

Glossary

A

Access Management Plan - Documents the policies for the management and distribution of Forest Users.

Activity Fuels - Debris generated from management activity such as firewood gathering, precommercial thinning, timber harvesting, and road construction.

Aerial Fuels - All green and dead materials located in the upper forest canopy including tree branches and crowns, snags, moss, and high brush.

Age Class - An interval, usually 10 to 20 years, into which the age ranges of vegetation are divided for classification of use.

Allotment - An area of land on which grazing may be allowed by permit.

Allotment Management Plan - The document that contains the action program needed to manage the rangeland resource for livestock grazing with consideration given to soil, watershed, wildlife, recreation, timber, and other resources on lands within a range allotment.

Alternative - One of several policies, plans, ways, or projects proposed for decision-making.

Anadromous Fish - Those species of fish that hatch in fresh water, migrate to the ocean, mature there, and return to fresh water to reproduce. Salmon and steelhead are examples.

Analysis Area - A delineated area of land subject to analysis of (1) responses to proposed management practices in the production, enhancement, or maintenance of forest and rangeland outputs and environmental quality objectives, and (2) economic and social impacts. (FSM 1905)

Animal Unit Month (AUM) - The unit of measure of the feed required for an animal unit (which is defined as a mature cow weighing 1,000 lbs. or its equivalent) on the range for 1 month. This is further defined as 800 pounds of air-dried forage.

Aquatic Ecosystems - Stream channels, lakes, marshes or ponds, and the plant and animal communities they support. (A natural system based on a body of water (such as a stream, lake, or estuary) with its aquatic organisms and non-living components.)

Arterial Road (Forest) - A road that provides service to large land areas and usually connects with public highways or other Forest 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 is management purposes and constant service.

Artifact - An object made or modified by humans.

Available Forage - Forage that can be reached and utilized by grazing or browsing animals (assumed to be palatable to one class of animal or another).

B

Basal Area - The area of the cross-section of a tree stem near the base, generally at breast height and inclusive of bark.

Best Management Practices (BMP) - Methods, measures, or practices (including technological, economic, and institutional considerations) selected by an agency to meet its nonpoint source control needs. BMP's include, but are not limited to, structural and nonstructural controls and operation and maintenance procedures. BMP's can be applied before, during, and after pollution-producing activities to reduce or eliminate the introduction of pollutant into receiving waters (40 CFR 130.2).

Big Game - Large animals that are normally hunted for sport. On the Heppner Ranger District, these include Rocky Mountain elk, mule deer, white-tailed deer, and pronghorn antelope.

Big Game Summer Range - A range, usually at higher elevation, used by deer and elk during the summer season. Summer ranges are usually much more extensive than winter ranges.

Big Game Winter Range - A range, usually at lower elevation, used by migratory deer and elk during the winter months; usually more clearly defined and smaller than summer ranges.

Biological Assessment - A "biological evaluation" conducted for major Federal construction projects requiring an environmental impact statement, in accordance with legal requirements under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. The purpose of the assessment and resulting document is to determine whether the proposed action is likely to affect an endangered, threatened, or proposed species.

Browse - Twigs, leaves, and young shoots of trees and shrubs on which animals feed; in particular, those shrubs that are used by big game animals for food.

C

Canopy - The more-or-less continuous cover of branches and foliage formed collectively by the crown of adjacent trees and other woody growth.

Canopy Closure - The progressive reduction of space between tree crowns as they spread laterally; a measure of the percent of potential open space occupied by the collective tree crowns in a stand.

Cavity - The hollow excavated in trees by birds or other natural phenomena; used for roosting and reproduction by many birds and mammals.

Channel Stability - Meandering flow pattern that effectively reduces the force of the streams energy over longer distances than a straight channel, resulting in a more stable stream.

Climax Species - Those species that dominate the stand, either in numbers per unit area or in biomass, at climax.

Closed Road - A road on which traffic has been excluded by natural blockage, physical barricade, regulation, or by obscuring the entrance. A closed road is still an operating facility on which traffic has been removed and remains on the Forest transportation system.

