

Glossary of Terms

36 CFR 212: 2005 Travel Management Rule which replaced CFR 295.

36 CFR 261: Establishes prohibitions necessary to manage and control use on National Forest development trails.

36 CFR 293: Prohibits motorized use in wilderness and primitive areas.

36 CFR 800: Implementing regulations for *Section 106 of the NHPA*

Adaptive management: A system of management practices based on clearly identified intended outcomes and monitoring to determine if management actions are meeting those outcomes; and, if not, to facilitate management changes that will best ensure that those outcomes are met or re-evaluated. Adaptive management stems from the recognition that knowledge about natural resource systems is sometimes uncertain (*36 CFR 220.3*).

Administrative unit: A National Forest, a National Grassland, a purchase unit, a land utilization project, Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area, Land Between the Lakes, Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie, or other comparable unit of the National Forest System.

Administrative use only (Admin Use): motorized access is restricted, often with a locked gate, to Forest Service personnel or those that hold an authorized use permit to access the road or trail. These routes would not show up on the motor vehicle use map. Motorized user not authorized to be on these routes would be cited for being in violation.

Alluvial: Pertaining to processes or materials associated with transportation or deposition by running water.

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.

Aquatic: Growing or living in or frequenting water; taking place in or on water.

Aquatic ecosystem: A stream channel, lake or estuary bed, the water itself, and the biotic (living) communities that occur therein.

Archaeological survey: A systematic, intensive inspection of the landscape in order to identify, inventory, and evaluate archaeological sites, which are defined as locations of purposeful prehistoric or historic human activity.

Area: A discrete, specifically delineated space that is smaller, and in most cases much smaller, than a Ranger District.

Arterial road: Classified road that provides service to large land areas; arterial roads are usually developed and operated for long-term land and resource management purposes and constant service.

Aspect: The direction a slope faces. For example, a hillside facing east has an eastern aspect.

Buffer: A zone of a specified distance around a linear or area feature.

Code of Federal Regulations: A codification of the general and permanent rules published in the *Federal Register* by the executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government.

Collaboration: Managers, scientists, and citizens working together to plan, implement, and monitor national forest management. The intention is to engage people who have information, knowledge, expertise, and an interest in the health of national forest ecosystems and nearby communities.

Collector roads: Classified roads serving smaller land areas than arterial roads; collector roads 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.

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ): The Council on Environmental Quality established by *Title II of NEPA (40 CFR 1508.6)*.

Critical habitat: Areas designated for the survival and recovery of federally listed threatened or endangered species.

Cumulative effects (or impacts): The effect on the environment, which results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (federal or nonfederal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative effects can result from individually minor, but collectively significant, actions taking place over a period of time (*40 CFR 1508.7*).

Decommissioned (roads or trails): 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 or require maintenance.

Deferred maintenance: Maintenance activities that can be delayed without critical loss of facility serviceability until the work can be economically or efficiently performed.

Degradation: Reduction in quality. The process whereby the water quality and chemical, physical, or biological integrity of a water body is decreased. Habitat quality can be changed by certain management activities. If the quality is reduced, then habitat degradation has occurred.

Designated road, trail, or area: A National Forest System road, a National Forest System trail, or an area on National Forest System lands that is designated for motor vehicle use pursuant to § 212.51 on a motor vehicle use map.

Draft environmental impact statement (DEIS): A detailed written statement as required by section 102(2) (C) of the *NEPA (40 CFR 1508.11)* that is released to governmental agencies and the general public for review and comment.

Designated road, trail, route, or area: A National Forest System road, trail or area that is designated for motor vehicle on a motor vehicle use map (*36 CFR 212*).

Desired conditions: Land or resource conditions that are expected to result based on goals and objectives.

Ecology/ecological: The interrelationships of living things to one another and to their environment, or the study of these interrelationships.

Ecosystem: An arrangement of living and nonliving things and the forces that move them. Living things include plants and animals. Nonliving parts of ecosystems may be rocks and minerals. Weather and wildfire are two of the forces that act within ecosystems.

Endangered species: Those plant or animal species that are in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of their range. Endangered species are identified by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the *Endangered Species Act of 1973*.

