

Defenders of Wildlife

Habitat & Highways Campaign



GLOSSARY

A

Acquisition

The act or process of acquiring fee title or interest other than fee title of real property.

Arterial Highway

(See also Freeway, Minor Arterial, Principal Arterial) Arterial highways serve major traffic movements or major traffic corridors. While they may provide access to abutting land, their primary function is to serve traffic moving through the area. (FHWA5)

At Grade, Exclusive Right-of-Way

Railway right-of-way from which all other traffic, mixed and cross, is excluded. Median strip right-of-way is included provided all crossings of the right-of-way pass over or under the median. (FTA1)

B

Base Period (Off-Peak Period)

In transit, the time of day during which vehicle requirements and schedules are not influenced by peak-period passenger volume demands (e.g., between morning and afternoon peak periods). At this time, transit riding is fairly constant and usually low to moderate in volume when compared with peak-period travel. (TRB1)

Berm

The sharp definitive edge of a dredged channel such as in a rock cut. (TNDOT1)

Bicycle Lane

A portion of a roadway which has been designated by striping, signing and pavement markings for the preferential or exclusive use of bicyclists. (23CFR652)

Bicycle Path

A bikeway physically separated from motorized vehicular traffic by an open space or barrier and either within the highway right-of-way or within an independent right-of-way. (23CFR652)

Bicycle Route

A segment of a system of bikeways designated by the jurisdiction having authority with appropriate directional and information markers, with or without a specific bicycle route number. (23CFR652)

Bight of a Bend

Deepest portion of a bend (not in depth of water); sharpest part of a curve. (TNDOT1)

Bikeway

Any road, path, or way which in some manner is specifically designated as being open to bicycle travel, regardless of whether such facilities are designated for the exclusive use of bicycles or are to be shared with other transportation modes. (23CFR652)

Biodiversity

The variety of living organisms considered at all levels, from genetics through species, to higher taxonomic levels, and including the variety of habitats and ecosystems.

Biome

A large, regional ecological unit, usually defined by some dominant vegetative pattern, such as the coniferous forest biome.

Biosphere reserve

A concept of reserve design in which a large tract of natural area is set aside, containing an inviolate core area for ecosystem protection, a surrounding buffer zone in which nondestructive human activities are permitted, and a transition zone in which human activities of greater impact are permitted. Three goals of a biosphere reserve are conservation, training (education), and sustainable human development compatible with conservation.

Bridge

A structure including supports erected over a depression or an obstruction, such as water, highway, or railway, and having a track or passageway for carrying traffic or other moving loads, and having an opening measured along the center of the roadway of more than 20 feet between undercopings of abutments or spring lines of arches, or extreme ends of openings for multiple boxes; it may also include multiple pipes, where the clear distance between openings is less than half of the smaller contiguous opening. (23CFR650)

Bridge Structure

A two character code for recording the type of bridge structure. Code as follows: SS-simple span, CS-continuous span, SC-combination simple and cantilever, CC-combination continuous and cantilever, O-other. (DOI2)

Brooks Act

Legislation which requires engineering and design consultant contracts funded with Federal funds to use qualification-based selection procedures, which disallow price as a factor in the selection process.

Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS)

The Bureau was organized pursuant to section 6006 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act (ISTEA) of 1991 (49 U.S.C. 111), and was formally established by the Secretary of Transportation on December 16, 1992. BTS has an intermodal transportation focus whose missions are to compile, analyze and make accessible information on the Nation's transportation systems; to collect information on intermodal transportation and other areas; and to enhance the quality and effectiveness of DOT's statistical programs through research, the development of guidelines, and the promotion of improvements in data acquisition and use. The programs of BTS are organized in six functional areas and are mandated by ISTEA to:

- 1) Compile, analyze, and publish statistics
- 2) Develop a long-term data collection program
- 3) Develop guidelines to improve the credibility and effectiveness of the Department's statistics
- 4) Represent transportation interests in the statistical community
- 5) Make statistics accessible and understandable and 6) Identify data needs. (OFR1)

Business District

The territory contiguous to and including a highway when within any 600 feet along such highway there are buildings in use for business or industrial purposes, including but not limited to hotels, banks, or office buildings which occupy at least 300 feet of frontage on one side or 300 feet collectively on both sides of the highway. (49CFR390)

Bus Lane

A street or highway lane intended primarily for buses, either all day or during specified periods, but sometimes also used by carpools meeting requirements set out in traffic laws. (APTA1)

C

Candidate species

Under FWS's ESA regulations, "...those species for which the Service has on file sufficient information on biological vulnerability and threat(s) to support proposals to the list them as endangered or threatened species. Proposal rules have not yet been issued because this action is precluded..." (See Federal Register, Volume 61, No. 49, page 7598.)

For those species under the jurisdiction of NMFS, candidate species means a species for which concerns remain regarding their status, but for which more information is needed before they can be proposed for listing.

Categorical exclusion (CE)

Under NEPA regulations, a category of actions that does not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment and have been found to have no such effect in procedures adopted by a Federal agency pursuant to NEPA. (40 CFR 1508.4)

Commons

Originally referred to lands in medieval Europe that were owned by townships rather than by

private individuals. Now used to include any exploitable resource that is not privately owned. Sometimes applied to “open resources” that are neither privately owned nor regulated by a country or agency.

Community

The organisms living and interacting in a given area.

Commuter rail

Urban passenger train service for short-distance travel between a central city and adjacent suburbs. Does not include rapid-rail transit or light-rail service.

Conservation Biology

An integrative approach to the protection and management of biodiversity that uses appropriate principles and experiences from basic biological fields such as genetics and ecology, from natural resource management fields such as fisheries and wildlife, and from social sciences such as anthropology, sociology, philosophy and economics.

Controlled Access Rights-of-Way

(See also Right of Way) Lanes restricted for at least a portion of the day for use by transit vehicles and other high occupancy vehicles (HOV's). Use of controlled access lanes may also be permitted for vehicles preparing to turn. The restriction must be sufficiently enforced so that 95 percent of the vehicles using the lanes during the restricted period are authorized to use them. (FTA1)

Core Zone

Within a larger protected reserve or park, an area of critically important habitat in which development and other kinds of disruptive activities are prohibited.

Corridor

A broad geographic area, defined by logical, existing and forecasted travel patterns served by various modal transportation systems that provide important connections within and between regions of the state for people goods, and services. Travel within the corridor may include vehicular, rail, transit, water, air, or non-motorized.

Critical habitat

The specific areas within the geographical area occupied by the species, at the time it is listed in accordance with the provisions of section 4 of this Act, on which are found those physical or biological features essential to the conservation of the species and which may require special management considerations or protection; and specific areas outside the geographical area occupied by the species at the time it is listed in accordance with the provisions of section 4 of this Act, upon a determination by the Secretary that such areas are essential for the conservation of the species. (*ESA, Section 3*)

Cumulative impact or effect

Under NEPA regulations, the incremental environmental impact or effect of the action together with impacts of past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions. (40 CFR 1508.7) Under ESA section 7 regulations, the

effects of future state or private activities not involving Federal activities, that are reasonably certain to occur within the action area of the Federal action subject to consultation (50 CFR 402.02).

D

Daily Vehicle Travel

Is the amount of vehicle travel (in thousands) accumulated over a 24-hour day, midnight to midnight, traversed along a "public road" by motorized vehicles, excluding construction equipment or farm tractors. Vehicle travel not occurring on public roads, such as that occurring on private land roads (private roads in parking lots, shopping centers, etc.) must be also be excluded. (FHWA2)

Dam

A barrier constructed across a watercourse to control the flow or raise the level of water. (DOI4)

Delist

To remove from the Federal list of endangered and threatened species (50 CFR 17.11 and 17.12) because such species no longer meets any of the five listing factors provided under section 4(a)(1) of the ESA and under which the species was originally listed (i.e., because the species has become extinct or is recovered).

Demand

The aggregate desire for economic goods and services. The quantity of a good or service that consumers are willing to purchase at different prices. Demand involves the relationship between quantity and price.

Demand Response

Non-fixed-route service utilizing vans or buses with passengers boarding and alighting at pre-arranged times at any location within the system's service area. Also called "Dial-a-Ride." Passenger cars, vans or Class C motor buses operating in response to calls from passengers or their agents to the transit operator, who then dispatches a vehicle to pick the passengers up and transport them to their destinations. A demand response operation is characterized by the following:

- 1) the vehicles do not operate over a fixed route or on a fixed schedule except, perhaps, on a temporary basis to satisfy a special need; and
- 2) typically, the vehicle may be dispatched to pick up several passengers at different pick-up points before taking them to their respective destinations and may even be interrupted en route to these destinations to pick up other passengers. (FTA1)

Density

Quantifies the vehicles' proximity to each other and describes the ease of maneuverability within a traffic stream.

