

Roads Analysis Glossary

Access Permit. A special use authorization that provides permission (without conveying an interest in the land) to State, County, and private landowners to use National Forest System land to access their properties and carry out their management objectives.

Access Rights. A privilege or right of a person or entity to pass over or use another person's or entity's travel way. (36 CFR 212.1, FSM 5460.5 - Rights of Way Acquisition, FSM 7700 - Transportation System)

Action Alternatives. Alternatives that propose a definitive action.

Activity. Actions, measures, or treatments that are undertaken that directly or indirectly produce, enhance, or maintain forest outputs or achieve administrative or environmental objectives.

Affected Environment. The natural and physical environment and the relationship of people to that environment that will or may be changed by actions proposed.

All-Terrain Vehicle (ATV): Motorized, flotation-tired vehicles with at least three, but no more than six, low pressure tires, with an engine displacement of less than 800 cubic centimeters and total dry weight of less than 800 pounds. ATVs with a total dry weight of more than 800 pounds are classified as off-road vehicles.

Ambient Air Quality. The EPA establishes concentration levels for certain criteria pollutants, which when exceeded, would result in endangering public health or welfare.

Annual Maintenance. Work performed to maintain serviceability, or repair failures during the year in which they occur. Includes preventive and/or cyclic maintenance performed in the year in which it is scheduled to occur. Unscheduled or catastrophic failures of components or assets may need to be repaired as a part of annual maintenance. (Financial Health - Common Definitions for Maintenance and Construction Terms, July 22, 1998)

Arterial Road. A forest road that provides service to large land areas and usually connects with other arterial roads or public highways. (FSH 7709.54 – Forest Transportation Terminology Handbook, no longer in print)

Benefit-Cost Analysis. Identifies for each desired objective, the alternative that yields the greatest benefit for a given cost or that alternative which produces the required level of benefits for the lowest cost.

Best Management Practices (BMPs). The method, measure, or practice selected by an agency to meet its non-point source pollution control needs. BMPs include, but are not limited to, structural controls, operations, and maintenance procedures. BMPs can be applied before, during, or after pollution-producing activities to reduce or eliminate the introduction of pollutants into the water.

Biological Evaluation (BE). As defined by FSM 2670.5, a biological evaluation is a documented Forest Service review of Forest Service programs or activities in sufficient detail to determine how an action or proposed action may affect any threatened, endangered, proposed, or sensitive species. FSM 2672.4 identifies biological evaluation objectives and standards.

Capital Improvement. The construction, installation, or assembly of a new fixed asset, or the significant alteration, expansion, or extension of an existing fixed asset to accommodate a change of purpose. (Financial Health - Common Definitions for Maintenance and Construction Terms, July 22, 1998)

Classified Road. Road wholly or partially within or adjacent to National Forest System lands that are determined to be needed for long-term motor vehicle access, including State roads, county roads, privately

owned roads, National Forest System roads, and other roads authorized by the Forest Service. (36 CFR 212.1, FSM 7705 - Transportation System)

Closure. An administrative order restricting either the location, timing, or type of use in a specific area.

Code of Federal Regulations. A set of regulations that have been published in the Federal Register, and are used to govern Forest Service activities.

Collector Road. A forest road that serves smaller land areas than an arterial road. Usually connects forest arterial roads to local forest roads or terminal. (FSH 7709.54 - Forest Transportation Terminology Handbook, no longer in print)

Construction (new). The erection, construction, installation, or assembly of a new fixed asset. (Financial Health - Common Definitions for Maintenance and Construction Terms, July 22, 1998)

Cover. Plants or plant parts, living or dead, used by wildlife for protection from predators, weather, or in which young are raised.

Cover Type. The dominant vegetation in an area. For example, aspen, spruce, red pine, or sedges; along with its associated under-story species.

Critical Habitat. Habitat of Federally listed threatened or endangered species, on which are found those physical and biological features that are essential to conservation of the species and which may require special management considerations or protection. This habitat may currently be occupied, or determined by the Secretary of the Interior to be essential, for areas outside the species' current range.