Endemic: When referring to a species, means living in defined geographic area: such as a species of organism that is confined to a particular geographic region like an island or river

Environmental impact statement (EIS): A detailed written statement as required by section 102(2) (C) of NEPA (CFR 1508.11).

Ephemeral stream: Streams that flow only as the direct result of rainfall or snowmelt. They have no permanent flow.

Executive orders: United States Presidents issue executive orders to help officers and agencies of the executive branch manage the operations within the federal government itself. Executive orders have the full force of law[1] when they take authority from a power granted directly to the Executive by the Constitution, or are made in pursuance of certain Acts of Congress which explicitly delegate to the President some degree of discretionary power (delegated legislation). Like statutes or regulations promulgated by government agencies, executive orders are subject to judicial review, and may be struck down if deemed by the courts to be unsupported by statute or the Constitution

Executive Orders (EO) 11644 and 11989: These orders provide direction for Federal agencies to establish policies and provide for procedures to control and direct the use of OHVs on public lands so as to: 1) protect the resources of those lands; 2) promote the safety of all users of those lands; and 3) minimize conflicts among the various users on those lands. Section 3(1) establishes that “Areas and trails shall be located to minimize damage to soil, watershed, vegetation, or other resources of the public lands.” Section 9(a) allows the agency head to close trails to use if the use is causing effects to the soil, vegetation, and other resources until the adverse effects have been eliminated and measures are implemented to prevent future recurrence.

Executive Order 11990 of May 24, 1977: This order requires each agency to take action to minimize destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands and to preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands.

Executive Order 13007: Each executive branch agency with statutory or administrative responsibility for the management of Federal lands shall, to the extent practicable, permitted by law, and not clearly inconsistent with essential agency functions, (1) accommodate access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners and (2) avoid

adversely affecting the physical integrity of such sacred sites. Where appropriate, agencies shall maintain the confidentiality of sacred sites.

Executive Order 13112, issued by the President in 1999: a species is considered invasive if it: 1) is nonnative to the ecosystem under consideration and 2) its introduction causes or is likely to cause economic or environmental harm or harm to human health. The Tonto National Forest has not been intensively surveyed for noxious weeds. Populations of some noxious weeds have been known for nearly 30 years and have spread considerably since they were first identified. Others are still being found in small infestations.

Executive Order 13443: The purpose of this order is to direct Federal agencies that have programs and activities that have a measurable effect on public land management, outdoor recreation, and wildlife management, including the Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture, to facilitate the expansion and enhancement of hunting opportunities and the management of game species and their habitat.

Fauna: Animal life

Flora: Plant life

Forest road or trail: A road or trail wholly or partly within or adjacent to and serving the National Forest System that the Forest Service determines is necessary for the protection, administration, and utilization of the National Forest System and the use and development of its resources (*36 CFR 212*).

Forest transportation atlas: A display of the system of roads, trails, and airfields of an administrative unit.

Forest transportation facility: A forest road or trail or an airfield that is displayed in a forest transportation atlas, including bridges, culverts, parking lots, marine access facilities, safety devices, and other improvements appurtenant to the forest transportation system.

Forest transportation system: The system of National Forest System roads, National Forest System trails, and airfields on National Forest System lands (*36 CFR 212*).

Four County Area: Refers to the four counties that overlap with the Tonto National Forest: Gila, Maricopa, Pinal, and Yavapai.

Fuels: Plants and woody vegetation, living and dead, which are capable of burning.

Fuelwood: Wood cut into short lengths for burning in a fireplace, woodstove or fire pit.

Geographic information system (GIS): A computer system capable of storing, manipulating, analyzing, and displaying geographic information.

Habitat: The area where a plant or animal lives and grows under natural conditions.

Herbaceous: A plant having little or no woody tissue.

Heritage: Refers to historic preservation, prehistoric, and historic cultural resources and cultural traditions.

Highway: Highway is a way or a place of whatever nature publicly maintained and open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel. The term “highway” does not include fire trails, logging roads, service roads regardless of surface composition, or other roughly graded trails and roads upon which vehicular travel by the public is permitted.

Image: A graphic representation of a person or thing, typically produced by an electronic device. Common examples include remotely sensed data and photographs.

Interdisciplinary team (IDT): A group of professional resource specialists who analyze the effects of alternatives on natural and other resources. Through interaction, participants bring different points of view and a broader range of expertise.