Compaction - The packing together of soil particles by forces exerted at the soil surface, resulting in increased soil density.

Cover - Vegetation used by wildlife for protection from predators, to ameliorate conditions of weather, or in which to reproduce.

Created Opening - created opening is an opening in the Forest created by the silvicultural practices of shelterwood regeneration cutting at the final harvest, clearcutting, seed tree cutting, or group selection cutting.

Cultural Resources - Physical remains of districts, sites, structures, buildings, networks, or objects used by humans in the past. They may be historic or prehistoric, archeological, or architectural in nature. Cultural resources are fragile and are non-renewable.

Cumulative Effects - The impact on the environment that results from the incremental impact 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 impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

D

Decommission (road) - is considered short-term because use in the near future (20 years) is not anticipated. To remove those elements of a road that reroute hill slope drainage and present slope stability hazards. Another term is hydrologic obliteration.

Defoliation - A process in which some or all leaves are removed from a tree by insects, fungal attack, and/or other agents; it is not to be confused with natural leaf fall.

Desired Future Condition - The Desired Future Condition is a description of what the Forest should look like in order for it to provide for the resources that a particular management area emphasizes.

Diameter at Breast Height (dbh.) - Tree diameter measured at 4 feet 6 inches above ground on the uphill side of the tree.

Dispersion - The percentage of areas within a watershed which is covered by trees less than or equal to 10 years old.

Diversity - The distribution and abundance of different plant and animal communities and species within the area covered by a land and resource management plan.

E

Ecosystem - The assemblage and interactions of living and nonliving components of a habitat; components include plants, animals, invertebrates, microorganisms, minerals, soil nutrients, water, and air; examples of ecosystems include alpine meadow, bog, ponderosa pine forest, and prairie ecosystems.

Embeddedness - Degree to which large particles (boulders, rubble, gravel) are surrounded or covered by fine sediment, usually measured in classes according to percent coverage.

Endangered Species - Plant or animal species that is in danger of becoming extinct throughout all or most of its range; endangered species are federally designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Endemic Species - A species that is native to and found only in a distinct geographic area; for example, the Idaho ground squirrel's distribution is limited to west-central Idaho; it is found nowhere else in the world.

Environmental Impact Statement - A statement of the environmental effects of a proposed action and alternatives to it. It is required for major federal actions under Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), and released to the public and other agencies for comment and review. It is a formal document that must follow the requirements of NEPA, the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) guidelines, and directives of the agency responsible for the project proposal.

F

Fine Fuels - Fuels such as grass, leaves, dropped pine needles, fern, moss, and some kinds of slash that ignite readily and are consumed rapidly when dry.

Fire Intensities - Rate of heat energy released during combustion, usually expressed in BTU/second per unit length of fire front (foot). Intensity levels: Low, 0-2 ft.; moderate, 2-4 ft.; high, 4+ feet.

Forest Land - Land at least 10 percent occupied by Forest trees or formerly having had such tree cover and not currently developed for nonforest use. Lands developed for nonforest use include areas for crops, improved pasture, residential or administrative areas, improved roads by any width, and adjoining road clearings and power line clearings of any width.

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

Fuel Treatment - The rearrangement or disposal of natural or activity fuels (generated by management activity, such as slash left from logging) to reduce fire hazard. Fuels are defined as both living and dead vegetative materials consumed by fire.

G

Grass/Forb - An early forest successional stage where grasses and forbs are the dominant vegetation.

H

Hard Snag - A snag composed primarily of sound wood, particularly sound sapwood that is generally merchantable.

Hazard Tree - A tree having high probability of falling and coming into contact with either roads and/or recreation areas, and thereby causing a potential hazard to forest visitors.

Hiding Cover for Elk - Any vegetation capable of hiding 90 percent of a standing adult elk from the view of a human at a distance of 200 feet or less; generally any vegetation used by elk for security or escape from danger and at least 6 1/2 feet tall (also see Marginal Cover).

Historic - Refers to the period of time for which there is written records (after European contact). In Region 6, the historic era begins roughly 1800 A.D. with the first explorers who kept journals.

