prism with cut and fill slopes or through-fills. An existing route may also be an evident two-track and single-track route with regular use that has resulted from continuous passage of motorized vehicles over a period of years where perennial vegetation is devoid or scarce.

**Federal Register**

A daily publication that reports Presidential and Federal agency documents.

**floodplain**

The lowland and relatively flat areas adjoining inland and coastal waters including, at a minimum, that area subject to a 1 percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year.

**forest highway**

A forest road under the jurisdiction of, and maintained by, a public authority and open to public travel (23 USC Section 101 (a)).

**Forest Plan**

Shortened name for a unit's Land and Resource Management Plan. Provides strategic guidance to management activities on National Forest System lands.

**forest road or trail**

A road or trail wholly or partly within or adjacent to and serving the National Forest System that the Forest Service determines is necessary for the protection, administration, and utilization of the National Forest System and the use and development of its resources (36 CFR 212.1).

**Forest Service Handbook (FSH)**

The principal source of specialized guidance and instruction for carrying out the direction issued in the Forest Service Manual (FSM). Specialists and technicians are the primary audience of handbook direction.

**Forest Service Manual (FSM)**

Contains legal authorities, objectives, policies, responsibilities, instructions, and guidance needed on a continuing basis by Forest Service line officers and primary staff in more than one unit to plan and execute assigned programs and activities.

**four threats**

Management issues identified by the Chief of the Forest Service as the greatest threats to the Nation's forests and grasslands. The four key threats are hazardous fuels, invasive species, loss of open space, and unmanaged recreation. These program areas are currently receiving the highest priority and funding emphasis in the Forest Service. See <http://www.fs.fed.us/projects/four-threats/> for more information.

**fragmentation**

The process by which aquatic or terrestrial habitats are increasingly subdivided into smaller units, resulting in their increased insularity as well as losses of total habitat area.

**game species**

Any species of wildlife or fish for which seasons and bag limits have been prescribed, and that are normally harvested under state or federal laws, codes, or regulations.

**geographic areas**

Sub-divisions of the forest defined by topographic, climatic, and geologic features or special habitats or uses that provide a sense of place.

**habitat**

The place where a plant or animal lives and grows.

**hatched travel area**

two travel areas totaling 111,805 on the Vernal Ranger District that are depleted with a cross hatching on the current travel map. Within the hatched travel areas motorized vehicles are allowed on designated routes and established, undesignated routes as long as resource damage is not occurring.

**historic**

After the introduction of written records. In this part of the country this generally refers to sites or uses of areas or landscapes dated from 1700 to the present.

**historical site**

Any site that is 50 years of age or older that is attributed to any historical cultures, including American Indian or European immigrant cultures. A site is any location of use or occupation by human beings. In this part of the country this generally refers to sites dated from 1700 to the present.

**Hydrologic Unit Code**

The U.S. is divided and sub-divided into successively smaller hydrologic units which are classified into four levels: regions, sub-regions, accounting units, and cataloging units. The hydrologic units are arranged within each other, from the smallest (cataloging units) to the largest (regions). Each hydrologic unit is identified by a unique hydrologic unit code (HUC) consisting of two to eight digits based on the four levels of classification in the hydrologic unit system (<http://water.usgs.gov/GIS/huc.html>).

**Indian Tribe**

Any American Indian group in the U.S. that the Secretary of the Interior recognizes as possessing tribal status.

**indirect effects**

Secondary effects that occur in locations other than the location of the initial action or significantly later in time.

**interdisciplinary team**

A group of resources professionals with different expertise that collaborates to develop and evaluate resource management decisions.

**invasive species**

An alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. Includes both native and non-native forest and rangeland pests.

**irretrievable impact or commitment**

The elimination of a resource, its productivity, and/or its utility for the life of the project.

**irreversible impact**

The start of a chemical, biological, and/or physical process that could not be stopped. As a result, the resource or its productivity and/or its utility would be consumed, committed, or lost forever.

**invasive plants**

Nonnative aquatic and terrestrial species that have the capacity to dominate, overwhelm, and replace native vegetation. A species is considered invasive if it is nonnative to the ecosystem under consideration, and if its introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. Noxious weeds are a subset of invasive plants.

