Appendix C - GLOSSARY

- *CFR = Code of Federal Regulations*
- *FSM = Forest Service Manual*
- *LCAS = Canada Lynx Conservation Assessment Strategy, January 2000*
- *NIFC = National Interagency Fire Center. 1998. Wildland and Prescribed Fire Management Policy- Implementation Procedures Reference Guide, National Wildfire Coordinating Group, Boise ID*
- *NWCG = National Wildfire Coordinating Group. 1996. Glossary of Wildland Fire Terminology, National Wildfire Coordinating Group, Boise ID*

Active Crown Fire: A **crown fire** in which the entire **fuel complex** becomes involved, but the crowning phase remains dependent on heat released from the **surface fuels** for continued spread. Also called **running** and **continuous crown fire**.

ANILCA: Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, Act of December 2, 1980, which provides statutory entitlement to non-federally, owned land within the boundaries of the National Forest System.

Appropriate Management Response: Specific actions taken in response to a wildland fire to implement protection and fire use objectives.

Areas of Consistent Snow Compaction: An area of land or water generally with consistent winter snow cover which receives enough use to compact the snow to the extent that individual tracks are indistinguishable; where the compacted snow is visually evident most of the time, except immediately after a snowfall (within 48 hours). The cause of the snow compaction can be by snowmobiling, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, sledding, ice fishing, dog sledding, the staging area for events, or by any other activity which compacts the snow over a large area. These "areas" are generally found in association with both designated winter routes and trails and undesignated winter routes, typically in adjacent openings, parks and nearby meadows; snowmobile "play areas", "Telemark" hills near ski huts, or near plowed roads or winter parking sites. Sledding/snow play areas in close proximity to plowed roads are examples of such areas. A regularly used helicopter landing site for heli-skiing, the area at the end of a" snow road" used by a snowcat tour, and small lakes with significant ice fishing use and little wind scour, may also meet the definition as an area of concentrated use resulting in snow compaction. The determination of areas of consistent snow compaction will be based on the maximum area or miles used in 1998, 1999, or 2000.

Available fuel: The total mass of ground, surface and canopy fuel per unit area consumed by a fire, including fuels consumed in postfrontal combustion of duff, organic soils, and large woody fuels.

Baseline Areas: Areas of consistent snow compaction that were identified/mapped on each Forest in the Southern Rockies based on routes and areas that were authorized, promoted or encouraged in 1998,1999 and 2000 (See "Areas of Consistent Snow Compaction").

Broad-scale Assessment: A synthesis of current scientific knowledge, including a description of uncertainties and assumptions, to provide an understanding of past and present conditions and future trends, and a characterization of ecological, social and economic components within an area (Lynx Conservation Assessment and Strategy (LCAS). A broadscale assessment should be based on a 4th code hydrologic unit code (HUC) (500,000 to 1,500,000 acres) or an ecological unit of similar size. The assessment should include information on age classes, communities and general vegetative conditions, define a time period of analysis in relation to range of disturbance regimes, clearly define all categories of structural stages as they relate to suitable and unsuitable lynx habitat; frame specific questions to be answered; use charts as an approach to describing the current situation; use more than one data source to validate results; and list assumptions. There should be a peer review of the assessment. (Lynx Biology Team Meeting Notes, June 19, 2002)

Canopy base height: The lowest height above the ground at which there is a sufficient amount of **canopy fuel** to propagate fire vertically into the canopy. Canopy base height is an effective value that incorporates ladder fuels such as shrubs and understory trees. See also **fuel strata gap** and **crown base height**.

Canopy bulk density: The mass of **available canopy fuel** per unit canopy volume. It is a bulk property of a stand, not an individual tree.

Canopy fuels: The live and dead foliage, live and dead branches, and lichen of trees and tall shrubs that lie above the **surface fuels**. See also **available canopy fuel**.

Carr: Deciduous woodland or shrub land occurring on permanently wet, organic soil. (Dictionary of Forestry and LCAS)

Catastrophic: A violent or sudden change in a feature of the earth.