I

Indicator Species - A selected wildlife species (or group of species) that is presumed to indicate the habitat needs of other species.

Infiltration - The movement of water (rainfall or snowmelt) into the soil.

Interdisciplinary Team (IDT) - A group of individuals with different training assembled to solve a problem or perform a task. The team is assembled out of recognition that no one scientific discipline is sufficiently broad to adequately solve the problem.

Intermittent Stream - A stream that runs water in most months, but does not run water during the dry season during most years. (A stream that flows only at certain times of the year when it receives water from other streams or from surface sources such as melting snow.)

K

Knutson-Vandenberg Act (KV) - Legislation authorizing the collection of money from timber sale receipts for reforestation, stand improvement, or mitigation projects on timber sale areas.

L

Ladder Fuels - All green and dead materials between the surface fuels and the upper forest canopy the cause a fire to spread vertically and into the upper forest canopy and include intermediate reproduction, brush, moss, and snags.

Landing - Any place where round timber is assembled for further transport, commonly with a change of method.

Lands Suitable for Timber Production - Includes all lands not classified as either not suited or not appropriate for timber production.

Large Woody Material - Referenced from Hankin and Reeves:

Brush = Diameter > 15 cm (6in), Length > 6.5 m (20ft)

Small = Diameter > 30 cm (12in), Length > 10 m (35ft)

Large = Diameter > 50 cm (20in), Length > 10 m (35ft)

This includes live, leaning material that has the potential to fall into the stream, as well as woody material that is already on the ground within the floodplain or water channel. (Live trees or downed wood that intercept bankfull flow in a substantial fashion and are large enough to influence the formation of habitats. For a tree or a downed piece of wood to count as large woody debris, either the root swell or the tree bole must engage bankfull flow; and the wood must be at least 12 inches in diameter.)

M

Management Areas - The land on which a certain management strategy is applied.

Marginal Cover - A vegetative stand comprised of trees 10 or more feet high with an average canopy closure of at least 40 percent and generally capable of obscuring at least 90 percent of a standing adult elk from the view of humans at a distance of 200 feet or less.

Mature Stage - One of six recognizable successional stages in coniferous forests of the Blue Mountains in which the stand is primarily composed of or dominated by mature trees in vigorous condition; the stage at which a tree or stand best fulfills the purpose for which it was managed.

Mitigation - Mitigation includes: (1) Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action; (2) minimizing impacts by; limiting the degree or magnitude of the action and its implementation; (3) rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; (4) reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; and (5) compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources of environments (40 CFR Part 1508.20).

Monitoring - A process to collect significant data from defined sources to identify departures or deviations from expected plan outputs.

Mosaic - The intermingling of plant communities and their successional stages in such a manner as to give the impression of an interwoven design.

N

National Register of Historical Places - A register of cultural resources of national, state, or local significance maintained by the Department of the Interior.

Natural Fuels - Fuels not directly generated or altered by management activities.

Natural Regeneration - Reforestation of a site by natural seeding from the surrounding trees of trees left for seed, or seed stored in the soil or slash. Natural regeneration may or may not be preceded by site preparation.

Nonforest Land - Lands that never have had or that are incapable of having 10 percent or more of the area occupied by forest trees; or lands previously having such cover and currently developed for nonforest use.

Noxious Weed - Those plants that pose a threat to multiple use (i.e., recreation, wildlife, aesthetics, watersheds, soils, agriculture, etc.) on National Forest System Lands and on adjacent agricultural lands.

O

Obliterate (road) – A road that has been removed from the road system and has had those elements removed so that it no longer functions as a road. Activities could include any of the following: treating the roadbed with a tractor to reduce soil compaction, seeding to stabilize soils, construction of water bars within the roadbed to reduce erosion, and/or recontouring of slopes using machinery to mimic the original landform.

Old Growth Stand (Old Growth) - Any stand of trees 10 acres or greater generally containing the following characteristics: (1) Contain mature and overmature trees in the overstory and are well

into the mature growth stage; (2) will usually contain a multi-layered canopy and trees of several age classes; (3) standing dead trees and down material are present; (4) evidences of man's activities may be present, but do not significantly alter the other characteristics and would be a subordinate factor in a description of such a stand.