Critical Need. A requirement that addresses a serious threat to public health or safety, a natural resource, or the ability to carry out the mission of the organization. (Financial Health - Common Definitions for Maintenance and Construction Terms, July 22, 1998)

Critical Vehicle. The vehicle, normally the largest (by weight, size, or unique configuration), whose limited use on the road is necessary to complete the planned activity. (FSH 7709.56, Sec 4.1 - Road Preconstruction Handbook)

Culvert. A conduit or passageway under a road, trail, or other obstruction. A culvert differs from a bridge in that it is usually constructed entirely below the elevation of the traveled way. (EM 7720-100R, EM 7720-100LL, Sec 102)

Cumulative Effects. Results of collective past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions.

Cumulative Impacts. The impacts on the environment that result from the incremental impact of an action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

Decommission. Demolition, dismantling, removal, obliteration and/or disposal of a deteriorated or otherwise unneeded asset or component, including necessary cleanup work. This action eliminates the deferred maintenance needs for the fixed asset. Portions of an asset or component may remain if they do not cause problems nor require maintenance. (Financial Health - Common Definitions for Maintenance and Construction Terms, July 22, 1998)

Deferred Maintenance. Maintenance that was not performed when it should have been or when it was scheduled and which, therefore, was put off or delayed for a future period. When allowed to accumulate without limits or consideration of useful life, deferred maintenance leads to deterioration of performance, increased costs to repair, and decrease in asset value. Deferred maintenance needs may be categorized as critical or non-critical at any point in time. Continued deferral of non-critical maintenance will normally result in an increase in critical deferred maintenance. Code compliance (e.g. life safety, ADA, OSHA, environmental, etc.), Forest Plan Direction, Best Management Practices, Biological Evaluations other regulatory or Executive Order compliance requirements, or applicable standards not met on schedule are considered deferred maintenance. (Financial Health - Common Definitions for Maintenance and Construction Terms, July 22, 1998)

Design Speed. The speed determined for design and correlation of the physical features of a route that influence vehicle operation. The maximum safe speed that the design vehicle can maintain over a specified segment of a route when conditions are so favorable that the design features of the road, rather than operational limitations of the vehicle, govern. The design speed is the safe speed for the design situation only. (FSH 7709.56, Sec 4.25 - Road Preconstruction Handbook)

Design Vehicle. The vehicle frequently using the road that determines the minimum standard for a particular design element. No single vehicle controls the standards for all the design elements for a road. Determine the maximum and minimum standards from the type and configuration of the vehicles using the road. Analyze each design element to determine which vehicle governs the standard for that element. (FSH 7709.56, Sec 4.1- Road Preconstruction Handbook)

Direct Effects. Results of an action occurring when and where that action takes place.

Ecological Classification. A multi-factor approach to categorizing and delineating, at different levels of resolution, areas of land and water having similar characteristic combinations of the physical environment (such as climate, geomorphic processes, geology, soil, and hydrologic function), biological communities (such as plants, animals, microorganisms, and potential natural communities), and the human dimension (such as social, economic, cultural, and infrastructure).

Economic Efficiency. The effectiveness of inputs (costs) in producing outputs (benefits) and effects when the computations include all identified and valued costs and benefits.

Ecosystem. A community of organisms and its physical setting. An ecosystem, whether a fallen log or an entire watershed, includes resident organisms, non-living components such as soil nutrients, inputs such as rainfall, and outputs such as organisms that disperse to other ecosystems.

Effects. Results expected to be achieved from implementation of the alternatives relative to physical, biological, and social (cultural and economic) factors. There are direct, indirect, and cumulative effects.

Emergency Need. An urgent maintenance need that may result in injury, illness, or loss of life, natural resource, or property; and must be satisfied immediately. Emergency needs generally require a declaration of emergency or disaster, or a finding by a line officer that an emergency exists. (Financial Health - Common Definitions for Maintenance and Construction Terms, July 22, 1998)

Endangered Species. A species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range – other than members of the class *Insecta* – and which have been designated under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

Environment. All the conditions, circumstances, and influences surrounding and affecting the development of an organism or group of organisms.

Environmental Assessment (EA). A comprehensive evaluation of alternative actions and their predictable short-term and long-term environmental effects, which include physical, biological, economic, social, and environmental design factors and their interactions. An EA is less comprehensive than an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and may result in a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI); should the EA reveal significant impacts, a full EIS must then be conducted.

Erosion. The processes whereby earthy or rocky material is worn away, loosened, dissolved, and removed from any part of the earth's surface.

Floodplain. The portion of a stream valley, adjacent to the channel, which is covered with water when the stream overflows its banks at flood stages.