Department of Transportation (DOT)

Establishes the nation's overall transportation policy. Under its umbrella there are ten administrations whose jurisdictions include highway planning, development and construction; urban mass transit; railroads; aviation; and the safety of waterways, ports, highways, and oil and gas pipelines. The Department of Transportation (DOT) was established by act of October 15, 1966, as amended (49 U.S.C. 102 and 102 note), "to assure the coordinated, effective administration of the transportation programs of the Federal Government" and to develop "national transportation policies and programs conducive to the provision of fast, safe, efficient, and convenient transportation at the lowest cost consistent therewith." (OFR1)

Deregulation

Revisions or complete elimination of economic regulations controlling transportation. For example, the Motor Carrier Act of 1980 and the Staggers Act of 1980 revised the economic controls over motor carriers and railroads. (MARAD1)

Design Capacity

The capacity associated with the direction of the flow observed on the peak day. (DOE1)

Designated Public Transportation

Transportation provided by a public entity (other than public school transportation) by bus, rail, or other conveyance (other than transportation by aircraft or intercity or commuter rail transportation) that provides the general public with general or special service, including charter service, on a regular and continuing basis. (49CFR37)

Destination

For travel period trips, the destination is the farthest point of travel from the point of origin of a trip of 75 miles or more one-way. For travel day trips, the destination is the point at which there is a break in travel. (FHWA3)

Distancing

An economic term that refers to the process of specialization creating alienation (distance) of people from each other, from the means of production of essential goods and services, and from the environment.

Distribution

An economic term referring to the pattern of ownership of resources. The way in which natural resources and other assets are initially assigned among different owners.

Divided Highway

A multi-lane facility with a curbed or positive barrier median, or a median that is 4 feet (1.2 meters) or wider. (FHWA2)

Downlist

To reclassify an endangered species to a threatened species based on alleviation of any of the five listing factors provided under section 4(a)(1) of the ESA.

E

Ecosystem

A three-dimensional volume of space, including all its physical and biological components, which are recognized to be interconnected. An ecosystem contains soil, air, and all organisms living in the soil or air. An ecosystem is more or less homogenous both as to the form and structure of the land and as to the vegetation supported thereon. The ecosystem concept is hierarchical. For instance, large ecosystems defined by a relatively homogenous microclimate and physiography may be subdivided into smaller ecosystems based on finer distinctions in physiography, soil, and vegetation.

Ecosystem Management

“Ecosystem management integrates scientific knowledge of ecological relationships within a complex sociopolitical and value framework toward the general goal of protecting native ecosystem integrity over the long term.” (Edward Grumbine, *What is Ecosystem Management?* Conservation Biology 8:2:27-38.)

“Ecosystem management is a holistic approach to natural resource management, moving beyond a compartmentalized approach to natural resource management, moving beyond a compartmentalized approach focusing on the individual parts of the forest. It is an approach that steps back from the forest stand and focuses on the forest landscape and its position in the larger environment in order to integrate the human, biological and physical dimension of natural resource management. Its purpose is to achieve sustainability of all resources.” (Jack Ward Thomas, Former Chief, Forest Service, USDA. February 3, 1994.)

Edge Effect

1. The negative influence of a habitat edge on interior conditions of a habitat, or on species that use interior habitat;
2. The effect of adjoining habitat types on populations in the edge ecotone, often resulting in more species in the edge than in either habitat alone.

Effect or impact

Under NEPA regulations, a direct result of an action that occurs at the same time and place; or an indirect result of an action which occurs later in time or in a different place and is reasonably foreseeable; or the cumulative results from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency or person undertakes such other actions (40 CFR 1508.8).

Under ESA section 7 regulations, "effects of the action" means "the direct and indirect effects of an action on the species or critical habitat, together with the effects of other activities that are interrelated or interdependent with that action, that will be added to the environmental baseline (50 CFR 402.02).

Elevated Rail Subway

Includes elevated and subway trains in a city. (FHWA3)

Emission Standards

Standards for the levels of pollutants emitted from automobiles and trucks. Congress established

the first standards in the Clean Air Act of 1963. Currently, standards are set for four vehicle classes - automobiles, light trucks, heavy duty gasoline trucks, and heavy-duty diesel trucks. (DOE6)

Endangered species

Any species which is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range other than a species of the Class Insecta determined by the Secretary to constitute a pest whose protection under the provisions of this Act would present an overwhelming and overriding risk to man. (*ESA, Section 3*)

Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended

16 U.S.C. 1513-1543; Federal legislation that provides means whereby the ecosystems upon which endangered species and threatened species depend may be conserved, and provides a program for the conservation of such endangered and threatened species.

Endemic

Any localized process or pattern, but usually applied to a highly localized or restrictive geographic distribution of a species.

Environmental Action Memorandum (EAM)

A FWS document prepared to explain the Service's reasoning in finalizing an action that is categorically excluded from NEPA; decisions based on EAs for which a notice is not published in the Federal Register; emergency actions under CEQ's NEPA regulations (40 CFR 1506.11); EAs which conclude that an EIS is necessary (since no FONSI is prepared in such cases); and any decision where additional documentation of the Service's decision is desirable (Director's Order No. 11).

Environmental Assessment (EA)

A concise public document, prepared in compliance with NEPA, that briefly discusses the purpose and need for an action, alternatives to such action, and provides sufficient evidence and analysis of impacts to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement or Finding of No Significant Impact (40 CFR 1508.9).

Environmental impact statement (EIS)

A detailed written statement required by section 102(2)(C) of NEPA containing, among other things, an analyses of environmental impacts of a proposed action and alternative considered, adverse effects of the project that cannot be avoided, alternative courses of action, short-term uses of the environment versus the maintenance and enhancement of long-term productivity, and any irreversible and irretrievable commitment of resources (40 CFR 1508.11 and 40 CFR 1502).

Environmental Restoration

Restitution for the loss, damage, or destruction of natural resources arising out of the accidental discharge, dispersal, release or escape into or upon the land, atmosphere, watercourse, or body of water of any commodity transported by a motor carrier. This shall include the cost of removal and the cost of necessary measure taken to minimize or mitigate damage to human health, the natural environment, fish, shellfish, and wildlife. (49CFR387)

Environmentally Sensitive Area

An area of environmental importance which is in or adjacent to navigable waters. (49CFR194)

Environmental uncertainty

Unpredictable sources of density-independent mortality, such as an early snowstorm, that jeopardize the survival of a small population by pushing it below its minimum viable population size.

Estuary

The lower end of a river, or a semi-enclosed coastal body of water with access to the open ocean, which is affected by the tides and where fresh and salt water mix. (DOI3)

Evolutionarily Significant Unit (ESU)

A population that is reproductively isolated from other conspecific population units, and represents an important component in the evolutionary legacy of the species.

Exclusive Right-Of-Way

Roadways or other right-of-way reserved at all times for transit use and/or other high occupancy vehicles. The restriction must be sufficiently enforced so that 95 percent of vehicles using the right-of-way are authorized to use it. (FTA1) (See also Controlled Access Rights-of-Way)

A highway or other facility that can only be used by buses or other transit vehicles. (APTA1)

Exotic Species

Species that do not naturally occur in the ecosystem. In many instances, exotic species become invasive pests.

Expressway

(See also Freeway, Freeways and Expressways, Highway, Interstate Highway (Freeway or Expressway), Road). A divided highway for through traffic with full or partial access control and including grade separations at all or most major intersections. (FHWA2)

Externality

A cost, usually in terms of environmental degradation, that results from an economic transaction but is not included as a debit against economic returns.

F

Fatality

For purposes of statistical reporting on transportation safety fatality shall be considered a death due to injuries in a transportation accident or incident that occurs within 30 days of that accident or incident. (OST1)

Fatality/Injury

Refers to the average number of fatalities and injuries which occurred per one hundred accidents. Frequently used as an index of accident severity. (FHWA4)

Fatality Rate

The average number of fatalities which occurred per accident or per one hundred accidents. The fatality rate is the number of fatalities per 100 million vehicle miles of travel.

Federal-Aid Highways

Those highways eligible for assistance under Title 23 U.S.C. except those functionally classified as local or rural minor collectors. (23CFR500)

Federal-Aid Primary Highway System

The Federal-Aid Highway System of rural arterials and their extensions into or through urban areas in existence on June 1, 1991, as described in 23 U.S.C. 103b) in effect at that time. (23CFR658)

Federal Aid Secondary Highway System

This existed prior to the ISTEA [Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act] of 1991 and included rural collector routes. (FHWA5)

Federal Aid Urban Highway System

This existed prior to the ISTEA [Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act] of 1991 and included urban arterial and collector routes, exclusive of urban extensions of the Federal-Aid Primary system. (FHWA5)

Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)

Became a component of the Department of Transportation in 1967 pursuant to the Department of Transportation Act (49 U.S.C. app. 1651 note). It administers the highway transportation programs of the Department of Transportation under pertinent legislation and the provisions of law cited in section 6a) of the act (49 U.S.C. 104) The Administration encompasses highway transportation in its broadest scope seeking to coordinate highways with other modes of transportation to achieve the most effective balance of transportation systems and facilities under cohesive Federal transportation policies pursuant to the act. The Administration administers the Federal-Aid Highway Program; is responsible for several highway-related safety programs; is authorized to establish and maintain a National Network for trucks; administers a coordinated Federal lands program; coordinates varied research, development and technology transfer activities; supports and participates in efforts to find research and technology abroad; plus a few additional programs. (OFR1)

Federal Register

Daily publication which provides a uniform system for making regulations and legal notices issued by the Executive Branch and various departments of the Federal government available to the public. (USCG1)

Federally Listed Species

Under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the federal government, in particular the U.S. fish and Wildlife Service, is required to list species that are considered threatened or endangered. Listed species are protected by the provisions of the ESA.

Fencerow Scale

With respect to corridors, the connection of habitat patches by narrow rows of habitat, usually effective only for small, edge-tolerant species.