Overland Flow - Water that does not infiltrate into the soil and runs off on the soil surface.

Overstory - That portion of the trees, in a forest or in a stand or more than one story, forming the upper or uppermost canopy.

P

Peak Flows - Short periods of high stream flows caused by rainfall or snowmelt.

Permittee - One who holds a permit to perform a special activity such as grazing livestock, commercial mushroom gathering, or firewood cutting on National Forest Lands.

Plant Association - A "climax" plant community containing a definite plant composition, having a similar overall appearance, and growing in uniform habitat conditions. It is named by the climax dominant species followed by a subordinate species of a lower vegetative layer.

Plant Community - A vegetative complex unique in its combination of plants, which occurs in particular locations under particular influences, is a reflection or integration of the environmental influences on the site (such as soils, temperature, elevation, solar radiation, slope, aspect, and rainfall), and denotes a general kind of climax vegetation, such as ponderosa pine or bunch grass, from which several plant community types may be derived on the basis of characteristic lesser vegetation.

Plant Community Type - Is a inventory system of combined groups of plant species that are characteristic of a particular environment.

Prehistoric - A time period before written records for an area back to when first entered by human being. The time on human existence studied primarily by archeologist.

Prescribed Burning - The skillful application of fire to natural fuels under conditions weather, fuel moisture, etc. that allows confinement of the fire to a predetermined area and produces the intensity of heat and rate of spread to accomplish planned benefits to one or more objectives of silviculture, wildlife management, grazing, or hazard reduction.

Primary Cavity Nesters - Wildlife species that initially excavate cavities in snags, that secondary cavity nesters and other species utilize.

R

Range condition - An ecological concept used to interpret livestock grazing impacts on vegetation (describe various successional stages of vegetation caused by level of grazing.) The condition rating related some level of past livestock grazing to some potential for improved production and species composition; in this way, it was interpreted as a basis for improving management. Originally developed in the Great Plains, the concept works well in climax grassland communities, not as well in shrub communities, and poorly on forested ranges. More recent interpretations move toward the concept of "ecological condition" which is defined as the degree of departure of the present vegetation from the potential natural community (the cause of the departure is not considered, and is certainly not directly tied to levels of livestock grazing).

The classes of range condition are:

Excellent Climax vegetation or potential natural community (implies that the current situation is 81-100 percent of that found in an undisturbed or unused condition).

Good (G) 61-80 percent of the maximum production or species density and composition possible under existing environment.

Fair (F) 41-60 percent of the maximum production or species density and composition.

Poor (P) 21-40 percent of the maximum production or species density and composition.

Very Poor (VP or V) 1-20 percent of the maximum production or species density and composition. Improvement in species density and composition probably cannot be achieved by natural means.

Satisfactory Range Condition On suitable range, forage condition is at least fair, with a stable trend.

Unsatisfactory Range Condition The allotment does not meet the criteria for satisfactory condition.

Rangelands - Rangelands are defined as areas with less than 10 percent tree cover where the majority of the vegetation is grasses, forbs, and/or shrubs.

Recruitment (of snags) - To obtain new replacements for or new supplies of snags needed.

Reforestation - The natural or artificial restocking of an area with forest trees; most commonly used in reference to artificial restocking.

Regeneration - The actual seedlings and saplings existing in stand; or the act of establishing young trees naturally or artificially.

Resident Fisheries - Fishes that do not migrate long distances to spawn. (Fish that spend their entire life in freshwater; examples include bull trout and westslope cutthroat trout.)

Residual Stand - The trees that remain standing after some event, typically a harvest cut.

Riparian - Pertaining to areas directly influenced by water. Riparian areas usually have visible vegetation or physical characteristics reflecting this water influence. Streambanks, lakes borders, or marshes are typical riparian areas.

Riparian Areas - A geographically delineated area with distinctive resource values and characteristics that is comprised of aquatic and riparian ecosystems. This includes floodplains, wetlands, and all areas within a horizontal distance of at least 100 feet from the normal line of high water of a stream channel or from the shoreline of a standing body of water. (Areas with distinctive soil and vegetation between a stream or other body of water and the adjacent upland; includes wetlands and those portions of floodplains and valley bottoms that support riparian vegetation.)

