

# ROADS ANALYSIS

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ALLEGHENY NATIONAL  
FOREST

# REGIONAL TRAINING

- Engineering: 56
- Fisheries: 6
- Wildlife 2
- LMP 25
- Rec / LA 6
- Timber 6
- Line 4
- Hydrologist 15
- Other 2

# Road Management Policy

- Key Components:
- **New Definitions**
- Transportation / Road Atlas
- Roads Analysis
- Compliance Deadlines
- Interim Requirements

# Road

- A motor vehicle travel way over 50 inches wide, unless designated and managed as a trail. (See Rule, 212.1, p. 3217)

# Classified Road

- Roads wholly or partially within or adjacent to National Forest System Lands that are determined to be needed for long-term motor vehicle access, including State roads county roads, privately owned roads, National Forest System roads, and other roads authorized by the Forest Service (See Rule, 212.1, p. 3217)

# Temporary Road

- Roads authorized by contract, permit, lease, other written authorization, or emergency operation not intended to be part of the forest transportation system and not necessary for long-term resource management (See Rule, 212.1, p. 3217)

# Unclassified Road

- Roads on National Forest System lands that are not managed as part of the forest transportation system, such as unplanned roads, abandoned travel ways, and off-road vehicle tracks that have not been designated and managed as a trail; and those roads that were once under permit or other authorization and were not decommissioned upon the termination of the authorization (See Rule, 212.1, p. 3217)

# Road Construction

- Old definition: Investment in construction of a road that results in a new road corridor.
- New definition: Activity that results in the addition of forest classified or temporary road miles. (See Rule, 212.1, p. 3217)

Addition of unclassified roads has to be considered road construction

# Road Reconstruction

- **Betterment:** Investment in construction activity that raises the traffic service level of a road or improves it's safety or operating efficiency.
- **New definition:**  
Improvement: Activity that results in an increase of an existing roads traffic service level, expands its capacity, or changes its original design function. (See Rule, 212.1, p. 3217)

# Road Reconstruction

- **Realignment:** Investment in construction activity that results in the new location of an existing road or portions thereof
- **New definition:**  
Realignment: Activity that results in a new location of an existing road or portions of an existing road and treatment of the old roadway (See Rule, 212.1, p. 3217)

# Road Reconstruction

- Restoration: Investment in construction activity required to rebuild a road to its approved traffic service level.
- New definition:  
Included within road maintenance

# Road Decommissioning

- Activities that result in the stabilization and restoration of unneeded roads to a more natural state (See Rule, 212.1, p. 3217)

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# Road Inventory

(See Policy, 7712.14, p. 3235 )

- Levels of inventory info is needed for:
  - Multi-forest and forest scale
  - Watershed and area scale
- Inventories include information on:
  - Classified roads
  - Unclassified roads
  - Temporary roads

# Classified Road Inventory

- Geospatial
- Jurisdiction
- Physical attributes
- Road condition
- Road management objectives

# Unclassified Road Inventory

- Usually that obtained from existing data and other readily available sources of information, such as aerial photographs.
- Geospatial
- Management actions taken to change status

# Inventory locations

- Use INFRA to store the physical attributes of all classified and unclassified roads.
- Inventories are to be available to the public at administrative headquarters units.

# Trail Atlas

- See Rule, 212.20, p. 3218
- NFS trails must be identified in the forest trail atlas and on maps, which are to be available to the public at Forest Supervisor and District Ranger offices. Trails must be clearly marked on the ground.

# Road Management Policy

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# When to do roads analysis

- When proposed road management activities would result in changes in access, such as changes in current use, traffic patterns, and road standards, ... (road construction, reconstruction, and decommissioning), those decisions must be informed by roads analysis, except as provided in section (See Policy, 7712.13, p. 3234)

# When Roads Analysis doesn't need to be done:

- Roads analysis below the forest scale is not automatically required, but may be undertaken at the discretion of the Responsible Official. When the Responsible Official determines that additional analysis is not needed for a project, the Responsible Official must document the basis for that conclusion. (See Policy, 7712.13c, p. 3235)

# Forest Supervisor responsibilities

- See Policy 7710.43, p. 3232
- Consult and involve Federal, State, Local, and Tribal transportation agencies in LMP
- Develop and maintain Atlas
- Complete and maintain classified and unclassified road inventory
- Assign to personnel with skills needed to do analysis
- Accomplish roads analysis consistent with this policy
- Develop and recommend multi-year project schedules

# Ranger Responsibilities

- See Policy 7710.44, p. 3232
- Approve Road Management Objectives

# Responsible Official Selects:

- Appropriate Scale
- Degree of detail

# Roads Analysis for Large Scale Assessments

- See Policy, 7712.13a, p. 3234
- Broad scale issues
- Integration with other Federal agencies, State, County, local, Tribal
- Forest Highway, Public Land Highway, PFSR
- Funding levels

# Roads Analysis at the Forest or Area Scale

- See Policy, 7712.13b, p. 3234
- Environmental Issues
- Social Issues
- Rights-of-way acquisition needs
- Forest Plan direction appropriate
- Resource Program needs
- Current and likely funding levels

# Unroaded Areas

- See Policy, 1920.5, p. 3229
- Any area without the presence of a classified road, that is of a size and configuration sufficient to protect the inherent characteristics associated with its roadless condition. Unroaded areas are distinct from and do NOT overlap with inventoried roadless areas.

# Forest Scale Roads Analysis Report

- See Policy 7712.13b2, p.3235
- Prepare report with accompanying maps to document information and analysis methods used to:
  - Identify access
  - Environmental priorities
  - Issues
  - Guidelines for road management
  - Key findings

# Watershed & Project Scale Roads Analysis

- See Policy, 7712.13c, p. 3235
- Identify needed and unneeded roads
- Identify environmental & public safety risks
- Opportunities & priorities for road improvements & decommissioning
- Identify areas of special sensitivity & unique resource values
- Other specific information that may be needed to support project level decisions

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  - Roads Analysis
  - **Compliance Deadlines**
  - Interim Requirements

# Deadlines

- Decisions made before January 12, 2002
- Decisions made after January 12, 2002
- Forest Level RAP – Jan 12, 2003??

# Region 2 Roads Analysis Guide

- Roads Analysis Guidance package
- ANF Roads Analysis Guide

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# Road Management Policy

- See Policy, 7712.16, p. 3236
- *Interim Requirements for Road Construction/Reconstruction in Inventoried Roadless and Contiguous Unroaded Areas*

# Road Management Policy

- See Policy, Appendix A, p. 3237
- OVERVIEW OF OVERALL ROAD MANAGEMENT POLICY

# ANF Roads Analysis

## Lessons Learned (to date!)

- Forest-Scale Roads Analysis First
- **Do not** try to do Roads Analysis as part of an Ecosystem Assessment at a Watershed Scale (EAWS)
- Ideally, do Roads Analysis at the sub-Forest or watershed scale
- Do Project-scale Roads Analysis early, on lower left side of NEPA triangle

# ANF Roads Analysis

## Lessons Learned (to date!)

- Use the six-step process outlined in the Roads Analysis Process book (FS-643)
- Project-specific Roads Analysis should be done by the same team as the project ID team
- Create a stand-alone Roads Analysis Report
- Explain internally and externally what Roads Analysis IS and IS NOT  
(public involvement)

# ANF Roads Analysis

## Lessons Learned (to date!)

- Roads Analysis Report is a “living” document and **not** a decision document!!
- A data intensive process – bring to first meeting all available data and identify data needs
- Consider sequestration
- Consider concise (two-page) Roads Analysis Report for small projects