

CHAPTER 3

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

INTRODUCTION

This chapter describes the resources and values that could be affected by the proposed Travel Management Plan and discloses the potential impacts of the seven alternatives studied in detail in relation to the significant issues identified in Chapter 2. The analysis presented here forms the scientific and analytic basis for the comparisons made among these alternatives. For each significant issue, this chapter addresses:

- 1) The affected environment.
- 2) The analysis methodology.
- 3) The predicted direct and indirect and cumulative effects.
- 4) The consistency of the alternatives with laws, regulations, policy and federal, regional, state and local land use plans, including the Forest Plan.

Much of the effects analyses disclosed in this chapter are complex and not easily quantified. Each specialist used different modeling techniques that may result in slight variations in the display of information for similar issues. Many of the values presented are modeled predictions or extrapolations from research conducted in other areas or are for somewhat different issues than those being addressed. Therefore, it cannot be assumed that the actual effects would occur exactly as presented here. Of more importance is that this information allows for a relative comparison of differences among the alternatives.