Classified Road: See **National Forest System Road**.

Coarse Woody Debris: Any piece(s) of dead woody material, e.g., dead boles, limbs, and large root masses on the ground or in streams. (Dictionary of Forestry and LCAS)

Community: A unified body of individuals; people with common interests living in a particular area; a group linked by common policy.

Continuous Crown Fire: See **Active Crown Fire**.

Crown Base Height: The vertical distance from the ground to the bottom of the live crown of an individual tree. See also **canopy base height**.

Crown Bulk Density: The mass of available fuel per unit crown volume. Property of an individual tree, not a whole stand. See also **canopy bulk density.**

Crown Fire: Any fire that burns in **canopy fuels**.

Crown Fire Hazard: A physical situation (fuels, weather, and topography) with potential for causing harm or damage as a result of crown fire.

Crowning Index: The open (6.1:m/ 20 ft) wind speed at which **active crown fire** is possible for the specified **fire environment**.

Daylight Thinning: A vegetation treatment that removes trees within a certain radius around shade-intolerant species, i.e. western larch, quaking aspen, and ponderosa pine.

Decommissioned: See **Road Decommissioning.**

Defensible Fuels Profile(s): Strategically located strips or blocks of land where forest canopy and fuels, both living and dead, have been modified to affect fire behavior. The objectives may include reducing the potential for large and damaging fires, increase firefighter safety, reduce the wildland fire threat to local communities by reducing fuels adjacent to the communities, and to facilitate fire use (prescribed and wildland fire use). The strategically placed treatments (strips or blocks) have less surface fuels and the bases of the live tree crowns are higher off the ground. The reduced surface fuels, open understory, and higher overstory tree crowns interrupt the pathway between a surface and the forest canopy. Fires burn at lower intensities and at slower rates of spread than comparable untreated areas. The amount, intensity and type of treatments are influenced by the fuels conditions and values at risk.

Defensible Space: Area around a structure or other improvement where fuels and vegetation are treated, cleared, or reduced to slow the spread of wildfire towards the structure. Defensible Space also reduces the chance of a structure fire moving from the building to the surrounding forest. Creating an effective defensible space involves developing a series of management zones in which different treatment techniques are used. The actual design and development of defensible space depends on several factors: size and shape of buildings, materials used in their construction, the slope of the ground on which the structures are built, surrounding topography, and sizes and types of vegetation on the property. (Colorado State Forest Service)

Denning Habitat: See **Lynx Denning Habitat.**

Designated Over-the-Snow Routes: A route or trail (linear travel way) that is managed by the USDA Forest Service, by any agency or organization under agreement with the Forest Service, or by a special use permittee, and is usually identifiable to the visitor as a result of on-the-ground markings such as blue or orange diamonds, bamboo wands, blazes, or difficulty markers, or is shown on a public map (other than travel maps), brochures, recreation opportunity guides, or electronic media produced by or approved by the Forest Service. If a trail otherwise meets this criteria, but is not entered into the Forest Service trail inventory as a System trail, it is still a designated trail for the purpose of the LCAS. All trails that are groomed under an agreement, special use permit, or by force account, are also "designated" trails. "Snow roads," maintained by permitted snowcat tour operators are groomed winter routes. The determination of baseline snow compaction routes will be based on the maximum miles of groomed and designated over-the-snow routes that were authorized, promoted or encouraged in 1998, 1999, or 2000.

Designated Route: A road or trail that has been identified by a Forest Service decision as open for specified travel use.

Developed Recreation: Recreational uses that are dependent upon facilities and therefore occur in concentrated use areas. Examples include campgrounds and ski areas. Facilities in these areas might include roads, parking lots, picnic tables, drinking water, toilets, ski lifts, and buildings. (LCAS)

Dispersed Recreation: Those outdoor recreation activities in forest, range, or desert environments that normally take place outside of developed sites or areas that support concentrated recreational use. Dispersed recreation activities may require facilities for safeguarding visitors, protecting resources, and enhancing the quality of the visitor experience. (LCAS)

Disturbance: Events that alter the structure, composition, or function of terrestrial or aquatic habitats. Natural disturbances include drought, floods, wind, wildfires, wildlife grazing, and insects and pathogens. Human caused disturbances include actions that alter vegetation such as timber harvest, wildland fire use, livestock grazing, road construction, and the introduction of exotic species. (LCAS)

Diurnal Security Habitat: See **Lynx Diurnal Security Habitat.**

Dwelling: A place in which to live.