**landscape**

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

**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, or some other similar method (FSM 7705 – Transportation System).

**lek**

A specific location where male grouse congregate and strut to attract and breed with female grouse. Most male grouse return to the same lek every year.

**maintenance**

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 (36 CFR 212.2 (i)).

**Maintenance Level**

See Operational Maintenance Level.

**management direction**

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

**Management Indicator Species**

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

**mitigation**

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

**monitoring**

The process of collecting information to evaluate if objectives and anticipated results of a management action are being realized or if implementation is proceeding as planned.

**motor vehicle**

Any vehicle which is self-propelled, other than: (1) a vehicle operated on rails; and (2) 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 (36 CFR 212.1).

**Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM)**

A map reflecting designated roads, trails, and areas on an administrative unit or a Ranger District of the National Forest System (36 CFR 212.1).

**motorized mixed use**

Designation of a National Forest System road for use by both highway-legal and non-highway legal motor vehicles (EM-7700-30 – Guidelines for Engineering Analysis of Motorized Mixed Use on National Forest System Roads).

**multiple use**

According to the Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act of 1960, the management of all the various renewable surface resources of the national forests so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the needs of the American people; making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; that some land will be used for less than all of the resources; and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources, each with the other, without impairment of the productivity of the land, with consideration being given to the relative values of the various resources, and not

necessarily the combination of uses that will give the greatest dollar return or the greatest unit output.

**National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA)**

An act mandating an environmental analysis and public disclosure of federal actions.

**National Forest Management Act (NFMA)**

A law passed in 1976 as amendments to the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act that requires the preparation of regional and forest plans and the preparation of regulations to guide that development.

**National Forest System**

All National Forest land reserved or withdrawn from the public domain of the U.S.; all National Forest lands acquired through purchase, exchange, donation, or other means; the National Grasslands and land utilization projects administered under Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act; and other lands, waters, or interests therein that are administered by the Forest Service or are designated for administration through the Forest Service as a part of the system (36 CFR 212.1).

**National Forest System road**

A forest road other than a road that has been authorized by a legally documented right-of-way held by a state, county, or other local public road authority (36 CFR 212.1). Previously referred to as a classified road.

**National Forest System trail**

A forest trail other than a trail that has been authorized by a legally documented right-of-way held by a state, county, or other local public road authority (36 CFR 212.1).

**National Register of Historic Places**

A register of districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture. The register was established by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and is maintained by the Secretary of the Interior.

**native species**

With respect to a particular ecosystem, a species that, other than as a result of an introduction, historically occurred or currently occurs in that ecosystem.

**need**

For Wilderness Potential is evaluated from a regional and national perspective. The evaluation considers the degree to which the area would contribute to the National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS). Potential ecological and recreational contributions are considered.

**NEPA process**

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

**nest area (for northern goshawk)**

The nest tree and stand(s) surrounding the nest that contain prey handling areas, perches, and roosts.

**new road construction**

An activity that results in the addition of forest classified or temporary road miles (36 CFR 212.1, FSM 7705 – Transportation System).

**No Action Alternative**

An alternative required by regulations implementing the NEPA (40 CFR 1502.14). The No Action Alternative provides a baseline for estimating the effects of other alternatives.

**non-motorized travel**

Modes of travel that include hiking, equestrian, and mountain bikes and exclude all motorized use.

**noxious weed**

Any plant or plant product that can directly or indirectly injure or cause damage to crops (including nursery stock or plant products), livestock, poultry, or other interests of agriculture, irrigation, navigation, the natural resources of the U.S., the public health, or the environment (Plant Protection Act 2000).

**obliteration**

To unbuild, decommission, deactivate, or dismantle a road; the denial of use, elimination of travelway functionality, and removal of the road from the forest development road system; return of the road corridor to resource production by natural designed means.

**Off-highway vehicle (OHV)/off-road vehicle (ORV)**

Any motor vehicle designed for or capable of cross-country travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other natural terrain (36 CFR 212.1). Vehicle types include but are not limited to sport utility vehicles, jeeps, ATVs, mini-bikes, amphibious vehicles, over-snow vehicles, off-highway motorcycles, go-carts, motorized trail bikes, and dune buggies. Wheelchairs that are designed solely for use by a mobility-impaired person for travel are not included in this definition.