Finding of no significant impact (FONSI)

A document prepared in compliance with NEPA, supported by an EA, that briefly presents why a Federal action will not have a significant effect on the human environment and for which an EIS, therefore, will not be prepared (40 CFR 1508.13).

Fish or wildlife

Any member of the animal kingdom, including without limitation any mammal, fish, bird, amphibian, reptile, mollusk, crustacean, arthropod or other invertebrate, and includes any part, product, egg, or offspring thereof, or the dead body or parts thereof. (*ESA, Section 3*)

Fixed Guideway System

A system of vehicles that can operate only on its own guideway constructed for that purpose (e.g., rapid rail, light rail). Federal usage in funding legislation also includes exclusive right-of-way bus operations, trolley coaches and ferryboats as "fixed guideway" transit. (APTA1)

Fixed Route System

A system of transporting individuals (other than by aircraft), including the provision of designated public transportation service by public entities and the provision of transportation service by private entities, including, but not limited to, specified public transportation service, on which a vehicle is operated along a prescribed route according to a fixed schedule. (49CFR37)

Fragmentation

The disruption of extensive habitats into isolated and small patches. Fragmentation has at least two negative components for biota: loss of total habitat area, and smaller, more isolated remaining habitat patches.

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

Allows all U.S. citizens and residents to request any records in possession of the executive branch of the federal government. The term "records" includes documents, papers, reports, letters, films, photographs, sound recordings, computer tapes and disks. An object that cannot be reproduced is not considered a record in this case. The federal Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) covers the President's cabinet agencies, independent agencies, regulatory commissions and government-owned corporations. Congress is exempt, as are federal courts and state and local governments. Some states and municipalities have laws modeled after the federal FOIA. The federal act includes nine exemptions that agencies may claim as a basis for withholding information. An administrative appeal can be filed that argues for disclosure based on benefits to the public vs. privacy. If a good argument is made, appellate reviewers may waive an exemption. (FAA3)

Freeway

An expressway with full control of access. (FHWA2)

G

Gap

Low point or opening between hills or mountains or in a ridge or mountain range. (DOI4)

Gap Analysis

the use of various remote sensing data sets to build overlaid sets of maps of various parameters (e.g., vegetation, soils, protected areas, species distributions) to identify spatial gaps in species protection and management programs.

Gene Flow

The uni- or bi-directional exchange of genes between populations due to migration of individuals and subsequent successful reproduction in the new population.

Gene Pool

The sum total of genes in a sexually reproducing population, or deme.

Genetic Drift

Random gene frequency changes in a small population due to chance alone.

Genetically effective population size

The size of an idealized population that would have the same rate of increase in inbreeding, or decrease in genetic diversity through drift, as the population in question. The functional size of a population, in a genetic sense, based on numbers of actual breeding individuals and the distribution of offspring among families. Typically smaller than the census size of the population.

Geographical Information System (GIS)

A system of hardware, software, and data for collecting, storing, analyzing, and disseminating information about areas of the Earth. For Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) purposes, Geographical Information System (GIS) is defined as a highway network (spatial data which graphically represents the geometry of the highways, an electronic map) and its geographically referenced component attributes (HPMS section data, bridge data, and other data including socioeconomic data) that are integrated through GIS technology to perform analyses. From this, GIS can display attributes and analyze results electronically in map form. (FHWA2)

Global Positioning System (GPS)

A space base radio positioning, navigation, and time transfer system being developed by the Department of Defense. When fully deployed, the system is intended to provide highly accurate position and velocity information, and precise time, on a continuous global basis, to an unlimited number of properly equipped users. The system will be unaffected by weather, and will provide a worldwide common grid reference system. The Global Positioning System (GPS) concept is predicated upon accurate and continuous knowledge of the spatial position of each satellite in the system with respect to time and distance from a transmitting satellite to the user. The GPS receiver automatically selects appropriate signals from the satellites in view and translates these into a three-dimensional position, velocity, and time. Predictable system accuracy for civil users is

projected to be 100 meters horizontally. Performance standards and certification criteria have not yet been established. (FAA4)

Gradability

The ability of a vehicle to negotiate a given grade at a specified Gross Combination Weight Rating (GCWR) or Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR). It is the measure of the starting and grade climbing ability of a vehicle, and is expressed in percent grade, (1 percent is a rise of 1 foot in a horizontal distance of 100 feet). (GSA2)

Grade Crossings

(See also At Grade, Highway-Rail Crossing, Rail-Highway Grade Crossing) An intersection of highway roads, railroad tracks, or dedicated transit rail tracks that run either parallel or across mixed traffic situations with motor vehicles, light rail, commuter rail, heavy rail, trolleybus or pedestrian traffic. Collisions at grade crossings involving transit vehicles apply only to light rail, commuter rail, heavy rail or trolleybus. (FTA1)

Guideway

In transit systems, a track or other riding surface (including supporting structure) that supports and physically guides transit vehicles specifically designed to travel exclusively on it. (TRB1)

H

Habitat

The location where a particular taxon of plant or animal lives and its surroundings, both living and non-living; the term includes the presence of a group of particular environmental conditions surrounding an organism including air, water, soil, mineral elements, moisture, temperature, and topography.

"Harass"

Defined in regulations implementing the ESA promulgated by the Department of the Interior as "an intentional or negligent act or omission which creates the likelihood of injury to wildlife by annoying it to such an extent as to significantly disrupt normal behavioral patterns which include, but are not limited to, breeding, feeding, and sheltering." (50 CFR 17.3) NMFS has not defined "harass" by regulation.

"Harm"

Defined in regulations implementing the ESA promulgated by the Department of the Interior as an act "which actually kills or injures" listed wildlife; harm may include "significant habitat modification or degradation where it actually kills or injures wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, feeding, or sheltering." (50 CFR 17.3) NMFS has not defined "harm" by regulation.

High-Mileage Households

Households with estimated aggregate annual vehicle mileage that exceeds 12,500 miles. (DOE4) (DOE5)

High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV)

A passenger vehicle that meets or exceeds a certain predetermined minimum number of passengers – for example, more than two or three people per automobile. Buses, carpools, and vanpools are HOVs. To reduce traffic volume and encourage carpooling, priority lanes can be designated for HOVs during peak traveling hours.

High speed rail

Steel-wheel trains operating on traditional train tracks at speeds of 80-200 mph. These trains have been operating in Europe for over a decade.

High Type Road Surface

High flexible, composite, rigid, etc. (Surface/Pavement Type Codes 61, 62, 71-76 and 80). (FHWA2)

Highway

Any road, street, parkway, or freeway/expressway that includes rights-of-way, bridges, railroad-highway crossings, tunnels, drainage structures, signs, guardrail, and protective structures in connection with highways. The highway further includes that portion of any interstate or international bridge or tunnel and the approaches thereto (23 U.S.C. 101a). (FHWA2)

Highway Capacity Manual

A publication of the Institute of Transportation Engineers defining level of service criteria to determine peak hour traffic congestion. (FTA1)

Highway Construction Project

A project financed in whole or in part with Federal-aid or Federal funds for the construction, reconstruction or improvement of a highway or portions thereof, including bridges and tunnels. (23CFR652)

Highway Mode

Consists of public roads and streets, automobiles, vans, trucks, motorcycles, and buses (except local transit buses) operated by transportation companies, other businesses, governments, and households, garages, truck terminals, and other facilities for motor vehicles. (BTS1) (BTS2)

Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS)

The State/Federal system used by the FHWA to provide information on the extent and physical condition of the nation's highway system, its use, performance, and needs. The system includes an inventory of the nation's highways including traffic volumes. (23CFR500)

Highway-Rail Crossing

(See also At Grade, Grade Crossings) A location where one or more railroad tracks intersect a public or private thoroughfare, a sidewalk, or a pathway. (FRA3)

Highway-Rail Crossing Accident/Incident

An impact between on track railroad equipment and a highway user (e.g., an automobile, bus, truck, motorcycle, bicycle, farm vehicle, pedestrian or other highway user) at a designated crossing site. Sidewalks, pathways, shoulders and ditches associated with the crossing are considered to be part of the crossing site. The term "highway user" includes pedestrians, cyclists, and all other modes of surface transportation. (FRA2)

Highway Research Information Service (HRIS)

A computer-based information storage and retrieval system developed by the Transportation Research Board with financial support from the state highway and transportation departments and the Federal Highway Administration. It consists of summaries of research projects in progress and abstracts of published works. (TRB1)

Highway Trust Fund

The federal account established by law to hold receipts collected by the government and earmarked for highway programs and a portion of the federal mass transit program. It is supported by the federal gasoline tax and other user taxes. (TRB1)

Highway User Fee or Tax

A charge levied on persons or organizations based on the use of public roads. Funds collected are usually applied toward highway construction, reconstruction and maintenance. Examples include vehicle registration fees, fuel taxes, and weight-distance taxes. (ATA2)

Historic significance

The characteristics which make a project eligible for or on the National Register of Historic Places.

Hot spot

A geographic location characterized by unusually high species richness, often of endemic species.