Ecological Integrity: The degree to which the elements of biodiversity and the functions that link them together are complete and capable of performing desired functions. Absolute measures of ecological integrity do not exist (LCAS).

Ecological Processes: The flow and cycling of energy, material, and organisms through an ecosystem. (LCAS)

Environmental Conditions: That part of the **fire environment** that undergoes short-term changes: weather, which is most commonly manifested as wind speed and dead fuel moisture content.

Fire-Adapted Ecosystem: An ecosystem with the ability to survive and regenerate in a fire-prone environment.

Fire Behavior: The manner in which a fire reacts to the influences of fuel, weather and topography. (NWCG)

Firebreak: A natural or constructed barrier to stop or check fires that may occur, or to provide a control line from which to work. (NWCG)

Fire Environment: The characteristics of a site that influence fire behavior. In fire modeling the fire environment is described by surface and canopy fuel characteristics, wind speed and direction, relative humidity, and slope steepness.

Fire Frequency (Fire Return Interval): How often fire burns a given area; often expressed in terms of fire return intervals (e.g., fire returns to a site every 5-15 years).

Fire Hazard: A fuel complex, defined by volume, type, condition, arrangement and location, which determines the ease of ignition and the resistance to control. A physical situation (fuels, weather, and topography) with potential for causing harm or damage as a result of wildland fire.

Fire Intensity: See **frontal fire intensity**. Contrast with **fireline intensity**.

Fireline Intensity: The rate of heat release in the **flaming front** per unit length of fire front (Byram 1959). Can be converted to flame length. ($FL = 0.45*(I^{0.46})$)

Fire Management Plan (FMP): A strategic plan that defines a program to manage wildland and prescribed fires and documents the Fire Management Program in the approved land use plan. This plan is supplemented by operational plans such as preparedness plans, preplanned dispatch plans, prescribed fire plans, prevention plans and operational wildland fire use plans. (NIFC)

Fire Regime: A generalized description of the role fire plays in an ecosystem. It is characterized by fire frequency, seasonality, intensity, duration and scale (patch size), as well as regularity or variability. (Agee, as modified by Sexton.)

Fire Risk: Applies to the probability of an ignition occurring as determined from historical fire record data.

Fire Safe Conditions: As defined by Agee (1996) fire safe conditions include those conditions where:

1. Surface fuel conditions that limit surface fireline intensity;
2. Forest stands that are comprised of fire-tolerant trees, described in terms of species, sizes and structures;
3. A low probability that crown fires will either initiate or spread through the forest.

Fire Use: The combination of wildland fire use and prescribed fire applications to meet resource objectives. (NIFC)

Flaming Front: The zone at a fire's edge where solid flame is maintained.

Foraging Habitat: See **Lynx Foraging Habitat.**

Forested Stringer: A narrow band of trees that is an outcropping of a forested stand, sometimes connecting patches of habitat.

Frontal Fire Intensity: Similar to **fireline intensity**, it is the rate of heat release per unit length of fire front, including the additional heat released from postfrontal flaming and smoldering combustion (Forestry Canada Fire Danger Group 1992).

Fuel Break: A natural or manmade change in fuel characteristics that affects fire behavior so that fires burning into them can be more readily controlled. (NWCG)

Fuel Characteristics: Factors that make up fuels such as compactness, loading, horizontal continuity, vertical arrangement, chemical content, size and shape, and moisture content. (NWCG)

Fuel Continuity: The degree or extent of continuous or uninterrupted distribution of fuel particles in a fuel bed thus affecting a fire's ability to sustain combustion and spread. This applies to aerial fuels as well as surface fuels.

