

Chapter 4. List of Preparers and Contributors

The Forest Service consulted the following individuals, Federal, State, and local agencies, tribes and other organization and individuals during the development of this environmental impact statement:

Interdisciplinary Team Members

Name	Responsibility	Qualifications
USDA Forest Service, Helena National Forest		
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Jason Gilbert, Supervisory Forestry Technician	Fire and Fuels	15 years of wildland firefighting experience
Pam Hergett, Engineer	Transportation	Bachelor of Science in Engineering; 26 years of experience in engineering and 1 year of experience in transportation planning
Beth Ihle, Geologist/Minerals Program Manager	Minerals	Bachelor of Science in Geology and a Master of Science in Earth Sciences; 25 years of experience
Tim Lahey, Planning Forester	Socioeconomics and Timber Management	Bachelor of Science in Forest Resource Management; 9 years of experience
Sharon Scott	Socioeconomics and Timber Management	
Rebecca McNamara	Hydrology	Bachelor of Science in Land Resources and Environmental Sciences- Soil and Water emphasis Master of Science in Land Resources and Environmental Sciences- Water Resources emphasis 3 years of experience
Mike Mullin, Natural Resource/Recreation Specialist	Recreation	Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science and Master of Science in Land Resources & Environmental Science; 11 years of experience
David Payne, Recreation Program Manager	Roadless Areas	Bachelor of Science in Resource Management; 34 years of experience
Arian Randall, Archeological Technician	Heritage Resources	Bachelor of Science in Anthropology; Master of Science Candidate in Land Resources and Environmental Science; 6 years of experience
Pat Shanley	Terrestrial Wildlife	
Ann Sullivan	Geographic Information Systems	18 years of experience

Name	Responsibility	Qualifications
USDA Forest Service, Helena National Forest		
Jaime Tompkins, NEPA Planner	NEPA Review	Bachelor of Science in Recreation Resource Management from the U of M School of Forestry; 23 years of experience
USDA Forest Service, TEAMS Enterprise Unit		
Matt Boisseau, Landscape Architect	Scenery	Bachelor of Science in Recreation and Master of Science in Landscape Architecture; 13 years of experience
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Janice Schultz	Writer-Editor	20 years of experience with the Forest Service in silviculture, recreation and public affairs, 12 years in NEPA documentation

Federal, State, and Local Agencies

- Broadwater County Commission
- Bonneville Power Administration
- Central Land Office
- Fort Belknap Community Council
- Helena Chamber of Commerce
- Lewis and Clark County
- Lewis and Clark, Board of County Commissioners
- Lincoln Chamber of Commerce
- Lincoln Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Meagher County Little Belters
- Montana Department of Environmental Quality
- Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation
- Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Montana Historical Society
Montana Independent Living Project
Montana State Historic Preservation Officer
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Powell County Commissioners
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USDA FS Rocky Mountain Regional Office
USDA Lewis and Clark NF
USDI Bureau of Land Management
USDI Fish and Wildlife Service

Tribes

Blackfeet Tribal Business Council
Blackfeet THPO
Chippewa Cree Tribe of Rocky Boy's
Chippewa Cree THPO
Little Shell Tribe of Chippewa
Crow THPO
Crow Tribal Council
Crow Preservation Director, Crow Agency
Fort Peck Tribal Executive Board
Fort Peck THPO
Nez Perce THPO
Nez Perce Tribe Executive Committee
Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council
Northern Cheyenne THPO
Salish & Kootenai Tribal Council
Francis Auld, Acting THPO, Tribal Preservation Department, Salish & Kootenai Tribe
Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
Wind River-Eastern Shoshone
Eastern Shoshone THPO
Northern Arapahoe Business Council
Northern Arapahoe THPO

Others

Ag in the Classroom
ATNA Resources/CR Montana
American Sportfishing Association
American Wildlands
Back Country Horsemen of Montana
Badger-Two Medicine Committee