Road Density - The number of miles of roads per square mile of land.

Roads - Arterial Roads comprising the basic access network for National Forest System administrative and management activities. These roads provide other primary travel routes. Locations and standards are determined often by a demand for maximum mobility and travel efficiency rather than to serve a specific resource. Usually, those roads are developed and operated for long-term and resource management purposes and constant service.

Collector: These roads serve smaller land areas than do arterials, and are usually connected to a national forest arterial or public highway. They collect traffic from national forest local roads or terminal facilities. Locations and standards are influenced by both long-term multi-resource service needs and some travel efficiency. Collector roads may be operated for either constant or intermittent service, depending on land use and resource management objectives for the area served by the facility.

Local: Roads constructed and maintained for the activities of a given resource element.

However, some use may be made by other resource activities. These roads connect terminal facilities with national standards usually determined by the requirements of a specific resource activity rather than by travel efficiency. National forest local roads may be developed and operated for either long- or short-term service.

Rosgen Geomorphic Classification of Stream Types:

STREAM TYPE	GENERAL DESCRIPTION
Aa+	Very steep, deeply entrenched, debris transport, torrent streams.
A	Steep, entrenched, cascading, step/pool streams. High energy/debris transport associated with depositional soils. Very stable, if bedrock or boulder dominated channel.
B	Moderately entrenched, moderate gradient, riffle dominated channel, with infrequently spaced pools. Very stable plan and profile. Stable banks.
C	Low gradient, meandering, point-bar, riffle/pool, alluvial channels with broad, well defined floodplains.
D	Braided channel with longitudinal and transverse bars. Very wide channel with eroding banks.
DA	Anastomosing (multiple channels) narrow and deep with extensive, well vegetated floodplains and associated wetlands. Very gentle relief with highly variable sinuities and width/depth ratios. Very stable stream banks.
E	Low gradient, meandering riffle/pool stream with low width/depth ratio and little deposition. Very efficient and stable. High meander width ratio.
F	Entrenched meandering riffle/pool channel on low gradients with high width/depth ratio.
G	Entrenched “gully” step/pool and low width/depth ratio on moderate gradients.

S

Satisfactory Cover - Cover used by animals to ameliorate the effects of weather. For elk, satisfactory thermal cover includes stands of coniferous tree 40 feet or more in height with an average crown closure of 70 percent or more; and for deer, cover may include saplings, shrubs, or trees at least 5 feet tall with 75 percent crown closure. Marginal thermal cover includes conifers stands of trees 10 feet or more in height with a 40-69 percent crown closure.

Secondary Cavity Nester - Wildlife that occupies a cavity in a snag that was excavated by another species.

Sediment - Earth material transported, suspended, or deposited by water. (Solid materials, both mineral and organic, in suspension or transported by water, gravity, ice, or air; may be moved and deposited away from their original position and eventually will settle to the bottom.)

Sensitive Species - Plant or animal species whose populations are declining in numbers, density, or distribution because of decreasing habitat; these species are designated as sensitive at the regional level of the USDA Forest Service.

Sensitivity Level - A particular degree or measure of viewer interest in scenic qualities of the landscape.

Seral - Identifiable stages of vegetation preceding climax communities

Silviculture – The art and science of controlling the establishment, composition, and growth of forests to meet the desired future conditions and management objectives.

Site Preparation - (1) An activity (such as prescribed burning, disking, and tilling) performed on a reforestation area, before introduction of reforestation, to ensure adequate survival and growth of the future crop; or (2) manipulation of the vegetation or soil of an area prior to planting or seeding. The manipulation follows harvest, wildfire, or construction in order to encourage the growth of favored species. Site preparation may include the application of herbicides; burning or cutting of living vegetation that competes with the favored species; tilling the soil; or burning or organic debris (usually logging slash) that makes planting or seeding difficult.