Fuel Complex: The combination of ground, surface, and canopy fuel strata.

Fuel Model: A set of surface fuel bed characteristics (load and surface-area-to-volume-ratio by size class, heat content, and depth) organized for input to a fire model. Standard fuel models (Anderson 1982) have been stylized to represent specific fuel conditions.

Fuel Strata Gap: The vertical distance between the top of the **surface fuel** stratum and the bottom of the **canopy fuel** stratum.

Fuel Stratum: A horizontal layer of fuels of similar general characteristics. We generally recognize three fuel strata: ground, surface, and canopy.

Full-range Fire Behavior Simulation: The simulated behavior of a wildland fire whether it is a surface fire, passive crown fire, or active crown fire. Ground fire behavior is usually not included.

Goals: Description of what an agency strives to achieve. (LCAS)

Groomed Over-the-Snow Route: A route or trail, usually intended for snowmobile, dogsled, snowcat, or cross-country skiing, on which the snow surface is packed, leveled or scarified, with or without "set tracks", usually by means of equipment towed behind a snowmobile or snowcat. Most such routes or trails are maintained through agreements with snowmobile clubs, permittees, event holders and others for varying periods of time during the winter months. Snow roads maintained by permitted snowcat tours are "groomed" under this definition. The determination on the maximum miles of groomed over-the-snow routes that were authorized, promoted or encouraged in 1998, 1999, or 2000.

Ground fire: A slow-burning, smoldering fire in **ground fuels**. Contrast with **surface fire**.

Ground fuels: Fuels that lie beneath surface fuels, such as organic soils, duff, de-composing litter, buried logs, roots, and the below-surface portion of stumps. Compare with **surface fuels**.

Guidelines: Techniques or prescriptions that should be used to meet objectives; rationale for deviations must be documented. A plan amendment is not required. (LCAS modified).

Highway: A road that is at least 2 lanes wide, paved with asphalt or concrete. Average daily traffic may exceed 5,000 vehicles and speeds are 45 mph or greater. (LCAS) This includes Interstate Highways, US Highways, and State Highways, which are not managed by the Forest Service, but may go through Forest System Lands.

Home Ignition Zone: The home and its immediate surroundings. The characteristics of a home and its immediate surroundings determine a home's ignition potential during wildland fires. The home ignition zone generally extends to a few tens of meters from the structure. The ignition potential within the home ignition zone is home ignitability.

Human Uses Management Activities and Practices - Includes activities, practices, and projects associated with recreation, minerals, transportation systems, and other similar types of developments.

Independent Crown Fire: A **crown fire** that spreads without the aid of a supporting **surface fire**.

Intermittent Crown Fire: A **crown fire** that alternates in space and time between active crowning and surface fire or passive crowning. See also **passive crown fire**.

Jurisdiction: The legal right to control or regulate use of a transportation facility. Jurisdiction requires authority, but not necessarily ownership. (FSM 7705)

Landscape connectivity: See **Lynx Habitat Connectivity**.

Leasable Minerals: The federally owned fossil fuels (oil, gas, coal, oil shale, etc), geothermal resources, sulfur, phosphates, and uranium. These minerals are subject to exploration and development under leases, permits, or licenses issued by the Secretary of the Interior, with Forest Service consent. The 1920 Mineral Leasing Act, as amended by the 1989 Federal Onshore Oil and Gas Leasing Reform Act, provide the authority and management direction for federal leasable minerals on National Forest System lands. In addition, mineral leasing on the Grasslands is authorized under the 1947 Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands.

Linkage Areas: See **Lynx Linkage Areas.**

Livestock grazing management activities and practices – Includes activities, practices, and projects associated with the management of livestock grazing.

Locatable Minerals: Those deposits subject to location and development under the General Mining Law of 1872 (as amended). Forest Service regulations at 36 C.F.R. 228, Subpart "A" provide that operations shall be conducted so as to minimize adverse environmental impacts to the surface resources, which includes "taking all practicable measures to maintain and protect

wildlife habitat affected by an operation" and, "where practicable, reclaim surface disturbances", including, among other things, "the rehabilitation of wildlife habitat".