Bitterroot Grizzly Motorcycle Alliance
Blue Ribbon Coalition
Boone and Crockett Club
Capital Trail Vehicle Association
Citizens for Balanced Youth
Congressional Sportsman's Foundation
Continental Divide Trail Alliance
Continental Divide Trail Society
Capital Trail Vehicle Association/ Montana Vehicle Riders Association /National Off-Highway
Vehicle Conservation Council
CU Task Force
Defenders of Wildlife
Earth Justice
Friends of the West
Friends of the Wild Swan
Foundation for North American Wild Sheep
Great Divide Cycling Club
Great Falls Trail Bike Riders Association
Helena Climbing Association
Helena Hunters and Anglers Association
Helena Snowdrifters
Helena Trail Riders
International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Keystone Conservation
Last Chance Audubon Society
Last Change Back Country Horseman
Montana Environmental Info Center
Montana Land Reliance
Montana Mountain Bike Alliance
Montana Multiple Use Association
Montana Snowmobile Association
Montana Trappers Association
Montana Vehicle Riders Association
Montana Wilderness Association
Montana Wilderness Society
Montana Wool Growers Association
National Rifle Association
National Shooting Sports Foundation
National Wild Turkey Federation
Native Ecosystems Council
PLWA

Ponderosa Snow Warriors
Prickly Pear Land Trust
Prickly Pear Sportsman's Association
Public Lands Foundation
Recreational Boating and Fishing
Roberts Racing
Russell Country Sportsman's Association
SCI – First for Hunters
Spokane 4 Wheelers
Southwest Montana Wildlands Alliance
The Wilderness Society
Theodore Roosevelt Conservation
Tri County Fire Working Group
Trout Unlimited
United Four Wheel Drive Association
Western Montana RAC
Wild Divide Chapter of MWA
Wildlands CPR
Winter Wildlands Alliance

Distribution of the Environmental Impact Statement

This environmental impact statement has been distributed to individuals who specifically requested a copy of the document, those who commented during the 2012 scoping periods and other applicable agencies and organizations. In addition, copies have been sent to the following Federal agencies, federally recognized tribes, State and local governments, and organizations representing a wide range of views.

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Glossary

Access: Usually refers to a road or trail route over which a public agency claims a right-of-way available for public use.

Activity: A measure, course of action, or treatment that is undertaken to directly or indirectly produce, enhance, or maintain forest and range land outputs or achieve administrative or environmental quality objectives.

Administrative Boundary: Includes Helena National Forest System lands and all other land ownerships within the Forest boundary as defined on the Forest Visitor map (see project file)

Affected Environment: The biological, physical and human environment that may be changed by the proposed activities.

All-terrain Vehicle (ATV): A type of off-highway vehicle that travels on three or more low-pressure tires; has handle-bar steering; is less than or equal to 50 inches in width; and has a seat designed to be straddled by the operator (FSH 2309.1805).

Alternative: One of several policies, plans, or projects proposed for decisionmaking.

Anadromous Fish: Fish, such as salmon, that spend much of their adult life in the ocean, returning to inland waters to spawn.

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

Arterial Road: A National Forest System (NFS) road that provides service to large land areas and usually connects with other arterial roads or public highways. These roads are generally maintenance level 4 or 5.

Best Management Practices (BMPs): The set of standards in the Forest Plan which, when applied during implementation of a project, ensures that water related beneficial uses are protected and that State water quality standards are met. BMPs can take several forms. Some are defined by State regulation or memoranda of understanding between the Forest Service and the States. Others are defined by the Forest interdisciplinary planning team for application Forestwide. Both of these kinds of BMPs are included in the Forest Plan as forestwide standards. A third kind is identified by the interdisciplinary team for application to specific management areas. A fourth kind, project-level BMPs, is based on site-specific evaluation, and represents the most effective and practicable means of accomplishing the water quality and other goals of the specific area involved in the project. These project-level BMPs can either supplement or replace the Forest Plan standards for specific projects.

Big Game: Those species of large mammals normally managed as a sport hunting resource.

Big Game Summer Range: Land used by big game during the summer months.

Big Game Winter Range: The area available to and used by big game through the winter season.

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

Capability: The potential of an area of land and/or water to produce resources, supply goods and services, and allow resource uses under a specified set of management practices and at a given level of management intensity. Capability depends upon current conditions and site conditions such as climate, slope, landform, practices such as silviculture, or protection from fires, insects, and disease.

Cavity: A hollow in a tree that is used by birds or mammals for roosting and reproduction.

