

GLOSSARY

Arterial roads – Authorized roads that provide service to large land areas that are usually developed and operated for long-term land and resource management purposes and constant service.

Best Management Practices (BMPs) – Practices determined by the State to be the most effective and practical means of preventing or reducing the amount of water pollution generated by non-point sources, to meet water quality goals.

Classified road – A road within National Forest System lands planned or managed for motor vehicle access including state roads, county roads, private roads, permitted roads, and Forest Service roads.

Collector roads – Authorized roads, serving smaller land areas that arterial road, which collect traffic from local roads and usually connect to forest arterial roads or State and county highways. They are operated for either constant or intermittent service depending on land use and resource management objectives.

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

Decommissioning or Obliterate – Various levels of treatment to stabilize or rehabilitate unneeded roads, such as blocking the entrance, revegetating, water barring, removing fills and culverts, reestablishing drainage-ways, removing unstable road shoulders, or full obliteration by recontouring and restoring natural slopes.

Diameter at Breast Height (dbh) – The diameter of a tree measured 4 feet 6 inches above the ground.

Displacement of Soil – The movement of the forest floor (litter, duff, and humus layers) and surface soils from one place to another by mechanical forces such as a blade used in piling and windrowing.

Effective ground cover – Any vegetation, litter, or debris in direct contact with the surface soil. This cover effectively intercepts rain and provides erosion protection.

Ephemeral Streams – Streams that flow only as a direct response to rainfall or snowmelt events. They have no baseflow and usually no defined channel.

Erosion – The detachment and transport of individual soil particles by wind, water, or gravity.

Erosion Bridges – Monitoring method used to measure erosion over time from a hillslope.

Forb – Any herbaceous plant other than those in the grass, sedge and rush families.

Forest Development Road – A road wholly or partially within or adjacent to a National Forest System boundary that the Forest Service has authorized and maintains jurisdiction over and that is necessary for the protection, administration, and use of lands under the agency's jurisdiction.

Hydrophobicity – a discontinuous water-repellant layer that forms under coniferous cover naturally at the mineral surface in coarse soils; also, a water-repellant layer of varying depths that forms during fire, the heat from which creates a waxy residue from coniferous litter that is consumed

Improvement – Construction activity that raises the traffic service level of a road or improves its safety or operation efficiency.

Intermittent Stream – A stream that runs water in most months, but does not run water during the dry season of most years. They have a defined channel.

Maintenance – Ongoing minor restoration and upkeep of a road necessary to retain the road's approved traffic service level.

Mulching - Covering the surface of the soil with natural (e.g. litter) or deliberately applied organic materials (e.g. straw, wood chips, foliage).

Peak Flow - The greatest flow attained during the melting of the winter snowpack or following a storm event.

Perennial Streams - Streams that flow continuously throughout the year.

Realignment – Construction activity that results in the new location of an existing road or portions thereof. Realignment may include decommissioning abandoned sections of roadways.

Reconstruction – Construction activity that results in improvement, restoration, or realignment of a road.

Restoration – Construction activity to restore a road to its approved traffic service level.

Riparian - Pertaining to areas of land directly influence by water. Riparian areas usually have visible vegetative or physical characteristics reflecting this water influence. Stream banks, lake borders, or marshes are typical riparian areas. Vegetation bordering watercourses, lakes or swamps; it requires a high water table.

Road: A motor vehicle travelway over 50 inches wide, unless classified and managed as a trail. A road may be classified or unclassified.

Scarification – Process of breaking up just the soil surface, i.e. with a rake or harrow. It can be used to break up a shallow hydrophobic layer following fire. This process does not involve the depth or disturbance that ripping or subsoiling would.

Sediment Delivery – The amount of sediment moved from an uphill position by forces of water, wind, or gravity (erosional forces) that reaches a stream that has net been trapped by a buffer, i.e. a riparian area.

Sedimentation – A general term describing both the erosion and sediment delivery process.

Seral stage – Successional plant communities are often classified into quantitative seral stages to depict the relative position on a classical successional pathway.

Stream Order - It is often convenient to classify streams within a drainage basin by systematically defining the network of branches. Each non-branching channel segment (smallest size) is designated a *first-order stream*. A stream which receives only first-order segments is termed a *second-order stream*, and so on. The order of a particular drainage basin is determined by the order of the principle or largest segment.

Succession – The process of vegetative and ecological development whereby an area becomes successively occupied by different plant communities.

Temporary road – A road associated with timber sale contracts, fire activities, or other short-term access needs that are unnecessary for future resource management and are not intended to be a part of the forest transportation plan.

Unclassified road – A road not intended to be part of, and not managed as part of, the National forest transportation system such as temporary road, an unplanned road, an off-road vehicle track, and an abandoned travelway.

Water-barring – Refers to the process of installing waterbars to direct drainage off of a road, skid-trail, or trail. Spacing and size is dependent on material and slope. See Table 11.

Watershed - Entire area that contributes water to a drainage system or stream.

Wattling – installation of straw wattles, long cylindrical “bales” of straw placed on hillslopes to slow runoff and trap sediment.

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