

Appendix A: Glossary of Key Terms





Above, the number and type of visitors are social attributes of the setting.

Below, camping overnight in a quiet cove can be very peaceful.

Managerial attributes (setting). Managerial attributes are the features or characteristics of a recreation setting that may define and distinguish the recreation experience. Management attributes may include facilities (e.g., ranging from water markers to full service marinas and campgrounds), rules, regulations, water operations, educational programs, fees and charges, interpretation, signage, law enforcement, design, lighting, concessions, and special use permittees.

Physical attributes (setting). Physical attributes are features or characteristics of a recreation setting that may help to define and distinguish the recreation experience. Physical attributes can be divided into natural features or built structures of a more permanent or fixed nature. Examples of natural resource attributes include water quality, aquatic and terrestrial vegetation, topography, shoreline curvature, fish and wildlife habitat, soil, natural soundscape, and air quality. Examples of built structures include all those municipal, commercial, industrial, residential, agricultural, and major recreation buildings and infrastructure common to any city or community (e.g., dams, water and power conveyances, water control structures, residential subdivisions, industrial complexes, commercial centers, air and ground transportation systems, developed resorts and marinas, theme parks, and shipping and cargo facilities).

Recreation activity. Recreation activity is a leisure-time pursuit that a person participates in voluntarily to secure a pleasurable experience.

Recreation benefits. Recreation benefits are the positive gains or improvements made by people participating in recreation opportunities. The gains may include benefits for the individual, community, economy, or environment.

Recreation diversity. Recreation diversity is the type, variety, distribution, quality, and abundance of outdoor recreation opportunities. Diversity is accommodated through management of a spectrum of recreation opportunity classes, zones, or units named in WROS as urban, suburban, rural developed, rural natural, semi-primitive, and primitive.

Recreation experience. Recreation experience is the psychological and physiological response to participating in a particular recreation activity in a specific recreation setting. Recreationists consume a recreation experience (activity + setting = experience).

Recreation opportunity (RO). Recreation opportunity is the opportunity for a person to participate in a particular activity in a specific setting to realize a particular type of experience and subsequent benefits. RO = activity + setting = experience >>> benefits.

Recreation setting. Recreation setting is a geographic location composed of physical, social, and managerial attributes where a person participates in a particular activity to have a specific type of recreation experience. Managers manage the recreation setting.

Social attributes (setting). Social attributes are the features or characteristics of a recreation setting that may define and distinguish the recreation experience. Social attributes may include such features as (1) recreation use and users (e.g., the type, amount, time, location, distribution, origin, behaviors, and quality), (2) non-recreation use and users (e.g., business people, educational groups, agency personnel, scientists, farmers and ranchers, and local residents), and (3) special values associated with the cultural, historical, and spiritual or religious significance.

Suitable recreation acres. Suitable recreation acres are those acres within a project or planning area that can or will accommodate some type and level of recreation use. Unsuitable recreation acres may be those acres that include security closures, pose public safety hazards, contain sensitive wildlife habitat or heritage sites, have incompatible industrial activity, or are inaccessible because of topography or private land.

Visitor (recreation) capacity. Visitor capacity is the supply, or prescribed number, of recreation opportunities that can be accommodated in a particular area.

Water resources. Water resources is the term used in this guidebook to refer to the types of water resources to which WROS can be applied, including lakes, reservoirs, wetlands, bays, estuaries, rivers, coastal zones, and marine protected areas.

WROS classes, areas, or zones. WROS is a system of six classes of recreation opportunities ranging from urban to primitive. The word class refers to the narrative description of the six classes in this guidebook. When a body of water is mapped or delineated as belonging to one or more WROS classes, they are called WROS areas or zones.

Appendix B: A Directory of Related Systems and Sources of Information





Above, there are many ways to enjoy our great outdoors.

Below, boat safety classes can add to a persons enjoyment.

Bureau of Reclamation Information Sources:

- Recreation Facility Design Guidelines, 2002 www.usbr.gov/tsc/tsc8120.html
- Sign Guidelines for Planning, Design, Fabrication, Procurement, Installation, and Maintenance of Signs for Outdoor Public Use Areas, 2002 www.usbr.gov/pmts/planning/signguide/
- Social Analysis Manual, Vol. 1, 2001
- Public Involvement Manual, 2000
- Resource Management Plan Guidebook, 2003 www.usbr.gov/main/library/rmpg.pdf
- Impact of Fluctuating Reservoir Elevation on Recreation Use and Value, 2000
- Concession Management Policy, 2002
- Recreation Management Policy, 2000

U.S. Forest Service Information

- ROS Users Guide, 1982 http://fsweb.r9.fs.us/directives/user_aids/r9_user_guides/fsm_ros/
- Integrating People with Ecosystems: A Planning Technical Guide for Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness Resources, 2003
- National Visitor Use Monitoring (NVUM) Data Base
- National Survey on Recreation and the Environment (NSRE), www.srs.fs.fed.us/trends
- Landscape Aesthetics: A Handbook for Scenery Management, Agriculture Handbook No. 701
- The Built Environment Image Guide for the National Forest and Grasslands, 2002 www.fs.fed.us/recreation/programs/beig
- Meaningful Measures: Recreation Business Management System of the Forest Service, 2000 User Guide www.fs.fed.us/r3/measures
- Floating Trail Bridges and Docks, 2000

Other Sources of Information

- Visitor Capacity on Public Lands and Waters: Making Better Decisions, National Recreation and Parks Association, 2002
- Reservoirs of Opportunity: Report of the National Recreation Lakes Study Commission, 1999
- Recreation Value to the Nation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Institute of Water Resources www.usace.army.mil/recreation

A Sample of Some Field Locations with WROS Experience

- Lake Havasu, AZ, Donald Ellsworth, and Mike Henderson, BLM, (928) 505-1264
- Millerton Lake, CA, Bob Epperson, BOR, (559) 487-5408
- New Melones Lake, CA, Peggi Brooks, BOR, (209) 536-9094
- California State Parks, Wayne Woodroof, CA, (916) 445-8850
- Lake Shasta, CA, Kristi Cottini, USFS, (530) 242-5500

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For inservice staff training, orientation, and PowerPoint presentations, please contact the authors.

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