Household

A group of persons whose usual place of residence is a specific housing unit; these persons may or may not be related to each other. The total of all U.S. households represents the total civilian non-institutionalized population. Does not include group quarters (i.e., 10 or more persons living together, none of whom are related). (FHWA3)

Household Trip

One or more household members traveling together. (FHWA3)

Household Vehicle

A motorized vehicle that is owned, leased, rented or company owned and available to be used regularly by household members during the travel period. Includes vehicles used solely for business purposes or business owned vehicles if kept at home and used for the home to work trip, (e.g., taxicabs, police cars, etc.) which may be owned by, or assigned to, household members for their regular use. Includes all vehicles that were owned or available for use by members of the household during the travel period even though a vehicle may have been sold before the interview. Excludes vehicles that were not working and not expected to be working within 60 days, and

vehicles that were purchased or received after the designated travel day. (FHWA3)

Housing Unit

A house, apartment, a group of rooms, or a single room occupied or intended for occupancy as separate living quarters. Separate living quarters are those in which the occupants do not live and eat with any other persons in the structure and which have either

- 1) direct access from the outside of the building or through a common hallway intended to be used by the occupants of another unit or by the general public, or
- 2) complete kitchen facilities for the exclusive use of the occupants. The occupants may be a single family, one person living alone, two or more families living together, or any other group of related or unrelated persons who share living arrangements. (DOE6)

I

Implementing Agreement

An agreement that legally binds the permittee to the requirements and responsibilities of a conservation plan and section 10 permit. It may assign the responsibility for planning, approving, and implementing the mitigation measures under the HCP.

Inbreeding

The mating of individuals who are more closely related than by chance alone.

Inbreeding depression

A reduction in fitness and vigor of individuals as a result of increased homozygosity through inbreeding in a normally outbreeding population.

Incident

Collisions, derailments, personal casualties, fires, and property damage in excess of \$1000, associated with transit agency revenue vehicles; all other facilities on the transit property; and service vehicles, maintenance areas and rights-of-way (ROW). (FTA1) (FTA2)

Incidental take

Take of any federally listed wildlife species that is incidental to, but not the purpose of, otherwise lawful activities (see definition for "take") [ESA section 10(a)(1)(B)].

Incident Reporting Thresholds

For an incident to be reportable, it must involve a transit vehicle or occur on transit property, and result in death, injury, or property damage in excess of \$1,000. (FTA1)

Indicator Species

A species used as a gauge for the condition of a particular habitat, community, or ecosystem. A characteristic, or surrogate species for a community or ecosystem.

Infrastructure

- 1) In transit systems, all the fixed components of the transit system, such as rights-of-way, tracks, signal equipment, stations, park-and-ride lots, bus stops, maintenance facilities.

2) In transportation planning, all the relevant elements of the environment in which a transportation system operates. (TRB1)

Injury Rate

The average number of nonfatal injuries per accident or per one hundred accidents. (FHWA4)

Inshore Traffic Zone

A designated area between the landward boundary of a traffic separation scheme and the adjacent coast, intended for local traffic. (DOI4)

Instrumental value

The worth of an entity as judged by its utility or usefulness to humans.

Intercity Rail

Rail transit service between cities and towns operation on private rights of way that are physically separated from other traffic (by curbs, barriers, grade separations, etc.) but have grade crossings for other vehicles and pedestrians, including regular street intersections

Intermodalism

Typically used in three contexts:

- 1) most narrowly, it refers to containerization, piggyback service, or other technologies that provide the seamless movement of good and people by more than one mode of transport.
- 2) more broadly, intermodalism refers to the provision of connections between different modes, such as adequate highways to ports or bus feeder services to rail transit.
- 3) In its broadest interpretation, intermodalism refers to a holistic view of transportation in which individual modes work together or within their own niches to provide the user with the best choices of service, and in which the consequences on all modes of policies for a single mode are considered. This view has been called balanced, integrated, or comprehensive transportation in the past. (BTS2)

Intersection

A point defined by any combination of courses, radials, or bearings of two or more navigational aids.

Interstate

Limited access divided facility of at least four lanes designated by the Federal Highway Administration as part of the Interstate System. (NHTSA3)

Interstate Highway

(See also Expressway, Freeway, Freeways and Expressways, Highway) A divided arterial highway for through traffic with full or partial control of access and grade separations at major intersections. (FHWA3)

Interstate Highway System

This system is part of the Federal Aid Primary system. It is a system of freeways connecting and serving the principal cities of the continental United States. (FHWA5)

Intrinsic value

The worth of an entity independent from external circumstances or its value to humans; value judged on inherent qualities of an entity rather than value to other entities.

In-Use Mile Per Gallon (MPG)

A Miles Per Gallon (MPG) that was adjusted for seasonality and annual miles traveled. (DOE4)

ISTEA (Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991)

Signed December 1991, ISTEA authorized highways, highway safety, and mass transit for the following six years. Total funding of about \$155 billion was available over fiscal years 1992-1997.

The purpose of the Act was clearly enunciated in its statement of policy:

"to develop a National Intermodal Transportation System that is economically efficient, environmentally sound, provides the foundation for the Nation to compete in the global economy and will move people and goods in an energy efficient manner."

J

K

Keystone species

Species that have a disproportionately large effect on other species in a community.

Kiss and Ride

A place where commuters are driven and dropped off at a station to board a public transportation vehicle. (APTA1)

L

Land Area

Based on the U.S. Bureau of the Census definition, this includes dry land and land temporarily or partially covered by water, such as marshlands, swamps and river flood plains, systems, sloughs, estuaries and canals less than 1/8 of a statute mile (0.2 kilometers) in width and lakes, reservoirs and ponds less than 1/16 square mile (0.16 square kilometers) in area. [For Alaska, 1/2 mile (0.8 kilometers) and 1 square mile (2.60 square kilometers) are substituted for these values]. The net land area excludes areas of oceans, bays, sounds, etc., lying within the 3 mile (4.8 kilometers) U.S. jurisdiction as well as inland water areas larger than indicated above. (FHWA2)

Landscape mosaic scale

With respect to corridors, the connection of major landscape features using broad habitats,

including representation of interior habitat, as corridors.

Land Use

Designates whether the general area in which the crash occurred is urban or rural, based on 1980 Census Data. (NHTSA1)

Lane

A portion of a street or highway, usually indicated by pavement markings, that is intended for one line of vehicles. (TRB1)

Level of Service (LOS)

1) A set of characteristics that indicate the quality and quantity of transportation service provided, including characteristics that are quantifiable and those that are difficult to quantify.

2) For highway systems, a qualitative rating of the effectiveness of a highway or highway facility in serving traffic, in terms of operating conditions.

A qualitative measure describing operational conditions within a traffic stream and how motorists and/or passengers perceive the condition. Six levels of service are designated, from A (best) to F (worst). LOS describes conditions in terms of:

- speed
- travel time
- freedom to maneuver
- traffic interruptions
- comfort
- convenience
- safety

Light Rail

A streetcar type vehicle operated on city streets, semi-exclusive rights of way, or exclusive rights of way. Service may be provided by step entry vehicles or by level boarding. (49CFR37)

An electric railway with a "light volume" traffic capacity compared to "heavy rail." Light rail may use shared or exclusive rights-of-way, high or low platform loading, and multi-car trains or single cars. Also known as "Streetcar", "Trolley car", and "Tramway". (APTA1) Lightweight passenger rail cars operating singly (or in short, usually two-car, trains) on fixed rails in right-of-way that is not separated from other traffic for much of the way. Light rail vehicles are driven electrically with power being drawn from an overhead electric line via a trolley or a pantograph. (FTA1)

Line corridor

A simple, narrow corridor consisting of all edge habitat, usually connecting small habitat patches.

Linear Referencing System (LRS)

The total set of procedures for determining and retaining a record of specific points along a highway. Typical systems used are mile point, milepost, reference point, and link-node. (FHWA2)

Listed species

Species, including subspecies and distinct vertebrate populations, of fish, wildlife, or plants listed as either endangered or threatened under section 4 of the ESA.

Local

Refers to roads or streets that have a low level of traffic mobility and a high level of land access. In addition to functional classification this phrase may also refer to local government having jurisdiction for a highway or system.

Local and Suburban and Interurban Passenger Transportation Transit

Includes establishments that provide local and suburban passenger transportation, such as those providing passenger transportation within a single municipality, contiguous municipalities, or a municipality and its suburban areas by bus, rail, car subway, either separately or in combination. Also included are sightseeing, charter, intercity passenger operations, and establishments providing passenger terminal and maintenance facilities. (BEA1)

Local and Suburban Transit

Establishments primarily engaged in furnishing local and suburban mass passenger transportation over regular routes and on regular schedules, with operations confined principally to a municipality, contiguous municipalities, or a municipality and its suburban areas. Also included in this industry are establishments primarily engaged in furnishing passenger transportation by automobile, bus, or rail to, from, or between airports or rail terminals over regular routes and those providing bus and rail commuter services. (BOC1)

Local Roads

Those roads and streets whose principal function is to provide direct access to abutting land. (FHWA5)

Local Streets and Roads

Streets whose primary purpose is feeding higher order systems, providing direct access with little or no through traffic. (NHTSA3)

Local Trip

An intracity or short mileage trip by commercial motor vehicle. (FHWA4)

M

Magnetic levitation train (MagLev)

A train powered by electromagnets that raise rail cars about six inches above a guideway and propel them at speeds of up to 300 mph.

Maintenance

Inspection, overhaul, repair, preservation, and the replacement of parts, but excludes preventive maintenance. (14CFR1) All expenses, both direct and indirect, specifically identifiable with the repair and upkeep of property and equipment. (BTS4)

Means of Transportation

A mode used for going from one place (origin) to another (destination). Includes private and public modes, as well as walking. For all travel day trips, each change of mode constitutes a

separate trip. (FHWA3)

Median Category

Inclusion of a median within single instance of road. (DOI3)

Median Included

Median is included within the instance of road. (DOI3)

Median Not Included

Median is not included because there is no median or median is wide enough to cause separate instances of road. (DOI3)

Metapopulation

A network of semi-isolated populations with some level of regular or intermittent migration and gene flow among them, in which individual populations may be extinct by them be colonized from other populations.

