

SECTION 8.0:

GLOSSARY

Aesthetics. The study, science, or philosophy of beauty and judgments concerning beauty. In scenery management, it describes landscapes that give visual and sensory pleasure.

Attribute. An inherent landscape characteristic.

Background. The distant part of a landscape. The landscape area located from 4 miles to infinity from the viewer.

Balance. A visual stability produced, and an equilibrium established, in a landscape by natural forces or human intervention.

Characteristic. A quality that constitutes a character, that characterizes a landscape; a distinguishing trait, feature, or quality.

Color. The property of reflecting light of a particular wavelength that enables the eye to differentiate otherwise indistinguishable objects.

Conservation pool elevation. The lake elevation level under normal conditions of rainfall and runoff.

Contrast. Diversity or distinction of adjacent parts; effect of striking differences in form, line, color, or texture of a landscape.

Deviation. Departure from existing landscape character or from landscape character goals.

Distinctive. Describes extraordinary and special landscapes that are attractive and stand out from common landscapes.

Disturbance. A discrete event, either natural or human-induced, that causes a change in the existing condition of an ecological system.

Edge. The line where an object or area begins or ends. Edge serves to define borders, limits, or boundaries.

Existing scenic integrity. Current state of the landscape, considering previous human alterations.

Feature. A visually distinct or outstanding part, quality, or characteristic of a landscape.

Flood pool elevation. The lake elevation during flood conditions.

Form. Structure, mass, or shape of a landscape. Often defined by edges or outlines of landforms, rockforms, vegetation patterns, or waterforms, or the enclosed spaces created by these attributes.

Harmony. Combination of parts of a landscape into a pleasing or orderly whole. A proportionate arrangement of form, line, color, and texture.

Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC). A unique code assigned to hydrologic drainage basins of the United States. Each HUC consists of two to eight digits based on major geographic region, subregion, accounting unit, and cataloging unit (watershed).

Intactness. Quality of being untouched or unaltered, especially by anything that harms or diminishes character.

Landform. One of the attributes or features that make up the earth's surface, such as a plain, mountain, or valley.

Landscape. An area composed of interacting ecosystems that repeat because of geology, landform, soils, climate, biota, and human influences throughout the area.

Landscape Character. Particular attributes, qualities, and traits of a landscape that give it an image and make it identifiable or unique.

Landscape Unit. A small area of land that, at a microscale, has similar existing landscape character attributes.

Landscape Visibility. Accessibility of the landscape to viewers, with respect to their ability to see and perceive the landscape.

Line. An intersection of two planes; a point that has been extended; a silhouette of form. In landscapes, ridges, skylines, structures, changes in vegetation, or individual trees or branches may be perceived as line.

Most Probable Number (MPN). Part of a unit of measure used to express bacteria counts, i.e., Most Probable Number (MPN) per 100 milliliters.

National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD). A fixed reference adopted as a standard geodetic datum for elevations determined by leveling. Established in 1929; also referred to as National Geodetic Vertical Datum of 1929 and Sea Level Datum of 1929.

Natural Landscape Character. Landscape character that originated from natural disturbances, such as wildfires, glaciation, succession of plants from pioneer to climax species, or indirect effects of humans, such as inadvertent plant succession through fire prevention.

Nonpoint source pollution. Polluted runoff, which occurs as water from rain, snowmelt, or irrigation washes downhill across the land, picks up pollutants, and drains into drainage ditches, streams, lakes, wetlands, or groundwater supplies in a watershed.

Pattern. An arrangement of parts, elements, or details that suggests a design or somewhat orderly distribution.

Point Source Discharge. A stationary location or fixed facility from which pollutants are discharged; any single identifiable source of pollution (e.g., pipe, outfall, ditch, ship, ore pit, factory smokestack).

Scenery. General appearance of a place or a landscape, or features of a landscape.

Scenic. Of or relating to landscape scenery; pertaining to natural or natural-appearing scenery: constituting or affording pleasant views of natural landscape attributes or positive cultural elements.

Scenic Attractiveness. The scenic importance of a landscape based on human perceptions of the intrinsic beauty of landform, rockform, waterform, and vegetation pattern.

Scenic Integrity. State of naturalness or, conversely, state of disturbance created by human activities or alteration. Integrity is stated in degrees of deviation from the existing landscape character.

Scenic Quality. The essential attributes of landscape that, when viewed by people, elicit psychological and physiological benefits to individuals and, therefore, to society in general.

Seen Area. The total landscape area observed upon landform screening. Seen areas may be divided into zones of immediate foreground, foreground, middleground, and background. Some landscapes are seldom seen by the public.

Subordinate. Inferior to, or placed below, another in size, importance, brightness, and the like; used to describe landscape features that are secondary in visual impact or importance.

Texture. Visual interplay of light and shadow created by variations in the earth's surface. Grain or nap of a landscape or a repetitive pattern of tiny forms. Visual texture can range from smooth to coarse.

Unity. The quality or state of being whole; a condition of harmony.

View. Something that is looked toward or kept in sight, especially a broad landscape or panorama.

Viewshed. The total visible area from a single observer position, or the total visible area from multiple observer positions.

Visual. A mental image attained by sight.

Visual Absorption Capability. A classification system used to denote the relative ability of a landscape to absorb human alterations without loss of scenic quality.

Watershed Loading. The quantity of a pollutant discharged or released to surface and ground waters within a watershed.