Forest Plan. Source of management direction for an individual forest specifying activity and output levels for a period of 10 to 15 years. Management direction in the plan is based on the issues identified at the time of the Plan's development.

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

Forest Road. As defined in Title 23, Section 101 of the United States Code (23 U.S.C. 101), any 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 development of its resources. (FSM 7705 - Transportation System)

Forest System Roads. Roads that are part of the forest development transportation system, which includes all existing and planned roads, as well as other special and terminal facilities designated as forest development transportation facilities.

Forest Transportation Atlas. An inventory, description, display, and other associated information for those roads, trails, and airfields that are important to the management and use of National Forest System lands or to the development and use of resources upon which communities within or adjacent to the National Forests depend. (36 CFR 212.1)

Forest Transportation Facility. A classified road, designated trail, or designated airfield, including bridges, culverts, parking lots, log transfer facilities, safety devices and other transportation network appurtenances under Forest Service jurisdiction that is wholly or partially within or adjacent to National Forest System lands. (36 CFR 212.1, FSM 7705 - Transportation System)

Forest Transportation System Management. The planning, inventory, analysis, classification, record keeping, scheduling, construction, reconstruction, maintenance, decommissioning, and other operations undertaken to achieve environmentally sound, safe, cost-effective, access for use, protection, administration, and management of National Forest System lands. (FSM 7705 - Transportation System)

Fragmentation. Habitat fragmentation is a process that occurs wherever a large, contiguous habitat is transformed into smaller patches that are isolated from each other by a landscape matrix unlike the original. This matrix can differ from the original habitat in either composition or structure. The crucial point is that it functions as either a partial or total barrier to dispersal for species associated with the original habitat. A clear threat to population viability is when fragmentation occurs that isolates pairs and populations versus fragmentation within the home range of the individual pairs.

Functional Class. The way a road services land and resource management needs, and the character of service it provides. (FSH 7709.54, Forest Transportation Terminology Handbook, no longer in print)

General Development Lake: Recreation opportunity spectrum classifications are generally roaded natural, rural, or urban. These lakes are used extensively for recreation. The ownership is mixed public and private. There is usually extensive shoreline development. Generally, the lakes are large (1,000 acres plus), and a variety of shapes and depths.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS). An information processing technology to input, store, manipulate, analyze, and display spatial resource data to support the decision-making processes of an organization. Forest Service spatial data are Earth-referenced resource data. Generally, an electronic medium for processing map information, typically used with manual processes, to effect specific decisions about the land base and its resources.

Habitat. The environment of and the specific place where an organism lives. Features that determine whether a specific site provides suitable habitat for a particular species may include climatic regime, vegetation age or structure, presence of specific plant or animal species, and presence of inorganic features such as caves or soil chemistry.

Health and Safety Need. A requirement that addresses a threat to human safety and health (e.g. violations of National Fire Protection Association 101 Life Safety Code or appropriate Health Code) that requires immediate interim abatement and/or long-term permanent abatement. (Financial Health - Common Definitions for Maintenance and Construction Terms, July 22, 1998)

Indirect Effects. Results of an action occurring at a location other than where the action took place and/or later in time, but in the reasonable foreseeable future. Indirect effects may include growth-inducing effects and other effects related to induced changes in the pattern of land use, population density, or growth rate, and related effects on air, water, and other natural systems, including ecosystems.

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 enough to adequately solve the problem.

Irretrievable/Irretrievable Commitments. Applies to losses of production, harvest, or uses of renewable natural resources for a period of time. The production lost is irretrievable, but it is not irreversible.

Irreversible/Irreversible Commitments. Decisions causing changes that cannot be reversed and result in loss of future options. For example, if a unroaded area is allocated to allow for roads, and roads are used to harvest timber or result in significant damage of area natural resources, the ability of that area to meet wilderness criteria has been irreversibly lost. Often applies to nonrenewable resources such as soil, minerals, and cultural resources.

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)

Land Type Association (LTA). A level in the Ecological Classification System hierarchy that addresses broad land areas and ranges in size from 10,000 – 250,000 acres. These units typically have similarities in geologic process, bedrock types, soil complexes, stream types, lakes, wetlands, and vegetative communities.