**open to the public**

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

**Operational Maintenance Level**

The maintenance level currently assigned to a road considering today's needs, road condition, budget constraints, and environmental concerns. It defines the level to which the road is currently being maintained (FSH 7709.58 Sec 12.3 – Transportation System Maintenance Handbook).

**overland travel**

See *cross-country travel*.

**over-snow vehicle**

A motor 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 (36 CFR 212.1).

**paleontological resources**

Any evidence of fossilized remains of multicellular invertebrate and vertebrate animals and multicellular plants, including imprints thereof. Organic remains primarily collected for use as fuel such as coal and oil are paleontological resources, but are excluded from the prohibitions under the rule (36 CFR 261.2).

**permittee**

An individual who has been granted a permit for a specific activity such as livestock grazing or an outfitter and guide operation.

**population**

A community of individuals that share a common gene pool.

**Post-fledgling Area (for northern goshawk)**

An area of concentrated use by the goshawk family after the young leave the nest.

**prehistoric**

Prior to written records being kept. As with archaeological sites, in this part of the country this generally refers to sites or uses of areas or landscapes dated to pre-1700.

**prescribed fire**

See *wildland fire*.

**private road**

A road under private ownership authorized by easement to a private party or a road which provides access pursuant to a reserved or private right (FS 643 – Roads Analysis – Informing Decisions About Managing The National Forest Transportation System, August 1999).

**project area**

The spatial boundary that envelops the proposed actions and alternatives.

**project record**

An assemblage of documents that contain all the information developed or used during project development and environmental analysis. This information may be summarized and incorporated by reference in the environmental impact statement.

**Public Forest Service Road**

A designated public road under Forest Service jurisdiction that meets the definition of 23 USC Section 101.

**Ranger District**

An administrative subdivision of a national forest, supervised by a district ranger who reports to the forest supervisor.

**Record of Decision**

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

**Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS)**

A framework for stratifying and defining classes of outdoor recreation based on 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.

**Research Natural Area**

"Research Natural Areas are part of a national network of ecological areas designated in perpetuity for research and education and/or to maintain biological diversity on National Forest System lands. Research Natural Areas are principally for nonmanipulative research, observation, and study. They also may assist in implementing provisions of special acts, such as the Endangered Species Act of 1973 and the monitoring provisions of the National Forest Management Act of 1976" (FSM 4063).

**responsible official**

The official with the authority and responsibility to oversee the planning process and to approve plans, plan amendments, and plan revisions (36 CFR 219.16).

**right-of-way**

An accurately located strip of land with defined width, beginning of point, and point of ending. It is the area within which the user has the authority to conduct operations approved or granted by the landowner in an authorizing document, such as a permit, easement, lease, license, or Memorandum of Understanding.

**riparian**

Related to, living, or located in conjunction with a wetland, on the bank of a river or stream, or at the edge of a lake or tidewater.

**road**

A motor vehicle route over 50 inches wide, unless identified and managed as a trail. A road may be a system road, unauthorized road, or temporary road.

**road construction or reconstruction**

Supervising, inspecting, actual building, and incurrence of all costs incidental to the construction or reconstruction of a road (36 CFR 212.1).

**Road Maintenance Level**

1. Roads assigned to maintenance levels 2-5 are either constant service roads or intermittent service roads during the time they are open to traffic. Maintenance levels 1-5 (operational and objective) are described below.
2. Level 1: Assigned to intermittent service roads during the time they are closed to vehicular traffic. The closure period must exceed one year. Basic custodial maintenance is performed to keep damage to adjacent resources 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.

3. Level 2: Assigned to roads open for use by high clearance vehicles. Passenger car traffic is not a consideration. 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 to (1) discourage or prohibit passenger cars, or (2) accept or discourage high clearance vehicles.
4. 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 employed for certain classes of vehicles or users.
5. 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.
6. Level 5: Assigned to roads that provide a high degree of user comfort and convenience. These roads are normally double lane, paved facilities. Some may be aggregate surfaced and dust abated. The appropriate traffic management strategy is "encourage" (FSH 7709.58, 10).