Metropolitan Planning Area

The geographic area in which the metropolitan transportation planning process required by 23 U.S.C. 134 and section 8 of the Federal Transit Act (49 U.S.C. app. 1607) must be carried out. (23CFR420)

Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)

The forum for cooperative transportation decisionmaking for a metropolitan planning area. (23CFR420) Formed in cooperation with the state, develops transportation plans and programs for the metropolitan area. For each urbanized area, a Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) must be designated by agreement between the Governor and local units of government representing 75% of the affected population (in the metropolitan area), including the central cities or cities as defined by the Bureau of the Census, or in accordance with procedures established by applicable State or local law (23 U.S.C. 134(b)(1)/Federal Transit Act of 1991 Sec. 8(b)(1)). (FHWA2)

Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)

Areas defined by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget. A Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) is 1) A county or a group of contiguous counties that contain at least one city of 50,000 inhabitants or more, or 2) An urbanized area of at least 50,000 inhabitants and a total MSA population of at least 100,000 (75,000 in New England). The contiguous counties are included in an MSA if, according to certain criteria, they are essentially metropolitan in character and are socially and economically integrated with the central city. In New England, MSAs consist of towns and cities rather than counties. (DOE4) (DOE5) (FHWA3)

Metropolitan Status

A building classification referring to the location of the building either located within a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) or outside a MSA. (DOE5)

Mile Marker

A point on a feature indicating the distance, in miles, measured along the course or path of the

feature from an established origin point on the feature. (DOI3)

Minimum viable population size

The smallest isolated population size that has a specified percent chance of remaining extant for a specified period of time in the face of foreseeable demographic, genetic, and environmental stochasticities, plus natural catastrophes.

Minor Arterial

Streets and highways linking cities and larger towns in rural areas in distributing trips to small geographic areas in urban areas (not penetrating identifiable neighborhoods). (NHTSA3)

Mitigation

Under NEPA regulations, to moderate, reduce or alleviate the impacts of a proposed activity, including: a) avoiding the impact by not taking a certain action or parts of an action; b) minimizing impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of the action; c) rectifying the impact by repairing, rehabilitating or restoring the affected environment; d) reducing or eliminating the impact over time by preservation and maintenance operations during the life of the action; e) compensating for the impact by replacing or providing substitute resources or environments (40 CFR 1508.20).

Mobile link species

Mobile keystone species who influence the survival or reproductive success of other species through their movement over a geographic area.

Mode

Transportation planners, analysts, and decisionmakers refer to the means of transportation as a mode. (BTS2)

Monetizing

The process of placing monetary value on typically non-monetary goods and processes such as biological material or ecological processes.

Monorail

An electrical railway in which a rail car or train of cars is suspended from or straddles a guideway formed by a single beam or rail. Most monorails are either heavy rail or automated guideway systems. (APTA1) A single rail on which a vehicle or train of cars travels. (DOI3)

Motor Vehicle

A vehicle, machine, tractor, trailer, or semitrailer, or any combination thereof, propelled or drawn by mechanical power and used upon the highways in the transportation of passengers or property. It does not include a vehicle, locomotive, or car operated exclusively on a rail or rails, or a trolley bus operated by electric power derived from a fixed overhead wire, furnishing local passenger transportation similar to street-railway service. (49CFR171) (49CFR383) (49CFR390) Any mechanically or electrically powered device not operated on rails, upon which or by which any person or property may be transported upon a land highway. The load on a motor vehicle or trailer attached to it is considered part of the vehicle. (NSC1)

Automobile, Bus, Car, Minivan, Semitrailer, Taxi, Tractor, Tractor-Semitrailer, Truck, Van.

Motorized Vehicle

Includes all vehicles that are licensed for highway driving. Specifically excluded are snow mobiles and minibikes. (FHWA3)

Multimodal Transportation

(See also Intermodal) Often used as a synonym for intermodalism. Congress and others frequently use the term intermodalism in its broadest interpretation as a synonym for multimodal transportation. Most precisely, multimodal transportation covers all modes without necessarily including a holistic or integrated approach. (BTS2)

Multiple Use concept

Refers to the simultaneous and compatible use of public land and water resources by different interest groups. For example, U.S. public law requires that national forests be open to recreational use, timber extraction, mining or other concessions, and biodiversity protection.

MUM (Multiple Use Module)

Consisting of a central, protected core area surrounded by buffer zones of increasing human use further from the core.

N

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Federal legislation establishing national policy that environmental impacts will be evaluated as an integral part of any major Federal action. Requires the preparation of an EIS for all major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment (42 U.S.C. 4321-4327).

National Highway System (NHS)

This system of highways designated and approved in accordance with the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 103b). (23CFR500)

The Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 directed the Secretary of Transportation to develop a proposed National Highway System (NHS) to be approved by Congress. All highways deemed to be of significant importance to the economic and security interests of our Nation are included in the NHS.

"The purpose of the National Highway System is to provide an interconnected system of principal arterial routes which will serve major population centers, international border crossings, ports, airports, public transportation facilities and other intermodal transportation facilities and other major travel destinations; meet national defense requirements; and serve interstate and interregional travel." --Title 23, United States Code, Section 103

The continued prosperity and growth of our country and the well being of its citizens largely depends on a strong intermodal transportation system. The Nation's highway, waterway, rail and air systems all provide critical services to meet the growing transportation needs of both industry and commerce as well as individual citizens. The NHS links all modes of travel to provide a seamless transportation system in this country.

National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), Section 106

Requires Federal agencies to consider the potential effects of a project on a property that is listed in, or eligible for, the National Register of Historic Places. If an initial review identifies any effects, the Federal agencies must consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and members of the public to consider ways to mitigate the harm.

National Transportation System (NTS)

An intermodal system consisting of all forms of transportation in a unified, interconnected manner to reduce energy consumption and air pollution while promoting economic development and supporting the Nation's preeminent position in international commerce. The NTS includes the National Highway System (NHS), public transportation and access to ports and airports. (APTA1)

Network

A reserve system connecting multiple nodes and corridors into a landscape that allows material and energy flow among the various components.

Node

An area with unusually high conservation value that may serve as one center of a regional conservation network.

O**Occupancy**

The number of persons, including driver and passenger(s) in a vehicle. Nationwide Personal Transportation Survey (NPTS) occupancy rates are generally calculated as person miles divided by vehicle miles. (FHWA3)

Occupant

Any person who is in or upon a motor vehicle in transport. Includes the driver, passengers, and persons riding on the exterior of a motor vehicle (e.g., a skateboard rider who is set in motion by holding onto a vehicle). (NHTSA3)

Open to Public Travel Road

A road must be available, except during scheduled periods, extreme weather or other emergency conditions, and open to the general public for use by four-wheel, standard passenger cars without restrictive gates, prohibitive signs, or regulation other than restrictions based on size, weight, or class of registration. Toll plazas of public toll facilities are not considered restrictive gates. (23CFR460) (FHWA2)

Overall Vehicle Width

The nominal design dimension of the widest part of the vehicle, exclusive of signal lamps, marker lamps, outside rearview mirrors, flexible fender extensions, and mud flaps, determined with doors and windows closed and the wheels in the straight-ahead position. (49CFR571)

P

Park

A place or area set aside for recreation or preservation of a cultural or natural resource. (DOI4)

Park and Ride

An access mode to transit in which patrons drive private automobiles or ride bicycles to a transit station, stop, or carpool/vanpool waiting area and park the vehicle in the area provided for the purpose. They then ride the transit system or take a car-or vanpool to their destinations. (TRB1)

Park and Ride Lot

Designated parking area for automobile drivers who then board transit vehicles from these locations. (APTA1)

Parking Area

An area set aside for the parking of motor vehicles. (DOI4)

Parkway

A highway that has full or partial access control, is usually located within a park or a ribbon of park-like developments, and prohibits commercial vehicles. Buses are not considered commercial vehicles in this case. (FHWA2)

Passenger Car

A motor vehicle with motive power, except a multipurpose passenger vehicle, motorcycle, or trailer, designed for carrying 10 persons or less. (49CFR571)

Pass-Through Funds

Operating financial assistance passed through to other transit agencies that have no relationship to the directly operated and/or purchased transportation services provided by the designated recipient. (FTA1)

Passenger Car Equivalence

The representation of larger vehicles, such as buses, as equal to a quantity of automobiles (passenger cars) for use in level of service and capacity analyses. (TRB1)

Passenger-Carrying Volume

The sum of the front seat volume and, if any, rear seat volume, as defined in 40 CFR 600.315, in the case of automobiles to which that term applies. With respect to automobiles to which that term does not apply, "passenger-carrying volume" means the sum in cubic feet, rounded to the nearest 0.1 cubic feet, of the volume of a vehicle's front seat and seats to the rear of the front seat, as applicable, calculated in 49 CFR 523.2 with the head room, shoulder room, and leg room dimensions determined in accordance with the procedures outlined in Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) Recommended Practice J1100a, Motor Vehicle Dimensions (Report of Human Factors Engineering Committee, Society of Automotive Engineers, approved September 1973 and last revised September 1975). (49CFR523)

Passenger-Miles

One passenger transported 1 mile. Passenger miles are computed by the summation of the products of the aircraft-miles flown on each inter-airport flight multiplied by the number of passengers carried on the flight. (DOE6)

The total number of miles traveled by transit passengers (e.g., a bus that carries 5 passengers for a distance of 3 miles incurs 15 passenger miles). (FTA2)

Passenger-Miles Traveled (PMT)

One person traveling the distance of one mile. Total passenger-miles traveled by all persons. (DOE6)

Pedestrian

Any person not in or upon a motor vehicle or other vehicle. (NHTSA3) (NSC1)

Pedestrian Walkway

A continuous way designated for pedestrians and separated from the through lanes for motor vehicles by space or barrier. (23CFR652)

People Mover

An automated transportation system (e.g., continuous belt system or automated guideway transit) that provides short-haul collection distribution service, usually in a major activity center. (TRB1)

Personal-use vehicles

Cars, pickup trucks, or vans; other small trucks; rental cars, trucks, or vans; recreational vehicles or motor homes; or motorcycles or mopeds.