Local Road. A forest road that connects terminal facilities with forest collector, forest arterial or public highways. Usually forest local roads are single purpose transportation facilities. (FSH 7709.54 - Forest Transportation Terminology Handbook, no longer in print)

Maintenance. The preservation of the entire highway, including surface, shoulders, roadsides, structures and such traffic-control devices as are necessary for its safe and efficient utilization. (USC: Title 23, Section 101(a)).

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. The act of keeping fixed assets in acceptable condition. It includes preventive maintenance such as normal repairs; replacement of parts and structural components, and other activities needed to preserve a fixed asset so that it continues to provide acceptable service and achieves its expected life. Maintenance excludes activities aimed at expanding the capacity of an asset or otherwise upgrading it to serve needs different from, or significantly greater than those originally intended. Maintenance includes work needed to meet laws, regulations, codes, and other legal direction as long as the original intent or purpose of the fixed asset is not changed. (Financial Health - Common Definitions for Maintenance and Construction Terms, July 22, 1998)

Maintenance Level. Defines the level of service provided by, and maintenance required for, a specific road, consistent with road management objectives and maintenance criteria. (FSH 7709.58, Sec 12.3 - Transportation System Maintenance Handbook)

Maintenance Level 1: Assigned to intermittent service roads during the time they are closed to vehicular traffic. The closure period must exceed 1 year. Basic custodial maintenance is performed to keep damage to adjacent resource to an acceptable level and to perpetuate the road to facilitate future management activities. Emphasis is normally given to maintaining drainage facilities and runoff patterns. Planned road deterioration may occur at this level. Appropriate traffic management strategies are "prohibit" and "eliminate". Roads receiving level 1 maintenance may be of any type, class or construction standard, and may be managed at any other maintenance level during the time they are open for traffic. However, while being maintained at level 1, they are closed to vehicular traffic, but may be open and suitable for non-motorized uses.

Maintenance Level 2: Assigned to roads open for use by high clearance vehicles. Passenger car traffic is not a consideration. Traffic is normally minor, usually consisting of one or a combination of administrative, permitted, dispersed recreation, or other specialized uses. Log haul may occur at this level. Appropriate traffic management strategies are either (1) discourage or prohibit passenger cars or (2) accept or discourage high clearance vehicles.

Maintenance Level 3: Assigned to roads open and maintained for travel by a prudent driver in a standard passenger car. User comfort and convenience are not considered priorities. Roads in this maintenance level are typically low speed, single lane with turnouts and spot surfacing. Some roads may be fully surfaced with either native or processed material. Appropriate traffic management strategies are either "encourage" or "accept." "Discourage" or "prohibit" strategies may be employed for certain classes of vehicles or users.

Maintenance Level 4: Assigned to roads that provide a moderate degree of user comfort and convenience at moderate travel speeds. Most roads are double lane and aggregate surfaced. However, some roads may be single lane. Some roads may be paved and/or dust abated. The most appropriate traffic management strategy is "encourage." However, the "prohibit" strategy may apply to specific classes of vehicles or users at certain times.

Maintenance Level 5: Assigned to roads that provide a high degree of user comfort and convenience. Normally, roads are double-lane, paved facilities. Some may be aggregate surfaced and dust abated. The appropriate traffic management strategy is "encourage."

Major Culvert. A culvert that provides an opening of more than 35 square feet (3.3 m²) in a single or multiple installation. A major culvert may consist of a single round pipe, pipe arch, open or closed-bottom box,

bottomless arch, or multiple installation of these structures placed adjacent or contiguous as a unit. Certain major culverts are classified as bridges when they provide an opening of more than 20 feet (6.1 m), measured parallel to the roadway; such culverts may be included in the bridge inventory. See "Federal Highway Administration Coding Guide for Bridge Inventory and Appraisal," items 49 and 112 (sec. 8.08) for culverts being classified as bridges. (FSH 7709.56b, Sec 05 - Transportation Structures Handbook)

Management Area. An area that has common direction throughout that differs from neighboring areas. The entire forest is divided into management areas. Each is described and policies and prescriptions relating to their use are listed. A management area prescription provides the direction for the area.

Management Indicator Species (MIS). Plant or animal species or habitat components selected in a planning process that are used to monitor the effects of planned management activities on viable populations of wildlife and fish, including those that are socially or economically important.