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ): An advisory council to the President established by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. It reviews Federal programs for their effect on the environment, conducts environmental studies, and advises the President on environmental matters.

Channel Morphology: The channel pattern and geometry at several points along a river channel, including the network of tributaries within the drainage basin. Also known as fluviomorphology; stream morphology.

Closed Roads: Roads developed and operated for limited use. Public vehicular traffic is restricted except when they are operating under a permit or contract or in an emergency.

Closure Order: The administrative order that does not allow specified uses in designated areas or on Forest development roads or trails.

Collector Road: A NFS road that serves smaller areas than an arterial road and that usually connects arterial roads to local roads or terminal facilities; provides service to smaller land areas than an arterial road. These roads are generally maintenance level 3, but can be level 2 or 4.

Comprehensive Environmental Cleanup and Responsibility Act (CECRA): In Montana, this Act requires investigation and cleanup of hazardous substances at sites not addressed by federal Superfund. According to the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, historical waste disposal activities at these sites caused contamination of air, surface water, groundwater, sediments, and/or soils with hazardous or deleterious substances. Under CECRA in Montana, sites are ranked based on potential risks to human health and the environment. The Comprehensive Environmental Cleanup and Responsibility Act (CECRA) defines "Facility" as all areas where a hazardous or deleterious substance has been deposited, stored, disposed of, placed, or otherwise come to be located (§75-10-701(4), MCA). The act is contained in §§ 75-10-705 through 729, MCA.

Corridor: A linear strip of land identified for the present or future location of transportation or utility rights-of-way within its borders.

Cost: The negative or adverse effects or expenditures resulting from an action. Costs may be monetary, social, physical, or environmental in nature.

Cover: Vegetation used by wildlife for protection from predators, or to protect themselves from weather conditions, or in which to reproduce.

Critical Habitat: Specific areas within the geographic area occupied by a species on which are found those physical and biological features (1) essential to the conservation of the species and (2) which may require special management considerations or protection. Critical habitat does not include the entire geographic area which may be occupied by a threatened or endangered species.

Cultural Resources: The physical remains of human activities, such as artifacts, ruins, burial mounds, petroglyphs, etc., and the conceptual content or context, such as a setting for legendary, historic, or prehistoric events as a sacred area of native peoples, etc., of an area.

Cumulative Effect: The impact on the environment that results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other actions. Cumulative impacts can also result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

Decommission: Decommissioning a road means physically deconstructing it and/or administratively removing it from the Forest transportation system. It can be accomplished with actual on-the-ground road work, or it can be accomplished with just an administrative change to the road's status on the transportation system. On-the-ground road work may entail one or more of the following to prevent future failures and erosion hazards: full or partial recontouring of the road prism, ripping or subsoiling the road surface, removing culverts and recontouring stream crossings, and planting and seeding, mulching, or slashing disturbed areas. If no hydrologic problems or risks of mass failure are present, and/or the road is grown in to the point that use is not possible, decommissioning may entail barricading the road to restrict motorized access and removing its status as a classified road from the transportation system. In some cases, a barrier may not even be necessary.

Designated Road, Trail or Area: A National Forest System (NFS) road, a NFS trail, or an area on NFS lands that is designated for motor vehicle use pursuant to 36 CFR §212.51 on a motor vehicle use map (36 CFR 212.1).

Desired Future Condition (DFC): Desired Future Condition; a desired condition of the land to be achieved sometime in the future.

Developed Recreation: Recreation that occurs where improvements enhance recreation opportunities and accommodate intensive recreation activities in a defined area.

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

Dispersed Recreation: That portion of outdoor recreation use that occurs outside of developed sites in the unroaded and roaded Forest environment; i.e., hunting, backpacking, and berry picking.

Disturbance: Any management activity that has the potential to accelerate erosion or mass movement; also any other activity that may tend to disrupt the normal movement or habits of a particular wildlife species. At the landscape scale, a disturbance would be a

force, such as wildfire, disease, or large-scale vegetation management, which can significantly alter existing ecosystem conditions.

Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS): A draft version of an environmental impact statement prepared for public review and comment, prior to development of a final environmental impact statement. See Environmental Impact Statement.