Person Miles of Travel (PMT)

A measure of person travel. When one person travels one mile, one person mile of travel results. Where 2 or more persons travel together in the same vehicle, each person makes the same number of person miles as the vehicle miles. Therefore, four persons traveling 5 miles in the same vehicle, make 4 times 5 or 20 person miles. (FHWA3)

Person Trip

A person trip is a trip by one or more persons in any mode of transportation. Each person is considered as making one person trip. For example, four persons traveling together in one auto make four person trips. (FHWA3)

Plans, Specifications and Estimates (PS&E)

The documentation submitted by the project sponsor that must receive State DOT approval before Federal funds can be obligated to proceed with contract letting and project construction.

Plant

Any member of the plant kingdom, including seeds, roots and other parts thereof.

Population viability analysis (PVA)

A comprehensive analysis of the many environmental and demographic factors that affect survival

of a population, usually applied to small populations at risk of extinction.

Preliminary Engineering Phase

The project development phase that includes preparation of environmental, and construction documentation, such as plans, specifications, and cost estimate. Preliminary Right of Way work, appraisal maps and estimates may also be reimbursed with Federal-aid funding for the preliminary engineering phase.

Preservation

The act or process of applying measures to sustain the existing form, integrity, and material of a building or structure, and the existing form and vegetative cover of a site.

Proposed action

Under NEPA regulations, a plan that has a goal which contains sufficient details about the intended actions to be taken or that will result, to allow alternatives to be developed and its environmental impacts to be analyzed (40 CFR 1508.23).

Proposed species

A species for which a proposed rule to add the species to the Federal list of threatened and endangered species has been published in the Federal Register.

Public Transit

Passenger transportation services, usually local in scope, that is available to any person who pays a prescribed fare. It operates on established schedules along designated routes or lines with specific stops and is designed to move relatively large numbers of people at one time. (TRB1)

Public Transit Agencies

A public entity responsible for administering and managing transit activities and services. Public transit agencies can directly operate transit service or contract out for all or part of the total transit service provided. (FTA1)

Public Transit System

An organization that provides transportation services owned, operated, or subsidized by any municipality, county, regional authority, state, or other governmental agency, including those operated or managed by a private management firm under contract to the government agency owner. (APTA1)

Public Transportation

Transportation by bus, rail, or other conveyance, either publicly or privately owned, which provides to the public general or special service on a regular and continuing basis. Also known as "mass transportation", "mass transit" and "transit." (APTA1)

Public Use Class I Road

A principal road/rural parkway which constitute the main access route, circulatory tour, or thoroughfare for visitors. (DOI1)

Public Use Class II Road

(See also Overlook Access) A connector road which provides access within an area of scenic, scientific, recreational or cultural interest, such as overlooks, campgrounds, etc. (DOI1)

Public Use Class III Road

A special purpose road which provides circulation within public use areas, such as campgrounds, picnic areas, visitor center complexes, concessioner facilities, etc. These roads generally serve low-speed traffic and are often designed for one way circulation. (DOI1)

Public Use Class IV Road

A primitive road. (DOI1)

Public Use Road

All roads that are intended principally for the use of visitors for access into and within the public use area included. This includes all roads that provide vehicular passage for visitors, or access to such representative park areas as point of scenic or historic interest, campgrounds, picnic areas, lodge areas, etc. County, State, and U.S. numbered highways maintained by the National Park Service are included in this category for purposes of functional classification. (DOI1)

Public Way

Any public street, road, boulevard, alley, lane, or highway, including those portions of any public place that have been designated for use by pedestrians, bicycles, and motor vehicles. (TRB1)

Q

R

3R

Level of road improvement, including resurfacing, restoration and rehabilitation

Rail-Trail

A multi-use trail sited within an abandoned railroad corridor, or along an active rail line, and used for recreation and transportation purposes.

Railroad

All forms of non-highway ground transportation that run on rails or electro-magnetic guideways, including;

- 1) Commuter or other short-haul rail passenger service in a metropolitan or suburban area, and
- 2) High speed ground transportation systems that connect metropolitan areas, without regard to whether they use new technologies not associated with traditional railroads. Such term does not include rapid transit operations within an urban area that are not connected to the general railroad system of transportation. (49CFR225) (49CFR229) (49CFR245)

Rapid Rail

(See also Rail Mode, Rapid Transit Rail, Transit Mode, Transit Railroad, Transit Railway) A subway-type transit vehicle railway operated on exclusive private rights of way with high level platform stations. Rapid rail also may operate on elevated or at grade level track separated from other traffic. (49CFR37)

Rapid Transit

Rail or motorbus transit service operating completely separate from all modes of transportation on an exclusive right-of-way. (APTA1)

Record of Decision

Under NEPA regulations, a concise public record of decision prepared by the Federal agency, pursuant to NEPA, that contains a statement of the decision, identification and discussion of all factors used by the agency in making its decision, identification of all alternatives considered, identification of the environmentally preferred alternative, a statement as to whether all practical means to avoid or minimize environmental harm from the alternative selected have been adopted (and if not, why they were not), and a summary of monitoring and enforcement measures where applicable for any mitigation (40 CFR 1505.2).

Regional Scale

With respect to corridors, the largest scale of activity, in which major swaths of habitat connect regional networks of reserves.

Regulation

Any agency statement of general or particular applicability designed to implement, interpret, or prescribe policy in order to carry out the purpose of a law. Synonymous with "rule" it has the force of law. (USCG1)

Rehabilitation

The act or process of returning a property to a state of utility through repair or alteration which makes possible an efficient contemporary use while preserving those portions or features of the property which are significant to its historical, architectural, and cultural values.

Remote sensing

any technique for analyzing landscape patterns and trends using low altitude aerial photography or satellite imagery.

Any environmental measurement that is done at a distance.

Residential Vehicle

Motorized vehicles used by U.S. households for personal transportation. Excluded are motorcycles, mopeds, large trucks, and buses. Included are automobiles, station wagons, passenger vans, cargo vans, motor homes, pickup trucks, and jeeps or similar vehicles. In order to be included, vehicles must be

- 1) Owned by members of the household, or
- 2) Company cars not owned by household members but regularly available to household members for their personal use and ordinarily kept at home, or

3) Rented or leased for 1 month or more. (DOE5)

Restoration

The act or process of accurately recovering the form and details of a property and its setting as it appeared at a particular period of time by means of the removal of later work or by the replacement of missing earlier work.

Restoration Ecology

The process of using ecological principles and experience to return a degraded ecological system to its former or original state.

Restricted Road

Public road with restricted public use. (DOI3)

Restricted Speed

A speed that will permit stopping within one-half the range of vision, but not exceeding 20 miles per hour. (49CFR236)

Reverse Commuting

Movement in a direction opposite the main flow of traffic, such as from the central city to a suburb during the morning peak period. (APTA1)

Ride Quality

A measure of the comfort level experienced by a passenger in a moving vehicle, including the vibration intensity and frequency, accelerations (longitudinal, transverse, and vertical), jerk, pitch, yaw, and roll. (TRB1)

Ridership

The number of rides taken by people using a public transportation system in a given time period. (APTA1)

Ridesharing

A form of transportation, other than public transit, in which more than one person shares the use of the vehicle, such as a van or car, to make a trip. Also known as "carpooling" or "vanpooling." (APTA1)

Right of Way

The land (usually a strip) acquired for or devoted to highway transportation purposes. (FHWA2)
Rail-Highway Grade Crossing: (See also Grade Crossings; Highway-Rail Crossing) A location where one or more railroad tracks cross a public highway, road, or street or a private roadway, and includes sidewalks and pathways at or associated with the crossing. (49CFR225)

Riparian

Pertaining to land adjacent to the water line. (TNDOT1)

Road

An open way for the passage of vehicles, persons, or animals on land. (DOI4)
See also Arterial, Expressway, Freeway, Highway, Local Streets and Roads, Roadway.