Minor Culvert. Any culvert not classified as a major culvert. (FSH 7709.56b, Sec 05 - Transportation Structures Handbook)

Mission Need. A requirement that addresses a threat or risk to carrying out the mission of the organization. Needs related to administration and providing services (transportation, recreation, grazing, etc.). Needs not covered by health and safety or natural resource protection. (Financial Health - Common Definitions for Maintenance and Construction Terms, July 22, 1998)

Mitigation. Measures designed to counteract environmental impacts or to make impacts less severe. These may include: avoiding an impact by not taking a certain action or part of an action; minimizing an impact by limiting the degree or magnitude of an action and its implementation; rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating, or restoring the affected environment; reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; or compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act. Authorized and directed that the nation's forests be managed for multiple uses including outdoor recreation, range, timber, watershed, wildlife and fish, to produce a sustained yield of products and services.

Natural Environment Lake: Recreation opportunity spectrum classifications range from semi-primitive to roaded natural. Recreation use levels are low. The ownership is primarily public, with low development. These lakes often have limited capabilities for assimilating the impacts of development and recreational use. Generally, these lakes are 10 to 100 acres, and of a variety of shapes and depths.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). An act declaring a national policy to encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment, to promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and the biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man, to enrich the understanding of the ecological systems and natural resources important to the nation, and to establish a Council on Environmental Quality.

National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan). A plan developed to meet the requirements of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974, as amended, that guides all resource management activities and establishes management standards and guidelines for the National Forest System land of a given National Forest.

National Forest Management Act (NFMA). A law passed in 1976 that amends the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act and requires the preparation of Forest Plans.

National Forest System (NFS) Land. Federal land that has been designated by Executive Order or statute as National Forest, National Grassland, Purchase Unit, or other land under the administration of the Forest Service.

National Forest System Road. A classified forest road under the jurisdiction of the Forest Service. The term "National Forest System roads" is synonymous with the term "forest development roads" as used in 23 U.S.C. 205. (FSM 7705 – Transportation System)

National Forest System Trails: As defined in 36 CFR 212.1 and 261.2, those trails wholly or partly within or adjacent to and serving, the National Forests and other areas administered by the Forest Service that have been included in the Forest Transportation Atlas.

Neo-tropical Migratory Birds (NTMB). Neo-tropical migratory birds, more than 200 species, migrate each spring to breeding grounds in the United States and Canada, then fly south to spend the bulk of the year in Mexico, Central or South America, or the Caribbean.

New Construction. The erection, construction, installation, or assembly of a new fixed asset. (Financial Health - Common Definitions for Maintenance and Construction Terms, July 22, 1998)

New Road Construction. Activity that results in the addition of forest classified or temporary road miles. (36 CFR 212.1, FSM 7705 - Transportation System)

No-Action Alternative. No change from the current management direction or level of management intensity.

Non-critical Need. A requirement that addresses potential risk to public or employee safety or health, compliance with codes, standards, regulations etc., or needs that address potential adverse consequences to natural resources or mission accomplishment. (Financial Health - Common Definitions for Maintenance and Construction Terms, July 22, 1998)

Objective Maintenance Level. The maintenance level to be assigned at a future date considering future road management objectives, traffic needs, budget constraints, and environmental concerns. The objective maintenance level may be the same as, or higher or lower than, the operational maintenance level. (FSH 7709.58, Sec12.3 - Transportation System Maintenance Handbook)

Obliterate/Obliteration. Action needed to return a road or trail to production. The road or trail will no longer be used or planned for future use as a travel way and will be stabilized and used to produce the same product as the adjacent areas. It blots the road or trail out over time or removes the illusion that the road or trail is to be used as a travel way.

Off-Highway Motorcycle (OHM): Motorized off-highway vehicles traveling on two wheels. OHMs have a seat or saddle designed to be straddled by the operator and have handlebars for steering control. Motorcycles must be legal for highway use and still considered to be OHMs when used for off-highway operations on trails or on natural terrain.

Off-Road Vehicle (ORV): Motorized, recreational vehicles capable of cross-country travel on natural terrain, such as four-wheel drive trucks and ATVs that have an engine displacement of more than 800 cubic centimeters and total dry weight of more than 800 pounds. Vehicles not considered ORVs include snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles, watercraft or aircraft.

Open for Public Travel. The road section is available and passable by four-wheeled standard passenger cars, and open to the general public for use without restrictive gates, prohibitive signs, or regulation other than restrictions based on size, weight or class of registration, except during scheduled periods, extreme weather or emergency conditions. (23 CFR 460.2(c)).