Economic Efficiency: The usefulness of inputs (costs) to produce outputs (benefits) and effects when all costs and benefits that can be identified and valued are included in the computations. Economic efficiency is usually measured using present net value, though use of benefit cost ratios and rates of return may sometimes be appropriate.

Ecosystem: A complete, interacting system of organisms considered together with their environment; a marsh, watershed, or lake, for example.

Effects (or Impacts): Physical, biological, social, and economic results (expected or experienced) resulting from natural events or management activities. Effects can be direct, indirect, and/or cumulative.

Elk Habitat Effectiveness: The measure of how open roads affect utilization of habitat by elk.

Elk Hiding Cover: Vegetation, primarily trees, capable of hiding 90 percent of an elk seen from a distance of 200 feet or less.

Elk Security Area: An area elk retreat to for safety when disturbance in their usual range is intensified, such as by logging activities or during the hunting season. To qualify as a security area, there must be at least 250 contiguous acres that are more than 0.50 mile from open roads.

Endangered Species: Any species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range, and listed as such by the Secretary of the Interior in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

Endemic: Term applied to populations of potentially injurious plants, animals, or viruses that are at their normal, balanced, level, in an ecosystem in contrast to epidemic levels. Plant and animal diseases that are prevalent in or peculiar to a certain locality.

Environmental Analysis: An analysis of alternative actions and their predictable short- and long-term environmental effects, which include physical, biological, economic, social, and environmental design factors and their interactions.

Environmental Assessment: A concise public document for which a Federal agency is responsible that serves to: (1) briefly provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement or a Finding of No Significant Impact; (2) aid an agency's compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act when no Environmental Impact Statement is necessary; and (3) facilitate preparation of an environmental impact statement when one is necessary.

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS): A document required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for certain actions "significantly affecting the quality of the human environment." An EIS is a tool for decisionmaking. It describes the positive and negative

environmental effects of a proposed action, and it usually also lists one or more alternative actions that may be chosen instead of the action described in the EIS.

Ephemeral Stream: Streams that flow only as a direct response to rainfall or snowmelt events; they have no base flow.

Erosion: The wearing away of the land's surface by water, wind, ice, or other physical processes. It includes detachment, transport, and deposition of soil or rock fragments.

Essential Habitat: Areas with essentially the same characteristics as critical habitat but not declared as such. These habitats are necessary to meet recovery objectives for endangered, threatened, and proposed species.

Final Environmental Impact Statement (Final EIS): The final version of the public document required by the National Environmental Policy Act (see Environmental Impact Statement).

Floodplain: Lowland and relatively flat areas joining streams, rivers, and lakes, which are periodically inundated by overbank flows of water.

Forage: All browse and nonwoody plants available to livestock or wildlife for feed.

Foreground (Visual Distance Zone): A term used in visual management to describe the area immediately adjacent to the observer, usually within 1/4 to 1/2 mile.

Forest Plan: Also referred to as land and resource management plans, forest plans are guidance documents for units of the National Forest System under the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-378) and the National Forest Management Act (P.L. 94-588). The Acts specify a detailed process and numerous requirements, including public participation and periodic revision, intended to achieve multiple use and sustained yield of the national forests.

Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974: An act of Congress that requires the assessment of the nation's renewable resources and the periodic development of a national renewable resources program. It also requires the development, maintenance and, as appropriate, revision of land and resource management plans for National Forests.

Forest Road or Trail: A road or trail wholly or partly within or adjacent to and serving the NFS that the Forest Service determines is necessary for the protection, administration, and utilization of the NFS and the use and development of its resources (36 CFR 212.1).

Forest Transportation System: The system of NFS roads, NFS trails, and airfields on NFS lands (36 CFR 212.1).

Forest Transportation System Management: Travel planning, analysis, designation of roads, trails and areas for motor vehicle use, recordkeeping, scheduling, construction, reconstruction, maintenance, decommissioning, and other operations undertaken to achieve environmentally sound, safe, and cost-effective access for the use, enjoyment, protection, administration, and management of NFS lands.

Fuels: Includes both living plants and dead, woody vegetation that are capable of burning.

Fuels Management: Manipulation or reduction of fuels to meet Forest protection and management objectives while preserving and enhancing environmental quality.