Intermittent stream: A stream that flows only at certain times of the year, when it receives water from streams or from some surface, such as melting snow.

Inventoried roadless area (IRA): areas identified in a set of inventoried roadless area maps, contain in Forest Service Roadless Area Conservation, Final Environmental Impact Statement, Volume 2, dated November 2000, which are held at the National Headquarters office of the Forest Service, or any subsequent update or revision of those maps.

Irretrievable: A term that applies to the loss of production, harvest, or use of natural resources. For example, some or all of the timber production from an area is lost irretrievably, while an area is serving as a winter sports site. The production lost is irretrievable, but the action is not irreversible. If the use changes, it is possible to resume timber production.

Irreversible: A term that describes the loss of future options. The term applies primarily to the effects of use of nonrenewable resources, such as minerals or cultural resources, or to those factors, such as soil productivity, which are renewable only over long periods of time.

Landscape: A large land area composed of interacting ecosystems which are repeated due to factors such as geology, soils, climate, and human impacts.

Maintenance: The upkeep of the entire forest 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*).

Maintenance levels: The Forest Service currently classifies maintenance of National Forest System roads by five maintenance levels. According to the Tonto National Forest Plan, they are defined as follows:

- Level 1: Roads are not open to traffic; they are maintained to protect the road investment and its surrounding resources. These roads may be opened for a specific activity and returned to Level 1 upon completion of the project.
- Level 2: Roads are maintained open for limited passage of traffic. Roads in this maintenance level are primitive type facilities intended for high clearance vehicles. Passenger car traffic is not a consideration.
- Level 3: Roads are maintained open and safe for travel by a prudent driver in a passenger car. However, user comfort and convenience is not considered a priority.

- Level 4: Roads are maintained to provide a moderate degree of user comfort and convenience at moderate travel speeds.
- Level 5: Roads are maintained to provide a high degree of user comfort and convenience. These roads are normally two lanes with aggregate or paved surface.

Management action: Any activity undertaken as part of the administration of the National Forest.

Meadow: Areas of moist low lying and usually level grasslands. Generally, the water table is just below the surface of the soil and the most abundant vegetation is usually favored by wet, but not constantly, flooded soil.

Mesic: Moderately moist climates or environments. In vegetation it generally refers to vegetation found in moist environments. In soils it refers specifically to soils with mean annual temperatures of 8 to 15 degrees centigrade.

Mitigation: Avoiding the impact altogether by not taking a certain action or parts of an action through:

- Minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the 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.
- Compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments.

Motor vehicle: Any vehicle which is self-propelled, other than: (1) a vehicle operated on rails; and (2) any wheelchair or mobility device, including one that is battery-operated, that is designed solely for use by a mobility-impaired person for locomotion, and that is suitable for use in an indoor pedestrian area (*36 CFR 212*).

Motor vehicle use map (MVUM): The management of all the various renewable surface resources of the national forests, so that they are utilized in the combination that will best meet the needs of the American people; making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources or related services over areas large enough to provide sufficient latitude for periodic adjustments in use to conform to changing needs and conditions; that some land will be used for less than all of the resources; and harmonious and coordinated management of the various resources, each with the other, without impairment of the productivity of the land, with consideration being given to the relative values of the various resources, and not necessarily the combination of uses that will give the greatest dollar return or the greatest unit output (*Multiple-Use Sustained-Yield Act; Public Law 86-517*).

Motorized big game retrieval corridor: defined by the Travel Management Rule as “the designation of the limited use of motor vehicles within a specified distance of designated routes, and if appropriate, within specified time periods solely for purposes of “...retrieval of a downed big game animal by an individual who has legally taken that animal” (*36 CFR 212.51 (b)*).

Motorized dispersed camping corridor: defined by the Travel Management Rule as “the designation of the limited use of motorized vehicles within a specified distance of certain designated routes, and if appropriate within specified time periods, solely for the purpose of dispersed camping.” (36 CFR 212.51 (b)).

Motorized trail: Can range from single tack, that would accommodate a dirt bike, to the width of a standard dirt road, that could be driven by any vehicle with high enough clearance or appropriate suspension.