Low Speed, Low Volume Road: Low volume is less than 100 vehicles per day (seasonal average daily traffic) and low speed is less than 20 MPH.

Lynx Analysis Unit (LAU): The LAU is a project analysis unit upon which direct, indirect, and cumulative effects analyses are performed. LAU boundaries should remain constant to facilitate planning and allow effective monitoring of habitat changes over time. (LCAS)

Lynx Denning Habitat: Habitat used during parturition and rearing of young until they are mobile. The common component appears to be large amounts of coarse woody debris, either downed logs or root wads. Coarse woody debris provides escape and thermal cover for kittens. Denning habitat may be found either in older mature forest of conifer or mixed conifer/deciduous types, or in regenerating stands (greater than 20 years since disturbance). Denning habitat must be located within daily travel distance of foraging habitat (typical maximum daily distances for females is 3-6 miles). (LCAS)

Lynx Diurnal Security Habitat: In lynx habitat, areas that provide secure winter daytime bedding sites for lynx in highly disturbed landscapes, e.g., large developed winter recreational sites or areas of concentrated winter recreational use. It is presumed that lynx may be able to adapt to the presence of regular and concentrated human use during winter, so long as other critical habitat needs are being met, and security habitat blocks are present and adequately distributed in such disturbed landscapes. Security habitat will provide lynx the ability to retreat from human disturbance during winter daytime hours, emerging at dusk to hunt when most human activity ceases. Security habitats will generally be sites that naturally discourage winter human activity because of extensive forest floor structure, or stand conditions that otherwise make human access difficult, and should be protected to the degree necessary. Security habitats are likely to be most effective if they are sufficiently large to provide effective visual and acoustic insulation from winter human activity and to easily allow movement away from infrequent human intrusion. These winter habitats must be distributed such that they are in proximity to foraging habitat. (LCAS)

Lynx Foraging Habitat: Habitat that supports primary prey (snowshoe hare) and/or important alternate prey (especially red squirrels) that are available to lynx. The highest quality snowshoe hare habitats are those that support a high density of young trees or shrubs (greater than 4,500 stems or branches per acre from studies done in the Northern Rocky Mountain Geographic Area, but estimated at 1000 to 2000 stems per acre in the lodgepole pine and spruce-fir forests in the Southern Rocky Mountain Geographic Area), and are tall enough to protrude above the snow. These conditions may occur in early successional stands following some type of disturbance, or in older forests with a substantial understory of shrubs and young conifer trees. Coarse woody debris, especially in early successional stages (created by harvest regeneration units and large fires), provides important cover for snowshoe hares and other prey. Red squirrel densities tend to be highest in mature cone-bearing forests with substantial quantities of coarse woody debris. (LCAS)

Lynx Habitat: Lynx occur in mesic coniferous forest that have cold, snowy winters and provide a prey base of snowshoe hare. In the Rocky Mountains, primary vegetation that contributes to lynx habitat is lodgepole pine, subalpine fir, and Engelmann spruce. In extreme northern Idaho, northeastern Washington, and northwestern Montana, cedar-hemlock habitat types may be considered primary vegetation. Dry forest types (e.g. ponderosa pine, climax lodgepole pine) do not provide lynx habitat. Primary elevations for lynx habitat are between 2,440 – 3,500 meters (8,000-11,500 feet) elevation zones in the southern Rockies.

Lynx Habitat Connectivity: Cover (vegetation) in sufficient quantity and arrangement to allow for the movement of lynx. Narrow forested mountain ridges or shrub-steppe plateaus may provide a linkage between more extensive areas of lynx habitat. Wooded riparian communities may provide travel cover across otherwise open valley floors between mountain ranges, or lower elevation ponderosa pine or pinyon-juniper woodlands may link high elevation spruce-fir forests. (LCAS)

Lynx Habitat Matrix: The most extensive and most connected landscape element type present, which plays the dominant role in landscape functioning or a landscape surrounding a patch. For lynx, this is an area which is predominantly lynx habitat, but due to natural fragmentation, includes stringers or isolated patches of vegetation such as aspen, riparian areas, sagebrush, grasslands, or alpine. These stringers or patches may have value to lynx for alternate prey species or travel ways.