Geographic Information System (GIS): A computer program for manipulating landscape configuration data.

Habitat: A place where a plant or animal naturally or normally lives and grows.

Habitat Type: An aggregation of all land areas potentially capable of producing similar plant communities at climax.

Hiding Cover: Trees of sufficient size and density to conceal animals from view at 200 feet. See Cover.

Highway-legal Vehicle: Any motor vehicle that is licensed or certified under State law for general operation on all public roads in the State (FSM 7705). Operators of highway-legal vehicles are subject to state traffic law, including requirements for operator licensing.

Hydrologic Recovery: The process of revegetation of a disturbed area which returns the site to predisturbance levels of water runoff and timing of flow.

Indicator Species: Species identified 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. See Management Indicator Species.

Indigenous: Having originated in and being produced, growing, living, or occurring naturally in a particular region or environment.

Indirect Effects: Indirect effects are caused by the action and occur later in time or further removed in distance, but are still reasonably foreseeable.

INFRA (Infrastructure Database): The database of record for Forest Service roads and trails.

Interdisciplinary Team (ID Team): A group of individuals with different training assembled to solve a problem or perform a task. The team is assembled out of recognition that no one scientific discipline is sufficiently broad to adequately solve the problem. Through interaction, participants bring different points of view to bear on the problem.

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

Invasive Species: Any nonnative plant, which when established, is or may become destructive and difficult to control by ordinary means of cultivation or other control practices.

Inventoried Roadless Area: An area that is larger than 5,000 acres, or if smaller than 5,000 acres, contiguous to a designated wilderness or primitive area; meets the minimum criteria for wilderness consideration under the Wilderness Act; and has been inventoried for possible inclusion to the wilderness preservation system.

Irretrievable: Foregone or lost production, harvest, or use of renewable natural resources. For example, when fire destroys a tree plantation, the effect is irretrievable but the loss of site productivity as measured by the presence of trees is not irreversible.

Irreversible: The removal of resources such that they cannot be produced gain. This applies most commonly to nonrenewable resources such as minerals or cultural resources, or to resources such as soil productivity that are renewable only over long periods of time. Loss of renewable resources can also be irreversible as in the replacement of a forest with a road.

Issue: A subject or question of widespread public discussion or interest regarding management of National Forest System lands.

Local Road: A NFS road that connects a terminal facility with collector roads, arterial roads, or public highways and that usually serves a single purpose involving intermittent use. These roads are usually maintenance level 1 or 2.

Long-term Effects: Those effects which generally occur after the maximum 15 year life of the Forest Plan.

Maintenance Level: Maintenance levels define the level of service provided by, and maintenance required for, a specific road.

Maintenance Level 1: 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 resources 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.

Maintenance Level 2: 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.

Maintenance Level 3: Roads open and maintained for travel by prudent drivers in a standard passenger car. User comfort and convenience are low 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.

Maintenance Level 4: 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.

Maintenance Level 5: Roads that provide a high degree of user comfort and convenience. These roads are normally double-lane, paved facilities. Some may be aggregate surfaced and dust abated.

Management Area: An aggregation of capability areas that have common management direction and may be noncontiguous in the forest. Consists of a grouping of capability areas selected through evaluation procedures and used to locate decisions and resolve issues and concerns.

Middleground (Visual Distance Zone): That part of the seen landscape that extends from 1/4 to 1/2 mile, to 3 to 5 miles, from the observer.

Mitigation: Avoiding or 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 by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action.

Management Indicator Species: A plant or animal that, by its presence in a certain location or situation, indicates the habitat conditions for many other species.

Modification: A visual quality objective in which management activities may visually dominate, but harmonize with, the original characteristics landscape. Under maximum modification, human activity may dominate the characteristic landscape, but should appear as a natural occurrence when viewed as background.

Monitoring: An examination, on a sample basis of Forest Plan management practices, to determine how well objectives have been met and a determination of the effects of those management practices on the land and environment.

Motor Vehicle: Any vehicle that is self-propelled, other than:

(1) A vehicle operated on rails; and

(2) Any wheelchair or mobility device, including one that is battery-powered, 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 212.1).

Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM): A map reflecting designated roads, trails, and areas on an administrative unit or a ranger district of the National Forest System (36 CFR 212.1). The MVUM clearly identifies roads and trails and their designated motorized uses for forest visitors.

Motorcycle: A two-wheeled motor vehicle on which the two wheels are not side-by-side but in line.

Motorized Mixed Use: Designation of a National Forest System road for use by both highway-legal and non-highway-legal motor vehicles (FSM 7705).

National Environmental Policy Act; NEPA Process: National Environmental Policy Act. An act to declare a national policy that will encourage productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment, to promote efforts that will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and 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. An interdisciplinary process, mandated by the National Environmental Policy Act, which concentrates decisionmaking around issues, concerns, alternatives, and the effects of alternatives on the environment.

National Forest Management Act: A law passed in 1976 as amendments to the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act that require the preparation of Regional and Forest plans and the preparation of regulations to guide that development.

National Forest System (NFS): All National Forest lands reserved or withdrawn from the public domains 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 part of the system.

National Forest System Road: A forest road other than a road which has been authorized by a legally documented right-of-way held by a state, county, or local public road authority (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 local public road authority (36 CFR 212.1).

National Recreation Trails: Trails designated by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture as part of the national system of trails authorized by the National Trails System Act. National recreation trails provide a variety of outdoor recreation uses in or reasonably accessible to urban areas.

National Register of Historic Places: A listing maintained by the National Park Service of areas that have been designated as being of historical value. The Register includes places of local and State significance as well as those of value to the nation as a whole.

Native Surface Road: A road whose surface is composed of soil, rock or other naturally occurring materials found on or near the road (FSH 2309.18.05(a)(1)).

Natural Sediment Production: The amount of sediment produced in a watershed prior to any management activities such as roads or harvest. Natural, or baseline, sediment is a function of parent material, soil type, degree of weathering, glacial influences, etc.

No-Action Alternative: An alternative where no management activities would occur beyond those currently underway. The development of a no-action alternative is requested by regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR 1502.14). The no-action alternative provides a baseline for estimating the effects of other alternatives.

Non-Highway-Legal Vehicle: Any motor vehicle that is not licensed or certified under state law for general operation on all public roads within the state. Operators of non-highway-legal vehicles are subject to state requirements, if any, for licensing and operation of the vehicle in question.

Non-Motorized Area: Any area of National Forest not designated for motor vehicle use and beyond the specified distance from certain designated routes for motor vehicle access to dispersed camp sites (adapted from 36 CFR 212.51(b))

Objective: A specified statement of measurable results to be achieved within a stated time period. Objectives reflect alternative mixes of all outputs of achievements which can be attained at a given budget level. Objectives may be expressed as a range of outputs.

Off-Highway Vehicle: 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 212.1). Includes 4 wheel drive trucks, ATVs, UTVs, and over-snow vehicles

Operator: Any person who is in physical control of a motorbike, all-terrain vehicle, or over-snow vehicle.

Off-Road Vehicle; ORV: Please see Off-highway Vehicle.

Outfitters and Guides: An outfitter is an individual or legal entity that is licensed by the appropriate state as an outfitter. Outfitting includes the provision of equipment, supplies, livestock, and materials. Guiding includes the provision of assistance such as supervision, protection, education, training, transportation, interpretation, and guiding services. It includes such personal services as leading, teaching, cooking, packing, or otherwise assisting recreationists in their pursuit of a natural resource based outdoor recreation experience.

Owner: Every person holding record title to a motorbike, all-terrain vehicle, or over-snow vehicle and entitled to the use or possession thereof, other than a lienholder or other person having a security interest only.

Perennial Stream: A stream that normally flows throughout the year.

Prescription: Management practices selected and scheduled for application on a designated area to attain specific goals and objectives.

Primitive: Very high probability of experiencing solitude, freedom, closeness to nature, tranquility, self-reliance, challenge, and risk. An unmodified and natural environment prevails, with low interaction between users. Restrictions and controls are not evident after entry into the area, and access and travel is non-motorized. There is no evidence of vegetation alteration.

Private Road: A road under private ownership authorized by an easement granted to a private party or a road that provides access pursuant to a reserved or outstanding right.

Productivity: See Site Productivity

Proposed Action: In terms of the National Environmental Policy Act, the project, activity, or action that a Federal agency intends to implement or undertake and which is the subject of an environmental analysis.