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)

Other System. Additional network(s) of travel ways serving a common need or purpose, managed by an entity with the authority to finance, build, operate and maintain the routes. (U.S.C. 101 23 CFR 660, FSM 7740.5 - Federal Lands Highway Programs)

Primary Maintainer. The agency or party having primary (largest share) financial responsibility for maintenance. (FSH 7709.58, Chapter 13 - Transportation System Maintenance Handbook)

Private Road. A road under private ownership authorized by easement to a private party, or a road that provides access pursuant to a reserved or private right. (FS-643, Roads Analysis; Informing Decisions About Managing the National Forest Transportation System, August 1999.).

Proposed Action. In terms of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the project, activity, or decision that a Federal agency intends to implement or undertake, which is the subject of an environmental assessment or environmental impact statement; the alternative recommended for implementation of the Forest Plan based on the evaluation completed in the planning process.

Public Authority. A Federal, State, county, town or township, Indian tribe, municipal or other local government or instrumentality thereof, with authority to finance, build, operate or maintain toll or toll-free highway facilities. (23 CFR 460.2(b))

Public Forest Service Road. A National Forest System Road that is open to public travel and has been approved for inclusion into the Public Forest System Road Program.

Public Road. Any road or street under the jurisdiction of and maintained by a public authority and open to public travel. (23 U.S.C. 101(a), 23 CFR 460.2(a), FSM 7705 - Transportation System)

Recreation Lake: Recreational opportunity spectrum classifications range from semi-primitive motorized to generally roaded natural. Recreation use levels are moderate. The ownership is mixed public and private, with moderate development. Development mainly consists of seasonal and year-round residences and recreationally oriented commercial uses. Generally, recreation lakes are medium sized of 100 to 1,000 acres, and varying shapes and depths.

Recreation Motor Vehicle (RMV): This term is used to describe all-terrain vehicles, off-highway motorcycles, off-road vehicles, and snowmobiles.

Recreational Opportunity Spectrum (ROS). A framework of stratifying and defining classes of outdoor recreation environments, activities, and experience opportunities. The settings, activities, and opportunities for obtaining experiences have been arranged along a continuum or spectrum divided into six classes: primitive, semi-primitive, non-motorized, semi-primitive motorized, roaded natural, rural, and urban.

Recreation Visitor Days (RVD). Recreational use of National Forest System land, which aggregates 12 hours. It may consist of one person for 12 hours, two persons for six hours each, or any other combination that totals 12 hours.

Regeneration. The process of establishing a new crop of trees on previously harvested or disturbed land.

Resource Protection Need. A requirement that addresses a threat or risk of damage, obstruction, or negative impact to a natural resource. (Financial Health – Common Definitions for Maintenance and Construction Terms, July 22, 1998)

Revegetate. The re-establishment and development of plant cover. This may take place naturally through reproductive processes of the existing flora or artificially through the direct action of reforestation or seeding.

Riparian. Land next to water where plants that are dependent on a perpetual source of water occur.

Road. A motor vehicle travel way over 50 inches wide, unless designated and managed as a trail. A road may be classified, unclassified, or temporary. (36 CFR 212.1, FSM 7705 - Transportation System)

Road Decommissioning. Activities that result in the stabilization and restoration of unneeded roads to a more natural state. (36 CFR 212.1, FSM 7705 – Transportation System)

Road Density. The number of miles of road per square mile of land area.

Road Improvement. Activity that results in an increase of an existing road's traffic service level, expands its capacity, or changes its original design function. (FSM 7705 - Transportation System)

Road Maintenance. The ongoing upkeep of a road necessary to retain or restore the road to the approved road management objective. (FSM 7705 - Transportation System)

Road Management Objectives (RMO). 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)

Road Realignment. Activity that results in a new location of an existing road or portions of an existing road and treatment of the old roadway. (FSM 7705 – Transportation System)

Road Reconstruction. Activity that results in a Road Improvement or Road Realignment of an existing classified road. (FSM 7700 - Transportation System)

Roads Subject to the Highway Safety Act. National Forest System roads that are open to use by the public for standard passenger cars. This includes roads with access restricted on a seasonal basis and roads closed during extreme weather conditions or for emergencies, but which are otherwise open for general public use.

Runoff. In forest areas, that portion of the precipitation that flows across a drainage area on the land surface and in open channels. Often refers to precipitation that flows from roads into area water bodies.