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA): Codifies the national policy of encouraging harmony between humans and the environment by promoting efforts to prevent or eliminate damage to the environment, thereby enriching our understanding of ecological systems and natural resources. It declares the federal government to be responsible for: (a) coordinating programs and plans regarding environmental protection; (b) using an interdisciplinary approach to decision-making; (c) developing methods to ensure that non-quantifiable amenity values are included economic analyses; and (d) including in every recommendation, report on proposals for legislation, or other major federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the environment a detailed environmental impact statement (EIS).

National Forest System (NFS): As defined in the *Forest Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act*, the National Forest System includes all national forest lands reserved or withdrawn from the public domain of the United States, all national forest lands acquired through purchase, exchange, donation, or other means; the national grasslands and land utilization projects administered under title III of the *Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act* (50 Stat. 525, 7 U.S.C. 1010-1012); and other lands, waters, or interests therein which are administered by the Forest Service or are designated for administration through the Forest Service as a part of the system (36 CFR 212).

National Forest System road: Defined by the Travel Management Rule as a “forest road other than a road which has been authorized by a legally documented right-of-way held by a State, county, or other local public road authority” (36 CFR 212.1). In addition, a road is defined as “a motor vehicle route over 50 inches wide, unless identified and managed as a trail” (36 CFR 212.1).

National Forest System trail: A forest trail other than a trail which has been authorized by a legally documented right-of-way held by a state, county or other local public authority (36 CFR 212).

National Register of Historic Places (NRHP): List of historic resources (districts, sites, buildings, structures, objects, etc.) deemed worthy of preservation. This register is maintained by the Department of Interior. A number of criteria must be met for a resource to be deemed eligible to the NRHP.

Natural resource: A feature of the natural environment that is of value in serving human needs.

Noxious weeds: Aggressive, nonnative plant species that have been introduced. They can be difficult to manage, poisonous, toxic, parasitic, or carrier of insects or disease. Examples of noxious weeds are scotch broom, yellow star thistle, and cheatgrass.

Off-highway vehicle (OHV): Any motor vehicle designed for or capable of cross country travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, ice, marsh, swampland, or other natural terrain (*36 CFR 212*).

OHV recreation: Recreation activities that are conducted, using off-highway vehicles. Activities include riding ATVs, hunting, riding motorcycles, driving for pleasure, and rock crawling (*36 CFR 212*).

Open to public use: Except during scheduled periods, extreme weather conditions, or emergencies, open to the general public for use with a standard passenger auto, without restrictive gates or prohibitive signs or regulations, other than for general traffic control or restrictions based on size, weight, or class of registration (*23 CFR 660.103*).

Objective maintenance level: The objective maintenance level may be the same as, or higher or lower than, the operational maintenance level. The transition from operational maintenance level to objective maintenance level may depend on reconstruction or disinvestment (*FSH 7709.58.12.3.1*).

Obliteration: A form of decommissioning that recontours and restores natural slopes.

Operational maintenance level: The operational maintenance level is the maintenance level currently assigned to a road considering today's needs, road condition, budget constraints, and environmental concerns; in other words, it defines the level to which the road is currently being maintained (*FSH 7709.58.12.3.1*).

Other Power-Driven Mobility Device: Any mobility device powered by batteries, fuel, or other engines—whether or not designed primarily for use by individuals with mobility disabilities—that is used by individuals with mobility disabilities for the purpose of locomotion, including golf carts, electronic personal assistance mobility devices (EPAMDs), such as the Segway®PT, or any mobility device designed to operate in areas without defined pedestrian routes, but that is not a wheelchair within the meaning of this section. This definition does not apply to Federal Wilderness Areas; wheelchairs in such areas are defined in section 508(c)(2) of the ADA, 42 U.S.C. 12207(c)(2).

Over snow vehicle (OSV): A motor vehicle that is designed for use over snow and that runs on a track or tracks and/or a ski or skis, while in use over snow (*36 CFR 212*).

Patch: An area of vegetation, similar in structure and composition.

Perennial stream: A stream that typically has running water on a year-round basis.

Permit zone: Motorized vehicle users are required to obtain a permit to access the designated permit zone area which has locked gates and barriers restricting non-permitted motorized access. Cross-country travel is not allowed within the permit zone and vehicles are restricted to designated routes.