Lynx Linkage Areas: Linkage areas provide landscape connectivity between blocks of lynx habitat. Linkage areas occur both within and between geographic areas where blocks of lynx habitat are separated by intervening areas of non-lynx habitat such as basins, valleys, agricultural lands, or where lynx habitat naturally narrows between two blocks.

Lynx Habitat Currently in Unsuitable Condition: Areas within identified/mapped lynx habitat that are in early successional stages as a result of recent fires or vegetation management, in which the vegetation has not developed sufficiently to support snowshoe hare populations during all seasons. Management-created openings would likely include clearcuts and seed tree harvest units, and might include shelterwood and commercially-thinned stands depending on unit size and remaining stand composition and structure. (LCAS)

Maintain: To provide for; to keep in existence; sustain (American Heritage Dictionary). In the context of this amendment maintain means to provide the necessary level of lynx habitat to conserve lynx. It does not mean keep the status quo.

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."

Map and Field Validate: Map means to identify and locate certain conditions on a map. Field validate means to sample a representative number of areas, using an acceptable sampling method, to ensure those areas provide the specific conditions that were mapped. Every area does not have to be field validated.

Mechanical Fuels Treatments: Mechanical treatments include all methods of modifying the fuels profile except for fire use applications, chemical treatments and livestock grazing. Mechanical treatments include: biomass removal, biomass thinning, rearrangement, chipping, piling, felling and piling, crushing, and mastication.

Mesic: Environmental conditions that have medium moisture supplies as opposed to xeric (dry) conditions, or hydric (wet) conditions.

Most Restrictive Direction:

National Forest System (NFS) Road: A Forest road (under FS jurisdiction) 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) Part of the designated NFS road system. Previously called Forest Development Roads. (FDRs)

Need: Circumstances in which a thing or course of action is required (reason for action).

Non-Lynx Habitat: Areas such as lakes and openings that do not support snowshoe hare populations and are not considered to be capable of providing lynx habitat. See also **Lynx Habitat** and **Lynx Habitat Currently in Unsuitable Condition**. (LCAS)

Objective: A statement describing desired resource conditions, or range of conditions, intended to promote achievement of programmatic goals. (LCAS)

Operational Wildland Fire Use Plans: A supplement to the **FMP** that identifies the prescription under which a wildland fire may be managed to accomplish pre-stated resource management areas. It supports the development of a **Wildland Fire Implementation Plan** when an event occurs.

Outbuilding: A building separate from but associated with a main building (in this case a dwelling). (American Heritage Dictionary).

Passive Crown Fire: A crown fire in which individual or small groups of trees torch out, but solid flaming in the canopy cannot be maintained except for short periods. Passive crown fire encompasses a wide range of crown fire behavior from the occasional torching of an isolated tree to a nearly active crown fire. Also called torching and candling. See also **intermittent crown fire**.

Permanent Development: In the context of this document, means any development that results in loss of lynx habitat for at least the duration of the Forest Plan, approximately 15 years. Ski trails which are maintained in an early seral stage, parking lots, new permanent roads, structures, campgrounds and many special use developments would be considered permanent developments.

Plume-dominated Fire: A fire for which the power of the fire exceeds the power of the wind, leading to a tall convection column and atypical spread patterns. Contrast with **wind-driven fire**.

Precommercial Thinning: A thinning that does not yield trees of commercial value, usually designed to reduce stocking in order to concentrate growth on the more desirable trees. (LCAS).

Preponderance: A number greater than half of a total.