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

Public Access: Usually refers to a road or trail route over which a public agency claims a right-of-way available for public use.

Public Involvement: A Forest Service process designed to broaden the information based upon which agency decisions are made by (1) informing the public about Forest Service activities, plans, and decisions, and (2) encouraging public understanding about and participation in the planning processes that lead to final decisionmaking.

Public Roadway: All portions of any highway that are controlled by an authority other than the Idaho Transportation Department.

Range Allotment: A designated area of land available for livestock grazing upon which a specified number and kind of livestock may be grazed under a range allotment management plan. It is the basic land unit used to facilitate management of the range resource on National Forest System and associated lands administered by the Forest Service.

Ranger District: Administrative subdivision of a national forest supervised by a district ranger.

Record of Decision: A document separate from but associated with an environmental impact statement that publicly and officially discloses the responsible official's decision about an alternative assessed in the environmental impact statement chosen for implementation.

Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS): The framework for stratifying and defining classes of outdoor recreation environments, activities, and experiences, which are arranged along a continuum or spectrum that is divided into seven classes: primitive, semiprimitive nonmotorized, semiprimitive motorized, roaded modified, roaded natural, rural, and urban.

Recreation Visitor Day: Recreational use of National Forest developed sites or general forest areas that equals 12 visitor hours. A Recreation Visitor Day (RVD) may consist of 1 person for 12 hours, 12 persons for 1 hour, or any equivalent combination of continuous or intermittent recreation use by individuals or groups. One person in a campground for 24 hours equals two RVDs.

Regional Guide: A document developed to meet the requirements of the Forest and Rangeland Renewable Resources Planning Act of 1974 (RPA), as amended, that guides all natural resource management activities and established management standards and guidelines for National Forest System lands of a given Region to the national forest within a given Forest Service region. It also disaggregates the RPA objectives assigned to the region to the Forests within that Region.

Revegetation: The reestablishment and development of plant cover. This may take place naturally through the reproductive processes of the existing flora or artificially through the direct action of man, such as reforestation or range reseeding.

Right-of-Way: Land authorized to be used or occupied for the construction operation, maintenance, and termination of a project facility passing over, upon, under, or through such land.

Riparian Areas: Areas with distinctive resource values and characteristics that are comprised of aquatic and riparian ecosystems, 100-year floodplains and wetlands. They also include all upland areas within a horizontal distance of approximately 100 feet from the edge of perennial streams or other perennial waterbodies.

Road: A motor vehicle route over 50 inches wide, unless identified and managed as a trail (36 CFR 212.1).

Road Decommissioning: Activities that result in restoration of unneeded roads to a more natural state (FSM 7734).

Road Maintenance: Ongoing upkeep of a road necessary to maintain or restore the road in accordance with its road management objectives (FSM 7714).

Road Management: The combination of both traffic and maintenance management operations. Traffic management is the continuous process of analyzing, controlling, and regulating uses to accomplish National Forest objectives. Maintenance management is the perpetuation of the transportation facility to serve intended management objectives.

Roaded Natural (ROS class): The opportunity to affiliate with other users in developed sites is available with some chance for privacy. Self-reliance on outdoor skills is only moderately important, and there is little challenge or risk. The area is a mostly natural-appearing environment as viewed from sensitive roads and trails. Interaction between users at campsites is of moderate importance. There are some obvious on-site controls of users, access and travel is conventional motorized including sedans and trailers, recreational vehicles, and some motor homes. Vegetation alterations are done to maintain desired visual and recreation characteristics.

Route: A road or trail (FSM 7705)

Rural: (ROS class): These areas are characterized by recreation sites that can be used by large numbers of people at one time. High quality and quantity recreation use characterize these areas. While natural conditions usually do not dominate the activity centers, scenic values are often a critical element of the landscape as seen from the middleground and background from such areas. Facilities are designed for user comfort to accommodate large groups, and are surrounded by highly intense motorized use and organized parking. Generally, transportation routes consisting of State and Forest Service paved routes are the primary means of recreational user access within the area. Trails may be surfaced in areas of concentrated use. There may be areas, trails or roads within this ROS class where motorized use is prohibited or restricted to enhance recreation experiences or to protect public safety or resources

Scoping: The procedures by which the Forest Service determines the extent of analysis necessary for a proposed action, such as 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, data, and task assignments needed.