### **Road Management Objective**

Defines the intended purpose of an individual road based on management area direction and access management objectives. Road management objectives contain design criteria, operation criteria, and maintenance criteria (FSH 7709.55 Sec 33 – Transportation Planning Handbook).

### **route**

A generic term that includes roads and trails as defined in this glossary.

R.S. 2477

Revised Statute 2477 is legislation that allows counties to assert that they have access rights on roads and/or trails that existed prior to the establishment of the Forest.

### **scale**

Geographic extent (e.g., regional, sub-regional, or landscape).

### **scoping**

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

### **seasonal closure**

A route or area closed part of the year. The season of closure is defined by the reason for the closure (e.g., winter range, snow, etc.).

**Section 106 compliance**

The requirement of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act that any project funded, licensed, permitted, or assisted by the federal government be reviewed for impacts to historic properties and that the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council of Historic Preservations be allowed to comment on a project.

**sediment**

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

**Sensitive species**

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

**special use permit**

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

**species**

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

**summer range**

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

**summer home**

See *recreation residence*.

**temporary road or trail**

A road or trail necessary for emergency operations or authorized by contract, permit, lease, or other written authorization that is not a Forest System road or trail and that is not included in a Forest Transportation Atlas (36 CFR 212.1). These routes are not considered necessary for long-term access, recreational use, or resource management.

**Threatened species**

". . . [A]ny species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range" which is designated by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Commerce (Endangered Species Act of 1973 Sec. 3(19)).

**Traditional Cultural Property**

A location or community that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register because of its association with cultural practices or beliefs of a living community that are rooted in that community's history, and are important in maintaining the continuing cultural identity of the community. Properties can include buildings, structures, and sites; groups of buildings, structures or sites forming historic districts; landscapes; and individual objects (36 CFR 60.4).

**trail**

A route 50 inches or less in width or a route over 50 inches wide that is identified and managed as a trail. A trail may be authorized, unauthorized, or temporary.

**Tribe**

Term used to designate a federally-recognized group of American Indians and their governing body. Tribes may be comprised of more than one Band.

**unauthorized road or trail**

A road or trail that is not a Forest System road or trail or a temporary road or trail and that is not included in a Forest Transportation Atlas (36 CFR 212.1). The term “unclassified” was used in some of the earlier project file documentation that predated the Travel Rule.

**undesignated roads and trails**

Undesignated routes are not National Forest System roads and occur within the “hatched travel area” on the Vernal Ranger District. These routes are not included in a forest transportation atlas. These include roads also known as unclassified, user created, unplanned, non-system, and undetermined roads. These roads are restricted to non-motorized use in all action alternatives, unless they are proposed for designation to motorized use.

**Utility Terrain Vehicle (UTV)**

also known as side-by-sides vehicles, SxS, RUV (Recreational Utility Vehicles) MUV (Multi-Use Vehicles). Any recreational motor vehicle other than an ATV or motorbike capable of travel over unpaved roads, traveling on four low-pressure tires of 20psi or less and with a width of less than 74 inches, maximum weight less than 2,000 pounds. Utility type vehicles do not include golf carts, or vehicles specially designed to carry disabled persons.

**watershed**

A land area that contributes all its water to one drainage system, basin, stream, or river. Watersheds can be described at multiple scales.

**wetland**

An area that is either permanently inundated with water or has seasonally high water tables that support vegetation requiring these conditions for growth and reproduction.

**wilderness**

As defined by the Wilderness Act of 1964, “an area where earth and its community of life are untrammled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this Act an area of undeveloped federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which (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) has at least five thousand acres of land or is of sufficient size as 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” (16 USC 1131).

**wilderness area**

An area designated by Congress as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System, according to the criteria established in the Wilderness Act of 1964.

**wildland fire**

Any non-structure fire that occurs in the wildland. There are three types of wildland fire: wildfire, wildland fire use, and prescribed fire.

**wildfire**

An unplanned, unwanted wildland fire, including unauthorized human-caused fires, escaped wildland fire use events, escaped prescribed fire projects, and all other wildland fires where the objective is to put the fire out.

**wildland fire use**

The application of the appropriate management response to naturally-ignited wildland fires to accomplish specific resource management objectives.

**prescribed fire**

Any fire ignited by management actions to meet specified objectives.

**winter range**

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

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