Prescribed Fire: Any fire ignited by management actions to meet specific objectives. A written approved prescribed fire plan must exist and NEPA requirements must be met, prior to ignition. This term replaces management ignited prescribed fire. (NWCG)

Private Mineral Rights: On some lands within the National Forest System another party may own the mineral estate. These are known as private mineral rights. Most of the National Forest System lands in the Southern Rockies were reserved from the public domain by executive order under authority of the Forest Revision Act of 1891.

Probability: A number representing the chance that a given event will occur. The range is from 0% for an impossible event, to 100% for an inevitable event.

Project proposals: A plan for specific action(s) that is put forward for consideration, not a natural event.

Recreation Quality: The degree of satisfaction that an individual achieves while participating in their preferred recreational activity. Quality is best assured through the provision of a diverse set of recreation opportunities. Providing a wide range of specific settings varying in level of development, access, social interactions and other factors as described in the Recreation Opportunity Spectrum insures that the broadest segment of the public will find quality recreation opportunities.

Red Squirrel Habitat: Coniferous forests of seed and cone producing age that may contain snags and downed woody debris. This is generally associated with mature or older forests.

Regeneration Harvest: A cutting method by which an entire new age class is created. The major methods are clear-cutting, seed tree, shelterwood, selection, and coppice. (Dictionary of Forestry)

Research Studies: Studies conducted to increase scientific knowledge or technology that are financed from the Forest Research budget (FSM 4040). Research studies have no tenure limitation. (FSM 1991.05(1))

Restore: To bring back to an original state (Webster's Dictionary).

Riparian Area: An area with distinctive soil and vegetation between a stream or other body of water and the adjacent upland; includes wetlands and those portions of floodplains and valley bottoms that support riparian vegetation. (LCAS)

Risk: The possibility of meeting danger or suffering harm. When used in reference to wildland fires it refers to the probability of escape resulting in financial and ecological loss. Alternative management scenarios generate different degrees of risk and ultimately a different set of economic outcomes (Hesslin and Rideout, 1999)

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)

Road Construction: Activity that results in the addition of forest classified or temporary road miles to the NFS road system. (36 CFR 212.1, FSM 7705)

Road Decommissioning: Activities that result in the stabilization and restoration of unneeded roads to a more natural state. (36 CFR 212.1)

Road Density: Miles of NFS roads located in a one square mile area of NFS lands.

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)

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

Roads Analysis Process (RAP): A science-based procedure for evaluating ecological, social, and economic impacts from both individual roads and road systems. The process does not produce a decision document, but informs management decisions.

Running Crown Fire: See **Active Crown Fire.**

Salable Minerals: Include mineral materials, otherwise known as "common varieties" or "mineral materials" which generally include deposits of sand, gravel, clay, rock or stone used for a number of purposes including road surfacing, construction materials, and landscaping. The disposal of these materials is by a materials contract issued at the discretion of the Forest Service.

Salvage Harvest: The removal of dead trees or trees damaged or dying because of injurious agents other than competition, to recover economic value that would otherwise be lost. (Dictionary of Forestry) Personal use firewood collection is not considered salvage harvest.

Seral Stages

Early Seral: A stage in the succession of a plant community that is the starting point or early stage following a disturbance, typically a grass/forb stage.

Mid Seral or Later: A stage in the succession of a plant community that is midpoint as it moves from bare ground to climax. For riparian areas, that generally means that willows or other shrubs have become established. For the shrub-steppe, it means that shrub species associated with climax are present and increasing in density.

Site characteristics: The characteristics of a location that do not change with time: slope, aspect, and elevation.

Ski Area: A site and attendant facilities expressly developed to accommodate alpine or Nordic skiing. Operation of Nordic and alpine ski areas for up to 40 years and encompassing such acreage as the Forest Officer determines sufficient and appropriate is authorized by the National Ski Area Permit Act of 1986. (LCAS)

Snowshoe Hare Habitat: See **Lynx Foraging Habitat**.