Pothunting: A form of vandalism against historic and prehistoric resources, where items are taken from a site.

Proposed action: A proposal made by the Forest Service to authorize, recommend, or implement an action to meet a specific purpose and need.

Protected activity centers (PACs): Designated areas that are afforded protection to specific species by restricting certain management activities. For example, Mexican spotted owl PACs protect owl habitat and breeding areas by restricting timber harvest.

Public involvement: The use of appropriate procedures to: inform the public, obtain early and continuing public participation, and consider the views of interested parties in planning and decision-making.

Public land: Land for which title and control rests with a government – Federal, state, regional, county, or municipal.

Public road: Roads under the jurisdiction of and maintained by a public authority that are open to public travel (*23 U.S.C 101(a)*).

Reasonably foreseeable actions: Those Federal or non-Federal activities not yet undertaken, for which there are existing decisions, funding, or identified proposals. Identified proposals for Forest Service actions are described in *220.4(a) (1) (36 CFR 220.3)*.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS): A land classification system which categorizes National Forest land into six classes, each class being defined by its setting and by the probable recreation experiences and activities it affords. The six classes in the spectrum are: primitive, semi-primitive non-motorized, semi-primitive motorized, roaded natural, rural, and urban as defined below from the Forest Plan:

Primitive (P): Area is characterized by essentially unmodified natural environment of fairly large size. Interaction between users is very low and evidence of other users is minimal. The area is managed to be essentially free from evidence of human-induced restrictions and control. Motorized use within the area is not permitted.

Semi-primitive non-motorized (SPNM): Area is characterized by a predominantly natural or natural-appearing environment of moderate-to large size. Interaction between users is low, but there is often evidence of other users. The area is managed in such a way that minimum on-site controls and restriction may be present, but are subtle. Motorized use is not permitted.

Semi-primitive motorized (SPM): Area is characterized by a predominantly natural or natural-appearing environment of moderate-to large size. Concentration of users is low, but there is often evidence of other users. The area is managed in such a way that minimum on-site controls and restriction may be present, but are subtle. Motorized use is permitted.

Roaded natural (RN): Area is characterized by predominantly natural- appearing environments with moderate evidences of sight and sounds of man. Such evidences usually harmonize with the natural environment. Interaction between users may be low to moderate, but with evidence of other users prevalent. Resource modification and utilization practices are evident, but harmonize with the natural environment. Conventional motorized use is provided for in construction standards and design of facilities.

Rural (R): Area is characterized by substantially modified natural environment. Resource modification and utilization practices are to enhance specific recreation activities and to maintain vegetative cover and soil. Sight and sounds of humans are readily evident, and the interaction between users is often moderate to high. A considerable number of facilities are designed for use by a large number of people. Facilities are often provided for special activities. Moderate densities are provided for away from developed sites. Facilities for intensified motorized use and parking are available.

Urban (U): Area is characterized by a substantially urbanized environment, although the background may have natural-appearing elements. Renewable resources modification and utilization practices are to enhance specific recreational activities. Vegetative cover is often exotic and manicured. Sights and sounds of humans, on-site, are predominant. Large numbers of users can be expected, both on-site and in nearby areas. Facilities for highly intensified motor use and parking are available, with forms of mass transit often available to carry people throughout the site.

Responsible official: The Agency employee who has the authority to make and implement a decision on a proposed action (*36 CFR 220.3*).

Riparian area: The area along a watercourse or around a lake or pond.

Riparian ecosystem: The ecosystem around or next to water areas that support unique vegetation and animal communities as a result of the influence of water.

Road: A motor vehicle route over 50 inches wide, unless identified and managed as a trail (*36 CFR 212*).

Road construction or reconstruction: Supervising, inspecting, actual building, and incurrence of all costs incidental to the construction or reconstruction of a road.

Road management objective (RMO): Documentation of the intended purpose of an NFS road based on management area direction and access management objectives; enumerating design, operation, and maintenance criteria and documenting traffic management strategies for each vehicle class and season of use, if applicable, on an NFS road. It also documents forest orders and permits associated with the road.

Route: A road or trail.

Scope: The range of actions, alternatives, and impacts to be considered in an environmental impact statement (*40 CFR 1508.25*).