Slash - The residue left on the ground after timber cutting and/or accumulating as a result of storm, fire, or other damage. It includes unused logs, uprooted stumps, small broken trees, branches, twigs, needles and leaves, bark and chips.

Snag - A standing dead tree from which the needles or leaves and most of the limbs have fallen.

Snowpack - The mass of snow that accumulates during the winter.

Stand (Tree stand) - An aggregation of trees occupying a specific area and sufficiently uniform in composition, age arrangement, and condition, as to be distinguishable from adjoining forest areas.

Stand Diversity - Any attribute that makes one timber stand biologically or physically different from other stands. This difference can be measured by, but not limited to different age classes, species, identities, or non-tree floristic composition.

Stocking - The degree of occupancy of land by trees as measured by basal area or number of trees and as compared to a stocking standard; that is, the basal area or number of trees required to fully use the growth potential of the land.

Stream class - Four stream classes are defined by the extent of the perennial or fish-bearing portion of the stream. While streams or parts of streams can be classified, one stream may be sectionalized into several classes.

1. Class I Streams or segments thereof that are used by anadromous and resident fish (usually perennial).
2. Class II Streams or segments thereof that are used only by resident fish (usually perennial).
3. Class III All other perennial streams or segments thereof not previously classified.
4. Class IV All other intermittent streams or segments thereof not classified above.

Stream Channel - Any channel that carries water flow during some part of the year including permanent, intermittent, and ephemeral streams.

Stream Order - A system used to classify and analyze streams. (A numbering convention for stream channels which reflects the degree of stream network-branching upstream of a given point along the stream.)

Subwatershed - A division or part of a defined watershed. (A drainage area of approximately 20,000 acres, equivalent to a 6th-field Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC). Hierarchically, subwatersheds (6th-field HUC) are contained within a watershed (5th-field HUC), which in turn is contained within a sub-basin (4th-field HUC).)

Succession - The progressive development of vegetation toward its highest ecological expression, the climax community, replacement of one plant community by another.

Successional stage - A stage or recognizable condition of a plant community that occurs during its development from bare ground to climax. For example, coniferous forests in the Blue Mountains progress through six recognized stages: grass-forb, shrub-seedling, pole-sapling, young, mature, and overmature as described below:

5. Grass-forb: A successional stage dominated by grasses and forbs.
6. Shrub-seedling: Shrubs or tree seedling or both dominate the vegetation of the stand.
7. Pole-sapling: The dominant vegetation is trees that qualify as poles or sapling or both.
8. Young: A stand of trees dominated by trees that are no longer poles but have not yet reached maturity.
9. Mature: The stand is primarily composed of or dominated by mature trees in vigorous condition.

10. **Overmature:** A stand that is past full maturity and showing decay and deterioration; the last stage in forest succession. The USDA Forest Service's working definition for old growth stands in the Blue Mountains in 37 live trees or more per hectare (15 per acre) over 53-centimeter (21-in) dbh., 2 or more snags per hectare (0.5 snag per acre) over 53-centimeter (21-in) dbh., two or more canopy levels, heart rot and other signs of stand decadent present and obvious, overstory canopy closure of 10-40 percent, usually with a definite shrub-sapling layer with a canopy closure of combined exceeding 70 percent, and logs obvious on the ground.

Timber type mapping classes and their tie to wild life habitat successional stages have the following relationship:

SUCCESSIONAL STAGE	Timber Size class
I. Grass-forbs	No size class - (use data from timber harvest or reforestation records)
II. Shrub-seedling	Seedling 6" tall - 0.9" dbh
III. Pole-Sapling	Sapling 1.0" - 4.9" dbh Pole 5.0" - 8.9" dbh
IV. Young	Medium sawlog (MS) 9.0" - 20.9" dbh
V. Mature	Large Sawlog (LS) 21.0" + dbh
VI. Overmature	See description above

Suppression - All the work and activities connected with fire-extinguishing operations, beginning with discovery and continuing until the fire is completely extinguished.

T

Temporary Road - Those roads needed only for the purchaser's or permittee's use. The Forest Service and the purchaser or permittee must agree to the location and clearing widths.