Sediment. Solid material, both mineral and organic, that is in suspension, is being transported or has been moved from its site of origin by air, water, gravity, or ice, and has come to rest on the earth's surface either above or below sea level.

Sedimentation. The act of solid material in suspension being transported, or moved from its original location by air, water, gravity, or ice.

Sensitive Species. Selected plant and animal species for which population viability is a concern, as evidenced by significant current or predicted downward trends in population numbers or density, and significant current or predicted downward trends in habitat capability that would reduce a species' existing distribution. Sensitive species are not included in the Endangered Species Act.

Service Life. The length of time that a facility is expected to provide a specified service. (FSH 7709.56b, Sec 05 - Transportation Structures Handbook)

Site Productivity. Production capability of specific areas of land.

Snowmobiles. A self-propelled vehicle designed for travel on snow or ice and steered by skis or runners.

Soil Displacement. Physical removal or alteration of surface soil layers (horizons) by motorized equipment.

Soil Productivity. The capacity of a soil to support the growth of specified plants, plant communities, or a sequence of plant communities. Soil productivity may be expressed in terms of volume or weigh/unit, area/year, percent plant cover, or other measures of biomass accumulation.

Special Use Permit. Permits authorizing the occupancy and use of land.

Standards and Guidelines. Bounds or rules within which all management practices will be carried out in achieving planned goals and objectives.

State. Any one of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and American Samoa. (23 CFR 460.2(e))

Subject to the Highway Safety Act. National Forest System roads that are open to use by the public for standard passenger cars. This includes roads with access restricted on a seasonal basis and roads closed during extreme weather conditions or for emergencies, but which are otherwise open for general public use. (FSM 7705 -Transportation System)

Succession/Successional Stage. A directional change in species composition of the forest over time, as one species or species group replaces another. For example, an obliterated road becomes young birch-aspen forest, which is subsequently replaced by balsam fir-black spruce over a period of 100 years.

Temporary Road. Road authorized by contract, permit, lease, other written authorization, or emergency operation not intended to be a part of the forest transportation system and not necessary for long-term resource management. (36 CFR212.1, FSM 7705 - Transportation System)

Threatened Species. Plant or animal species that is likely to become endangered throughout all or a significant portion of its range within the foreseeable future, as defined in the Endangered Species Act of 1973, and that has been designated in the Federal Register by the Secretary of the Interior as a threatened species.

Trail. A travel way designed for pedestrian and/or horse riders. Also includes a travel way to accommodate off-road vehicles.

Traffic Service Level. Describes the significant characteristics and operating conditions of a road. (FSH 7709.56, Ch 4 - Road Preconstruction Handbook, FSM 7705 - Transportation System)

Transportation Facility Jurisdiction. The legal right to control or regulate use of a transportation facility derived from fee title, an easement, an agreement, or other similar method. While jurisdiction requires authority, it does not necessarily reflect ownership. (FSM 7705 - Transportation System)

Traveled Way. The portion of the roadway used for the movement of vehicles; not including turnouts, exclusive of shoulders and auxiliary lanes. (EM 7720-100LL, Section 102.)

Unclassified Roads. Roads on National Forest System lands that are not managed as part of the forest transportation system, such as unplanned roads, abandoned travel ways, and off-road vehicle tracks that have not been designated and managed as a trail; and those roads that were once under permit or other authorization and were not decommissioned upon the termination of the authorization. (36 CFR 212.1, FSM 7705 - Transportation System)

Viability Indicator Species. Listed species, selected Region 9 Sensitive Species, and other species of special concern. The Forest Plan assumes that protection or provision of a minimum level of special habitats or habitat conditions required by these species will maintain viable populations of all existing native and desired non-native vertebrate species.

Watershed. The area that contributes water to a drainage or stream. Portion of the area in which all surface water drains to a common point. Watersheds can range from a few tens of acres that drain a single, small, intermittent stream to many thousands of acres for a stream that drains hundreds of connected, intermittent, and perennial streams.

Wetland. Areas that are inundated by surface or groundwater frequently enough to support vegetation that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction. Wetland generally include: swamps, marshes, bogs, and similar areas such as sloughs, potholes, wet meadows, river overflows, mudflats, and natural ponds.

Wildlife Habitat. The locality where a species may be found and where the essentials for its development and sustainable existence are obtained.