Road Class

The category of roads based on design, weatherability, their governmental designation, and the Department of Transportation functional classification system. (DOI3)

Road Functional Classification

The classification of a road in accordance with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) 9113.16. Code as follows: C-collector, L-local, R-resource. (DOI2)

Road Miles

The length in miles of the single or first main track measured by the distance between terminals or stations, or both. Road miles does not include industrial and yard tracks, sidings, and all other tracks not regularly used by road trains operated in such specific service, and lines operated under a trackage rights agreement. (49CFR245)

Roadway

The portion of a highway, including shoulders, for vehicular use. (FHWA2) That part of a trafficway used for motor vehicle travel. (NHTSA1) (NHTSA2) (NHTSA3) (NHTSA4)

Roadway Function Class

The classification describing the character of service the street or highway is intended to provide. (NHTSA3)

Route Miles

The total number of miles included in a fixed route transit system network. (APTA1)

Run Off

That portion of the precipitation that flows over the land surface and ultimately reaches streams to complete the water cycle. Melting snow is an important source of this water as well as all amounts of surface water that move to streams or rivers through any given area of a drainage basin. (DOE5)

Rural

Usually refers to areas with population less than 5,000. (DOE6)

Rural Area

Outside the limits of any incorporated or unincorporated city, town, village, or any other designated residential or commercial area such as a subdivision, a business or shopping center, or community development. (49CFR195)

Include all areas of a state outside of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approved adjusted census boundaries of small urban and urbanized areas. (FHWA2)

Rural Arterial Routes

Those public roads that are functionally classified as a part of the rural principal arterial system or

the rural minor arterial system as described in volume 20, appendix 12, Highway Planning Program Manual. (23CFR470)

Rural Highway

Rural highway is any highway, road, or street that is not an urban highway. (FHWA5)

Rural Major Collector Routes

Those public roads that are functionally classified as a part of the major collector subclassification of the rural collector system as described in volume 20, appendix 12, Highway Planning Program Manual. (23CFR470)

S

Scenic byway

America's Byways are designated by the U.S. Secretary of Transportation from nominations made by communities wishing to recognize and celebrate roads for their outstanding scenic, cultural, historic, natural, recreational and archeological qualities.

Scree

Small rock debris on a mountainside or base of a hill or cliff.

Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act

Section 4(f) resources consist of publicly owned parks, recreation areas, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, and national, state, or local historic sites. FHWA cannot approve a project that uses land from a Section 4(f) resource unless it determines that no feasible and prudent alternative exists. If that finding is made, all efforts must be made to minimize harm. Courts have interpreted "use" to mean any substantial impairment of the significance even where there is no physical use.

Section 7 (ESA)

The section of the ESA which describes the responsibilities of Federal agencies in conserving threatened and endangered species. Section 7(a)(1) requires all Federal agencies "in consultation with and with the assistance of the Secretary [to] utilize their authorities in furtherance of the purposes of this Act by carrying out programs for the conservation of endangered species and threatened species." Section 7(a)(2) requires Federal agencies to "ensure that any action authorized, funded, or carried out by such agency...is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of any endangered species or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of..." designated critical habitat.

Section 9 (ESA)

The section of the ESA dealing with prohibited acts, including the "take" of any listed species without specific authorization of the Fish and Wildlife Service or the National Marine Fisheries Service for species under the jurisdiction of each agency.

Shared Roadway

Any roadway upon which a bicycle lane is not designated and which may be legally used by bicycles regardless of whether such facility is specifically designated as a bikeway. (23CFR652)

Sign

A roadway-associated feature which provides information to people passing. (DOI4)

Sink

A habitat in which local mortality exceeds local reproductive success for a given species.

Small Urban Area

Places of 5,000 to 49,999 urban population (except in the case of Maine and New Hampshire) outside of urbanized areas. As a minimum the small urban area includes any place containing an urban population of 5,000 or more as designated by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. (FHWA2)

Source and sink dynamics

Spatial linkage of population dynamics such that high-quality habitats (sources) provide excess individuals that maintain population density, through migration, in low-quality habitats (sinks).

Species

Any subspecies of fish or wildlife or plants, and any distinct population segment of any species or vertebrate fish or wildlife which interbreeds when mature. (*ESA, Section 3*)

Speeding

Operating at a speed, possibly below the posted limit, above that which a reasonable and prudent person would operate under the circumstances. (USCG2)

Stakeholders

Refers to groups or their representatives having an interest (stake) in the outcome of the project. Typical stakeholders for transportation projects include elected officials, planning and zoning commissioners, metropolitan planning organizations, sewer districts, utility companies, business interest, agencies, and neighborhood associations.

Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area

A county that contains at least one city of 50,000 population, or twin cities with a combined population of at least 50,000, plus any contiguous counties that are metropolitan in character and have similar economic and social relationships. (FAA4) (FAA15)

State

Any of the several States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

State agency

Any State agency, department, board, commission, or other governmental entity which is responsible for the management and conservation of fish, plant, or wildlife resources within a State. (*ESA, Section 3*)

State-Designated Route

A preferred route selected in accordance with U.S. DOT "Guidelines for Selecting Preferred Highway Routes for Highway Route Controlled Quantities of Radioactive Materials" or an

equivalent routing analysis which adequately considers overall risk to the public. (49CFR171)

State-Listed Species

In addition to the federal listing system under the Endangered Species Act, many states have enacted parallel legislation pertaining to the protection of threatened and endangered species in those states. Such species are not necessarily threatened or endangered in other state, nor are they necessarily listed as federal threatened or endangered species.

State Transportation Agency

The State highway department, transportation department, or other State transportation agency to which Federal-aid highway funds are apportioned. (23CFR420)

Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP)

The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) requires each designated Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPO) to develop a Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), and the state to develop a Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) as a condition to securing federal funds for transportation projects.

Stewardship

Management of natural resources that conserves them for future generations. Usually used to distinguish from short-term, utilitarian management objectives.

Stochastic

Any random process, such as mortality due to weather extremes.

Strip corridor

A broad corridor consisting of some interior habitat and intact and functioning communities.

Subway

- 1) That portion of a transportation system that is constructed beneath the ground surface, regardless of its method of construction.
- 2) An underground rail rapid transit system or the tunnel through which it runs.
- 3) In local usage, sometimes used for the entire rail rapid transit system, even if it is not all beneath the ground surface.
- 4) A pedestrian underpass. (TRB1)

Succession

The natural, sequential change of species composition of a community in a given area.

Surface Rights

Fee ownership in surface areas of land. Also used to describe a lessee's right to use as much of the surface of the land as may be reasonably necessary for the conduct of operations under the lease. (DOE5)

Sustainability

Management practices that do not take more from an ecosystem than it can provide. Theoretically,

sustainable management practices can continue in perpetuity, since they do not lead to exhaustion of natural resources.

Sustainable Development

Refers to attempts to meet economic objectives in ways that do not degrade the underlying environmental support system.

Human activities conducted in a manner that respects the intrinsic value of the natural world, the role of the natural world in human well-being, and the need for humans to live on the income from nature's capital rather than the capital itself.

T

Take: Under section 3(18) of the ESA, "...to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct" with respect to federally listed endangered species of wildlife. Federal regulations provide the same taking prohibitions for threatened wildlife species [50 CFR 17.31(a)]. The term has since been interpreted to include significant habitat modification or destruction.

Talus

Slopes of large broken rock debris on a mountainside. (DOI4)

TEA-21 (The Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century)

Enacted June 9, 1998 as Public Law 105-178. TEA-21 authorizes the Federal surface transportation programs for highways, highway safety, and transit for the 6-year period 1998-2003. The TEA 21 Restoration Act, enacted July 22, 1998, provided technical corrections to the original law.

Threatened species: any species which is likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range. (*ESA, Section 3*)

Traffic Assignment Zone

In planning, a division of a study area that is represented by a centroid and used for traffic assignment purposes. (TRB1)

Traffic Circle

A junction of roads that form a circle around which traffic normally moves in one direction. (DOI3)

Traffic Control Device

A sign, signal, marking, or other device placed on or adjacent to a street or highway, by authority of a public body or official that has jurisdiction, to regulate, warn, or guide traffic. (TRB1)

Traffic Control System

A block signal system under which train movements are authorized by block signals whose indications supersede the superiority of trains for both opposing and following movements on the

same track. (49CFR236)

Traffic Count

A record of the number of vehicles, people aboard vehicles, or both, that pass a given checkpoint during a given time period. (TRB1)

Trafficway

That part of a trafficway designed, improved, and ordinarily used for motor vehicle travel. (NHTSA3)

Trafficway Class

A classification of highways based on a route sign. (NHTSA1)

Trail

A cleared path, beaten track, or improved surface, as through woods or wilderness, not usually trafficked by vehicles because of width, seasonal conditions, or access restrictions. (DOI3)

Transit

Refers to passenger service, typically with a seating capacity of more than seven persons including the driver, and provided to the general public at published fares.

Another name for "public transportation." (APTA1)

Transportation Bill

The bill refers to the market value of all purchases of transportation services and facilities; it includes all domestic expenditures made by an economy for transportation purposes. Although the transportation bill does not reflect several significant non-market costs, it is a useful indicator of a country's transportation expenditures, and transportation analysts closely follow changes in the bill and its components. (BTS1)

Transportation Improvement Program

As stated in FHWA-UMTA joint regulations that govern transportation programming, a prioritized program of transportation projects to be implemented in appropriate stages over several years (i.e., 3-5 yr.). The projects are recommended from those in the transportation systems management element and the long-range element of the planning process. This program is required as a condition for a locality to receive federal transit and highway grants. (TRB1)

Transportation Industry

Those establishments or parts of establishments that build transportation facilities and equipment; operate transportation facilities; provide for-hire transportation services for individuals, households, businesses, or government agencies; provide supporting in-house transportation for a business or government agency; arrange transportation services for individuals, households, businesses or government agencies; provide supporting services necessary to the provision of transportation services; or administer transportation programs. This definition includes a diverse cross section of the economy, such as automobile manufacturers, railroads, travel agents, school district bus operators, port authorities, gas stations, and the trucking fleets of major grocery chains.

