

## **APPENDIX E**

### **GLOSSARY**

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**Affected environment:** The natural, physical and human-related environment that would be sensitive to changes from implementation of the alternatives.

**Allotment management plan:** A plan cooperatively developed by the Range Permittee and the Forest Service that lists the management practices, livestock numbers, lists of improvement needs, salting practices, and administrative policies.

**Alternative:** A mix of management prescriptions applied to specific land areas to achieve a set of goals and objectives. Each alternative represents a different way of achieving a set of similar management objectives.

**Annual operating instructions (AOI):** A set of instructions developed by the US Forest Service and given to the Range Permittee on an annual basis, that explains the specific pastures to be used, and adjustments to the Allotment Management Plan for the current year.

**Benefit/cost ratio (B/C ratio):** The total discounted benefits of an activity divided by the total discounted costs.

**Best management practices (BMP):** A practice or combination of practices that are the most effective and practical means of achieving resource protection objectives (primarily water quality protection) during resource management activities.

**Carrying capacity:** In grazing management, the maximum level at which animals can graze an area without damage to the vegetation or related uses. Generally includes use by both livestock and wild ungulates.

**Corral:** A range improvement that generally is made of logs or board and is used to hold, load, or unload livestock.

**Critical habitat:** that portion of a wild animal's habitat that is critical for the continued survival of the species ("Critical Habitat" is a formal designation under the Endangered Species Act.)

**Cultural Resources:** The physical remains of human activity (artifacts, ruins, burial mound, petroglyphs, building, etc.) having scientific, prehistoric, or social values.

**Cumulative effect:** The impact on the environment resulting from the incremental impact of the action added to other past, present or future actions. They can also result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

**Deciding officer:** The Forest Service official who has the authority to select and/or carry out a specific planning action.

**Deferred pastures:** Pastures that are not being grazed at a point in time.

**Deferred/Rest-Rotation:** A combination of two grazing systems on one allotment, in which there is a rotation of deferment among some pastures, so that at some point in the rotation, each pasture is grazed at different intervals during the grazing season to allow for seed production, storage of root reserves, and seedling establishment. At the same time, other pastures are managed so that an entire grazing season of rest is incorporated into the rotation, to accomplish the same objectives.

**Direct effects:** Effects on the environment which occur at the same time and place as the initial cause or action.

**Drift fences:** A range improvement, usually a short stretch of fence, designed to prevent cattle from moving into a specific area within a pasture.

**Drylot:** A range improvement usually constructed of fencing materials, that does not include a water source and is used to hold livestock.

**Ecosystem management:** The use of an ecological approach that blends social, physical, economic, and biological needs and values to assure productive, healthy ecosystems.

**Effects:** The results expected to be achieved from implementation of actions relative to physical, biological, and social (cultural and economic) factors resulting from the achievement of outputs. Examples of effects are tons of sediment, pounds of forage, person-years or employment, and income. There are direct effects, indirect effects, and cumulative effects.

**Environmental Impact Statement (EIS):** The documentation of environmental effects and action 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.

**Exclosures:** Fenced structures that “exclude” animals from a specific area.

**Forage:** All non-woody plants (grass, grass-like plants, and forbs) and portions of woody plants (browse) available to domestic livestock and wildlife for food. Only a portion of a plant is available for forage if the plant is to remain healthy.

**Forage production:** the weight of forage produced within a designated period of time on a given area.

**Forage utilization:** The degree to which animals have consumed the total current production of plants, expressed in percent. It may refer to the use of a pasture or use of an individual plant.

**Game species:** Any species of wildlife or fish for which seasons and bag limits have been prescribed, and which are normally harvested by hunters, trappers, and fishermen under State or Federal laws, codes, and regulations.

**Herding:** A strategy for managing livestock where the manager maintains the animals in a “herd” and moves them from area to area as a group.

**Indirect effects:** Secondary effects which occur in locations other than the initial action, significantly later in time, or to one resource that in turn, affects another resource. i.e.: effects to vegetation that may reduce prey species for a raptor.

**Interdisciplinary team (IDT):** A group of resource professionals with different expertise that collaborate to develop and evaluate resource management actions.

**Inventoried Roadless Areas:** Areas that were delineated for their lack of roads under the RARE II roadless area review process in the early 1980's.

**Key area:** Areas of land or water that the responsible official and resource specialists determine to be important to wildlife or fish productivity. Other uses in key areas could result in negative effects to the wildlife or fish. For example, timber sale activity in an elk calving area could disturb the elk and cause calving failures.

**Level C:** Livestock grazing is controlled through structural improvements and by physically moving livestock. Long-term capacities are balanced with use by adjusting numbers of livestock. Any forage improvement is generally the result of meeting other resource objectives, such as wildlife habitat improvement.

**Level D:** Areas are managed intensively for livestock grazing within an overall multiple use concept. Any structural or nonstructural (forage) improvement technique may be used as long as it fits with the natural environment. Reasonable and approved management techniques are applied to sustain capacity and use at high levels.

**Management area (MA):** An area that has common direction throughout and that differs from neighboring areas. The entire Forest is divided into management areas where common standards and guidelines apply.

**Management indicator species:** A wildlife species whose presence in a certain location or situation at a given population level indicates a particular environmental condition. Population changes on an indicator species are believed to indicate effects of management activities on a number of other wildlife species.

**Mitigation measures:** Actions that are taken to lessen the severity of effects of other actions.

**Non-game species:** animal species that are not usually hunted

**Non-market valued outputs:** Goods and services valued in terms of what reasonable people would be willing to pay rather than go without the output.