Temporary roads are used for a single, short-term use, e.g., to haul timber from landings to Forest development roads, access to build water developments, etc.

Thinning - A felling made in an immature stand primarily to maintain or accelerate diameter increment and also to improve the average form of the remaining trees without permanently breaking the canopy. An intermediate cutting.

Threatened Species - A plant or wildlife species officially designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Service as having its existence threatened in a localized area, such as a state or province or lesser area. These species populations are declining in numbers, density, or distribution because its habitat is threatened with destruction, drastic modification, or severe curtailment or because of over-exploitation, disease, predation, or other factors.

Timber Stand Improvement - Measures, such as thinning, pruning, release cutting, prescribed fire, girdling, weeding, or poisoning of unwanted trees, aimed at improving growing conditions for the remaining trees.

Transitory Range - Land that is suitable for grazing use of a non-enduring nature over a period of time; often found in the openings created by timber harvesting activities. For example, on particularly disturbed lands, grass may cover the area for a period of time before being replaced by trees or shrubs not suitable for forage.

Travel Corridor - Areas of cover commonly used by animals moving from one location to another.

U

Underburning - A type of prescribed fire, burning under a live tree overstory, intended to meet specific management and/or resource objective.

Understory - The trees and other woody species growing under a more-or-less continuous cover of branches and foliage formed collectively by the upper portion of adjacent trees and other woody growth.

Uneven-Aged Management - The application of a combination of actions needed to simultaneously maintain continuous high forest cover, recurring regeneration of desirable species, and the orderly growth and development of trees through a range of diameter or age classes to provide a sustained yield of forest products. Cutting is usually regulated by specifying the number or proportion of trees of particular sizes to retain within each area, thereby maintaining a planned distribution of size classes. Cutting methods that develop and maintain uneven-aged stands are single tree selection and group selection.

Unique Habitats – Wildlife habitats (i.e. cliffs, caves, and talus) of special function not included within plant communities and successional stages or special habitats.

V

Vertical Diversity - The diversity in an area that results from the complexity of the above ground structure of the vegetation; the more tiers of vegetation or the more diverse the species makeup or both, the higher the degree of vertical diversity.

Viable Population - The number of individuals of a species required to ensure the long-term existence of the species in natural, self-sustaining populations adequately distributed throughout a region.

Viewshed - Portion of the forest that is seen from a major travel route or high use location.

Visual Quality Objectives: - A desired level of excellence based on physical and sociological characteristics of an area. Refers to degree of acceptable alteration of the characteristic landscape measured in degrees of deviation from the natural-appearing landscape.

Retention: Human activities are not evident to the casual forest visitor

Partial Retention: Human activity may dominate the characteristic landscape, but must, at the same time, follow naturally established form, line, color, and texture. It should remain visually subordinate when viewed in foreground or middle ground.

Modification: Human activity may dominate the characteristic landscape, but must, at the same time, follow naturally established form, line, color, and texture. It should appear as a natural occurrence when viewed in foreground or middle ground.

Maximum Modification: Human activity may dominate the characteristic landscape, but should appear as a natural occurrence when viewed as background.

Foreground: the detailed, visible terrain immediately adjacent to the viewer; generally reaching up to ½ mile away.

Middleground: the visible terrain beyond the foreground where individual trees are still visible, but do not stand out distinctly from the stand.

Background: the distant part of a landscape; located from 3-5 miles from the viewer and extending to the horizon.

W

Waterbar - A ditch, constructed by hand or machine, which is used to divert surface runoff from bare areas, such as roads and logging skid trails.

Water Quality - The biological, physical, and chemical properties of water to make it suitable for given specified uses.

Watershed - One of the 52 delineated major drainage basins to which the Umatilla National Forest contributes runoff waters. (A drainage area of approximately 50,000 to 100,000 acres, which is equivalent to a 5th-field Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC).)

Wetlands - Areas that are inundated by surface water or ground water with a frequency sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances does or would support, a prevalence of vegetative or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction (Executive Order 11990).

Wildfire - Any wildland fire not designated and managed as a prescribed fire within an approved prescription.

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