(BTS2)

Transportation Research Information Services (TRIS)

The Transportation Research Board (TRB)-maintained computerized storage and retrieval system for abstracts of ongoing and completed research, development, and technology transfer (RD&T) activities, including abstracts of RD&T reports and articles. (23CFR420)

Transportation Sector

The transportation sector consists of private and public vehicles that move people and commodities. Included are automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles, railroads and railways (including streetcars), aircraft, ships, barges, and natural gas pipelines. (DOE3)
Consists of both private and public passenger and freight transportation, as well as government transportation, including military operations. (DOE6)

Travel Day

A 24-hour period from 4:00 a.m. to 3:59 a.m. designated as the reference period for studying trips and travel by members of a sampled household. (FHWA3)

Travel Day Trip

A travel day trip is defined as any one-way travel from one address (place) to another by any means of transportation (e.g., private motor vehicle, public transportation, bicycle, or walking). When travel is to more than one destination, a separate trip exists each time one or both of the following criteria is satisfied: the travel time between two destinations exceeds 5 minutes, and/or the purpose for travel to one destination is different from the purpose for travel to another. The one exception is travel within a shopping center or mall. It is to be considered travel to one destination, regardless of the number of stores visited. (FHWA3)

Travel Density

The average number of vehicle miles driven on a section of highway each day divided by the length of the section in miles. It is expressed as a number of vehicles and may be referred to as average daily traffic (ADT). (FHWA1)

Travel Period

The 13 days immediately preceding the travel day and the designated travel day for a sampled household, for a total of 14 days. (FHWA3)

Travel Period Trip

A travel period trip is one-way to a destination which is 75 miles or more from home with a return home trip during the 14-day travel period. Travel to the destination is counted as one trip and travel to return home is counted as another trip. For example, a person living in Denver flies to San Francisco, stays one week, and returns to Denver during the 14-day travel period. This would be counted as two travel period trips-one outgoing and one return. The only time a travel period trip would not have a return trip collected is when the respondent moves his/her residence. (FHWA3)

Travel Surface

The type of material which forms the travel surface. Codes as follows: AG-aggregate, B-bituminous, C-concrete, CA-caliche, N-natural (graded and drained), NU- natural unimproved (wheel tracks, O.R.V.). (DOI2)

Trust Fund

Trust funds are funds that are designated by law as trust funds. They are usually financed by earmarked collections. A trust fund must use its income for the purposes designated by law, but it is not required to spend them all in the same period they are collected. The five transportation-related federal trust funds are highways, which includes highway and transit accounts; airports and airways; aquatic resource, which is of interest because of the boat safety account; harbor maintenance, and inland waterways. There is also a pipeline safety fund, however, it is not a trust fund. (BTS3)

U

Under Construction Road

Road construction has begun but is not completed. (DOI3)

Underpass

The grade separation where part or all of one feature instance is directly above part or all of another feature instance. (DOI3)

United States Coast Guard (USCG)

Established by act of January 28, 1915 (14 U.S.C. 1), became a component of the Department of Transportation on April 1, 1967, pursuant to the Department of Transportation Act of October 15, 1966 (49 U.S.C. app. 1651 note). The Coast Guard is a branch of the Armed Forces of the United States at all times and is a service within the Department of Transportation except when operating as part of the Navy in time of war or when the President directs. The predecessor of the Coast Guard, the Revenue Marine was established in 1790 as a federal maritime law enforcement agency. Other responsibilities include: search and rescue, maritime law enforcement, marine inspection, marine licensing, Great Lakes pilotage, marine environmental response, port safety and security, waterways management, aids to navigation, bridge administration, ice operations, deepwater ports, boating safety, Coast Guard auxiliary, military readiness, reserve training and Marine Safety Council. (OFR1)

United States Code

Contains a consolidation and codification of all general and permanent laws of the U.S. (USCG1)

United States (U.S.) Territories

Include Samoa, Guam, the Northern Marianas, and the Virgin Islands. (FHWA2)

Unpaved Road Surface

Gravel/soil and unimproved roads and streets (Surface/Pavement Type Codes 20, 30 and 40). (FHWA2)

Unsatisfactory Condition Classification

Facility is not operational and is not serving the purpose for which it was constructed. (DOI2)

Urban

Usually refers to areas with population of 5,000 or greater. (DOE6)

Urban Area

Any area that includes a municipality or other built up place which is appropriate, in the judgement of the Secretary of Transportation, for a public transportation system to serve commuters or others in the locality taking into consideration the local patterns and trends of urban growth. (FTA1)

Urban Arterial Routes

Those public roads that are functionally classified as a part of the urban principal arterial system or the urban minor arterial system as described in volume 20, appendix 12, Highway Planning Program Manual. (23CFR470)

Urban Collector Routes

Those public roads that are functionally classified as a part of the urban collector system as described in volume 20, appendix 12, Highway Planning Program Manual. (23CFR470)

Urban Highway

Any highway, road, or street within the boundaries of an urban area. An urban area is an area including and adjacent to a municipality or urban place with 5,000 or more population. The boundaries of urban areas are fixed by the states, subject to the approval of the Federal Highway Administration, for purposes of the Federal-Aid highway program. (FHWA5)

Urban Place

A U.S. Bureau of Census-designated area consisting of incorporated political units or closely settled unincorporated areas outside an urbanized area. (APTA1)

Urbanized Area

1) Areas with a population of 50,000 or more, at a minimum, encompass an entire urbanized area in a state, as designated by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) approved, adjusted urbanized area boundaries include the census defined urbanized areas plus transportation centers, shopping centers, major places of employment, satellite communities, and other major trip generators near the edge of the urbanized area, including those expected to be in place shortly.

2) An approximate classification of sample households as belonging to an urbanized area or not. Those classified as belong to an urbanized area were either in a central city of a Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), or in a MSA but outside the central city, and within a zip code area with a population density of at least 500 people per square mile in 1990. (FHWA2) (FHWA3)

Urbanized Area Formula Program Funds

Financial assistance from the Urbanized Area Formula Program (formerly Section 9). This program governs the distribution of the public transit capital and operating block grant appropriations by urbanized area. For this form, it is the Federal capital assistance granted to

public transit agency providers to designated recipients on behalf of transit providers. (FTA1)

V

Vanpool

A voluntary commuter ridesharing arrangement, using vans with a seating capacity greater than 7 persons (including the driver) or buses, which provides transportation to a group of individuals traveling directly from their homes to their regular places of work within the same geographical area, and in which the commuter/driver does not receive compensation beyond reimbursement for his or her costs of providing the service. (49CFR37)

Variable Operating Cost

In reference to passenger car operating cost, expenditures which are dependent on the amount of use of the car, such as the cost of gas and oil, tires, and other maintenance. (DOE6)

Vehicle

Motorized vehicles used by U.S. households for personal transportation. Excluded are motorcycles, mopeds, large trucks, and buses. Included are automobiles, station wagons, passenger vans, cargo vans, motor homes, pickup trucks, and jeeps or similar vehicles.

To be included, vehicles must be:

- 1) Owned by members of the household, or
- 2) Company cars not owned by household members but regularly available to household members for their personal use and ordinarily kept at home, or
- 3) Rented or leased for 1 month or more. (DOE4) (DOE5)

Vehicle Mile of Travel (VMT)

A unit to measure vehicle travel made by a private vehicle, such as an automobile, van, pickup truck, or motorcycle. Each mile traveled is counted as one vehicle mile regardless of the number of persons in the vehicle. (FHWA3)

The number of miles traveled nationally by vehicles for a period of 1 year. VMT is either calculated using 2 odometer readings or, for vehicles with less than 2 odometer readings, imputed using a regression estimate. (DOE5)

One vehicle traveling the distance of one mile. Total vehicle miles, thus, is the total mileage traveled by all vehicles. (DOE6)

Vehicle Miles

Vehicle miles are the miles of travel by all types of motor vehicles as determined by the States on the basis of actual traffic counts and established estimating procedures. (FHWA5)

The total number of miles traveled by transit vehicles. Commuter rail, heavy rail, and light rail report individual car miles rather than train miles for vehicle miles. (FTA2)

Vehicle Miles Operated

Sum of all miles operated by passenger vehicles, including mileage when no passengers are carried. When vehicles are operated in trains, each vehicle is counted separately-e.g., an eight-vehicle train operating for one mile equals eight vehicle miles. (APTA1)

Vehicle Occupancy

The number of persons, including driver and passenger(s) in a vehicle; also includes persons who did not complete a whole trip. Nationwide Personal Transportation Survey (NPTS) occupancy rates are generally calculated as person miles divided by vehicle miles. (FHWA3)

W**Watershed**

An area that is drained by a particular stream system. For instance, the Mississippi watershed consists of the entire area drained by the Mississippi and its tributaries.

Weekday

From 6 a.m. Monday to 5:59 p.m. Friday. (NHTSA3)

Weekend

From 6 p.m. Friday to 5:59 a.m. Monday. (NHTSA3)

X**Y****Z****Zoning**

An important component of reserve design which controls human activities within and adjacent to conservation reserves so that reserve function may be protected while some human activities, including economic benefit, may take place.

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