**Noxious weeds:** Plant species designated by Federal or State law as generally possessing one or more of the following characteristics: aggressive and difficult to manage; parasitic; a carrier or host of serious insects or disease; or nonnative, new, or not common to the United States; detrimental to agriculture or commerce of the United States, or to the public health.

**Permittee (Range Permittee):** an individual who has been granted a Federal permit to graze livestock for a specific period on a range allotment

**Post-fledging family area:** A designated area around a known goshawk nesting site or high use area (about 600 acres) that would be expected to be the primary activity area for a pair of goshawk raising fledglings.

**Precommercial thinning:** Thinning or selectively cutting trees with diameters under 5 inches where material thinned does not have a market value - selectively cutting trees to remove the least desirable trees and improve the spacing of remaining trees to accelerate growth.

**Preferred alternative:** The alternative that is disclosed by the selecting official as the alternative that is most likely to be selected for implementation, when a Draft Environmental Impact Statement is submitted to the public.

**Prescribed fire (planned fire):** Fires set under conditions specified in an approved plan to dispose of fuels, control unwanted vegetation, stimulate growth of desired vegetation, and change successional stages to meet range, wildlife, recreation, wilderness, watershed, or timber management objectives

**Present net benefit:** Future benefits "discounted" to the present by an interest rate that reflects the changing value of a dollar over time. The assumption is that dollars today are more valuable dollars in the future.

**Present net cost:** Future costs "discounted" to the present by an interest rate that reflects the changing value of a dollar over time. The assumption is that dollars today are more valuable dollars in the future.

**Present net value:** "The difference between the discounted value (benefits) of all outputs to which monetary values or established market prices are assigned and the total discounted costs of managing the planning area." (36 CFR 219.3)

**Project file:** An assemblage of documents that contain all the information developed or used during an environmental analysis, and is summarized in an Environmental Impact Statement. The file is part of the administrative record.

**Proper functioning condition (PFC):** Refers to riparian or wetland areas. A riparian or wetland area is considered to be in proper functioning condition when adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris is present to: 1) dissipate stream energy; 2) filter sediment, capture bedload, aid in floodplain development; 3) improve flood-water retention and ground-water recharge; 4) develop root masses that stabilize streambanks; 5) develop diverse ponding and channel characteristics to provide habitat for wildlife; and 6) support greater biodiversity.

**Proposed action (PA):** In terms of the National Environmental Policy Act, the project, activity, or action that a Federal agency proposes to implement or undertake. The PA is sent to the public, and interested agencies for their review and comment. Comments are then used to develop alternatives to the proposed action.

**Protected activity center (PAC):** An area established around a Mexican spotted owl nest or roost site, for the purpose of protecting the area. Management of these areas is largely restricted to managing for forest health objectives.

**Range allotment:** An area operated under one plan of management designated for the use of a prescribed number of livestock owned by one or more permittees

**Range capacity levels:** Levels are described as follows:

No Allowable Capacity – lands that are incapable of being grazed by domestic livestock under reasonable management goals. Examples include areas under natural conditions that are not capable of producing vegetation, soils that are not capable of producing more vegetation than is needed to prevent excessive erosion rates, and slopes over 45 percent.

Potential Capacity – lands not undergoing accelerated erosion but requiring access, water developments, or other improvements to bring them up to full capacity.

Full Capacity – lands that are presently stable because effective ground cover is holding soil loss to an acceptable level and are, therefore, suited for grazing and can support a livestock operation.

**Record of Decision:** A concise public document disclosing the decision made following preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement that explains the rationale for the decision.

**Residual vegetation height:** Inches of herbage or forage left ungrazed, providing cover for small mammals, food for wildlife, and ground cover.

**Rested pastures:** Pastures that are not grazed within a given year.

**Rest-rotation:** The use of different parts of a range in orderly sequence (i.e., regular periodic grazing of each part). If each part is rested, in turn, for a whole year, it is termed rest-rotation grazing.

**Riparian area:** Definition: Riparian ecosystems are distinguished by the presence of free water within the common rooting depth of native perennial plants during at least a portion of the growing season. Riparian ecosystems are normally associated with seeps, springs, streams, marshes, ponds, or lakes. The potential vegetation of these areas commonly includes a mixture of water (aquatic) and land (phreatic) ecosystems.

**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 the depth of environmental analysis needed.

**Section 7 consultation:** A formal process for consultation on the potential effects of an action on threatened, endangered, or proposed species, that occurs between the agency proposing an action (US Forest Service) and the regulating action (US Fish and Wildlife Agency).

**Selected alternative:** The alternative chosen for implementation by the selecting official. The selected alternative is identified in the Record of Decision.

**Snag:** Standing dead tree from which the leaves or needles have fallen.

**Sponge effect (meadows):** A condition of a meadow that has satisfactory soil condition and proper functioning riparian condition. Meadows with these attributes generally are characterized by high infiltration rates and long-term storage of water on-site.

**Stock tank:** An earthen tank for providing water for livestock and wildlife.

**Threatened and endangered species (TES):** Species identified by the Secretary of Interior in accordance with the 1973 Endangered Species Act, as amended.

**Training pastures:** Small pastures that are used for intensive training of livestock, especially for training them to respond to herding.

**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.

**Utilization standards:** Standards established to guide the use and removal of forage and measured in terms of the percent of the plant that is removed.

**Waterlot:** A range improvement usually constructed of fencing materials that encloses a watering structure and is used to hold livestock.

**Watershed:** The entire area that contributes water to a drainage or stream.

**Wetted area:** The area around a water source that retains enough soil moisture to produce riparian plants.

**Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSR):** Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted (Wild and Scenic Rivers Act usage).