Security Area: Any area that, because of its geography, topography, and/or vegetation, will hold elk during periods of stress. For this project, a security area is defined as a block of dense forested cover at least 250 acres in size and located at least 0.50 mile from roads open to motorized traffic during the general hunting season.

Sediment: Any material, carried in suspension by water, which will ultimately settle to the bottom of streams.

Semiprimitive Motorized (ROS class): There is a moderate opportunity for solitude, tranquility, and closeness to nature. There is a high degree of self-reliance, challenge, and risk in using motorized equipment. The area is predominantly natural-appearing, and there is a low concentration of users, but often evidence of other users on the trails. There are minimum site controls, and restrictions are present but subtle. Vegetation alterations are very small in size and number widely dispersed and not obvious.

Semiprimitive Nonmotorized (ROS class): There is a high quality of experiencing solitude, closeness to nature, tranquility, self-reliance, challenge, and risk. It is a natural-appearing environment with low interaction between users. There are a minimum of on-site controls, and access and travel are nonmotorized. Vegetation alterations are widely dispersed and not obvious.

Sensitive Species: Plant or animal species designated by the regional forester of the Forest Service, for which viability is a concern.

Site Productivity: The production capability of specific areas of land.

Soil Productivity: The capacity of a soil to produce a specific crop such as fiber and forage, under defined levels of management. It is generally dependent on available soil moisture and nutrients and length of growing season.

Standard: An objective requiring a specific level of attainment; a rule to measure against; a guiding principle.

System Road; Forest System Road: A road that is 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.

Temporary Road or 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 a forest trail and that is not included in a forest transportation atlas (36 CFR 212.1)

Thermal Cover: Cover used by animals to ameliorate effects of weather; for elk, a stand of coniferous trees 40 feet or taller with an average crown closure of 70 percent or more.

Threatened Species: Any species that is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all of a significant portion of its range and one that has been designated as a threatened species in the Federal Register by the Secretary of the Interior.

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL): The Montana Water Quality Act requires the Department of Environmental Quality to develop Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for streams and lakes that do not meet, or are not expected to meet, Montana Water Quality Standards. A TMDL is the maximum amount of a pollutant a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards. The goal of TMDLs is to eventually attain and maintain water quality standards in all of Montana's streams and lakes, and to improve water quality to levels that support all state-designated beneficial water uses.

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 212.1).

Trailhead: The parking, signing, and other facilities available at terminus of a trail.

Unauthorized Routes: A road or trail that is not a forest road or trail or a temporary road or trail and is not included in a forest transportation atlas (36 CFR 212.1). This includes user-created routes.

User-created Routes: Any route currently not managed as a component of the forest transportation system. These include off-road vehicle tracks that have not been designated and managed as a trail. They also include travelways abandoned from the forest transportation system, which still exist on the ground and continue to receive use by the public. For this project, user-created route and unauthorized route are used interchangeably.

Visual Quality Objectives (VQOs): The degree of acceptable alteration of the characteristic landscape. VQOs provide direction for visual resources to determine the level of acceptable change for the landscape and are established in the Forest Plan. VQOs are used to determine if alternatives meet Forest Plan standards and guidelines by comparing the degree of alterations from an otherwise natural-appearing forest landscape. The Helena National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan and Agriculture Handbook Number 462 provide definitions for the VQOs used for the visual management of lands administered by the Lincoln Ranger District.

Visual Resource: The composite of basic terrain, geologic features, water features, vegetative patterns, and land use effects that typify a land unit and influence the visual appeal the unit may have for visitors.

Watershed: The total area above a given point on a stream that contributes water to the flow at that point.

Wilderness Character: Wilderness character attributes are: natural integrity, apparent naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude, and opportunities for primitive, unconfined recreation. These features were evaluated using capability analyses as conducted in 1978 using the Wilderness Attribute Rating (WAR) System and in 2005 using the Area Capability Assessment (ACA) Process. These analysis techniques rate wilderness character attributes as identified by the 1964 Wilderness Act.