Scoping: An early and open process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to a proposed action (*40 CFR 1501.7*).

Sensitive species: Plant or animal species which are susceptible to habitat changes or impacts from activities. The official designation is made by the U.S. Forest Service at the regional level and is not part of the designation of threatened or endangered species made by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Single track trails: Trail tread width is generally from 18 inches to 60 inches. Designated use can be for hiker, pedestrian, pack and saddle, bicycle, or motorcycle.

Snag: A standing dead tree. Snags are important as habitat for a variety of wildlife species and their prey.

Species: A class of individuals having common attributes and designated by a common name; a category of biological classification ranking immediately below the genus or subgenus; comprising related organisms or populations potentially capable of interbreeding.

Standards and guidelines (S&Gs): The primary instructions for land managers. Standards address mandatory actions, while guidelines are recommended actions necessary to a land management decision.

Suitability: The appropriateness of certain resource management to an area of land. Suitability can be determined by environmental and economic analysis of management practices.

Sustainability: The ability of an ecosystem to maintain ecological processes and functions, biological diversity, and productivity over time.

Sustainable: The yield of a natural resource that can be produced continually at a given intensity of management is said to be sustainable. Recreation activities are sustainable if the human activity does not reduce ecologic sustainability.

Taxa: The name applied to any one group or entity in the scientific classification system.

Temporary road of trail: A road or trail necessary for emergency operations or authorized by contract, permit, lease, or other written authorization that is not a forest road or trail and that is not included in a forest transportation atlas.

Threatened species: Those plant or animal species likely to become endangered throughout all or a specific portion of their range within the foreseeable future as designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the *Endangered Species Act of 1973*.

Traditional cultural property (TCP): Areas which have cultural significance or are sacred to a Native American Tribe or group. May include areas used for gathering traditional foodstuffs, archaeological sites, or sacred sites or areas.

Trail: A route 50 inches or less in width or a route over 50 inches wide that is identified and managed as a trail (*36 CFR 212*).

Travel management atlas: An atlas that consists of a forest transportation atlas and a motor vehicle use map or maps.

Unauthorized road, route, or trail: A road or trail that is not a forest road or trail or a temporary road or trail and that is not included in a forest transportation atlas.

Understory: The trees and woody shrubs growing beneath branches and foliage formed collectively by the upper portions of adjacent trees.

Utility terrain vehicle (UTV): A type of off-highway vehicle that travels on four or more low-pressure tires, has a steering wheel or tiller, provides side-by-side seating, and is of various widths (*FSH 2309.18, FSM 2353.05*).

Visual quality: The forest visual resources; terrain, geological features, or vegetation.

Visual resource management: The art and science of planning and administering the use of National Forest land in such ways that visual effects maintain or upgrade man's psychological welfare. The planning and design of visual aspects of multiple-use land management (Tonto National Forest Plan, p. 234-6).

Watershed: The entire region drained by a waterway, lake, or reservoir. More specifically, a watershed is an area of land above a given point on a stream that contributes water to the streamflows at that point.

Wetlands: Areas that are inundated by surface or ground water with a frequency sufficient to support (and that under normal circumstances do or would support) a prevalence of vegetation or aquatic life that requires saturated or seasonally saturated soil conditions for growth and reproduction.

Wild and Scenic Rivers: The National Wild and Scenic River System was created by Congress in 1968 (Public Law 90-542; 16 U.S.C. 1271 et seq.) to preserve certain rivers with outstanding natural, cultural and recreational values in a free-flowing condition for the enjoyment of present and future generations. Wild river areas are those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shoreline essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America. Scenic river areas are those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments, with shorelines or watershed still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by road.

Wilderness: Per the 1964 Wilderness Act, a wilderness is undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence without permanent improvements or human habitation. No motorized activities are permitted within Wilderness. Public Law 98-406 added additional Wilderness Areas within the Tonto National Forest to the Wilderness Preservation System in Arizona.

Wildland: An area in which development is essentially nonexistent, except for roads, railroads, powerlines, and similar transportation facilities.

Xeric: A soil moisture regime common to Mediterranean climates that have moist cool winters and warm dry summers. A limited amount of water is present, but does not occur at optimum periods for plant growth.