Special Use Authorization: A permit, term permit, temporary permit, lease, or easement, or other written instrument that grants rights or privileges of occupancy and use subject to specified terms and conditions on National Forest System land. (FSM 2705)

Standards: Required management actions specifying how to achieve objectives. Standards can include requirements to refrain from taking action in certain situations. A plan amendment is required to deviate from a standard. (LCAS)

Stand: A group of trees or other vegetation occupying a specific area and sufficiently uniform in composition, age spatial arrangement, and conditions as to be distinguishable from the vegetation on adjoining lands. (Dictionary of Forestry)

Stand Composition: The proportion of each tree species in a stand expressed as a percentage of the total number, basal area, or volume of all tree species in the stand. (Dictionary of Forestry)

Stand Structure: The horizontal and vertical distribution of components of a forest stand including the height, diameter, crown layers, and stems of trees, shrubs, herbaceous understory, snags, and down woody debris. (Dictionary of Forestry)

Structure Ignition Zone: The structure and its immediate surroundings. The characteristics of an administrative site, dwelling, outbuilding or home and its immediate surroundings determine a structure ignition potential during wildland fires. Fire behavior and intensity is also an important factor. The structure ignition zone generally extends to a few tens of meters from the structure, but is described as a set distance (200 feet) for select standards in this amendment.

Succession: The ecological sequence of species within a habitat or community. (Dictionary of Ecology, Evolution and Systematics).

Surface fire: A fire spreading through **surface fuels.**

Surface fuels: Needles, leaves, grass, forbs, dead and down branches and boles, stumps, shrubs, and short trees.

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 CFR 212.1, FSM 7705)

Threat: An indication of something impending. An expression of intention to inflict injury or damage.

Timber Management Practices: See **Timber Production**.

Timber Production: The purposeful growing, tending, harvesting, and regeneration of regulated crops of trees for growing into logs, bolts, or other round sections for industrial or

consumer use. For purposes of forest planning, timber production does not include fuel wood or harvest from unsuitable lands. (FSH 2409.13)

Total fuel load: The mass of fuel per unit area that could possibly be consumed in a hypothetical fire of the highest intensity in the driest fuels.

Uncharacteristic Wildfire Effects: An increase in wildfire size, severity and resistance to control, and the associated impact to people and property, compared to that which occurred in the native system.

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)

Unsuitable Habitat: See **Lynx Habitat Currently in Unsuitable Condition.**

Valid Existing Rights: Definable legal interest established or existing through statute, real estate transactions, federal grants and leases.

Value: See also **Values at Risk:** The monetary worth of something.

Values at Risk: Include property, structures, physical improvements, natural and cultural resources, community infrastructure, and economic, environmental, and social values. They may be on or off-site values.

Vegetation Management Activities or Practices: The use of fire, timber harvest, tree thinning, rangeland, and wildlife habitat activities, practices, and projects that alter the vegetation to meet vegetation resource management objectives. This does not apply to activities and practices that alter vegetation for other purposes (i.e. Human Uses Management Activities and Practices).

Vegetation Management Prescription: A detailed written document that describes and schedules vegetation management activities needed to achieve resource management objectives. (Adapted from FSH 2409.17)

Wildfire: An unwanted wildland fire. This is not a separate type of fire. (NIFC)

Wildland Urban Interface: The line, area, or zone where there is a wildland fire threat to communities. Wildland fire threat to communities is where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels.

Wildland Fire: Any non-structure fire, other than prescribed fire, that occurs in the wildland. This term encompasses fires previously called both wildfires and prescribed natural fires. (NIFC)

Wildland Fire Implementation Plan (WFIP): A progressively developed assessment and operational management plan that documents the analysis and selection of strategies and describes the appropriate management response for a wildland fire being managed for resource benefits. (NIFC)

Wildland Fire Use: The management of naturally ignited wildland fires to accomplish pre-stated resource management objectives in predefined areas in **Fire Management Plans**. Operational Management is described in a **Wildland Fire Implementation Plan**. This term replaces prescribed natural fire. (NIFC)

Wind-driven fire: A wildland fire in which the power of the wind exceeds the power of the fire, characterized by a bent-over smoke plume and a high length-to-width ratio.