

## GLOSSARY

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<b>Term</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
acquisition	The purchasing of property, residences, or businesses for right-of-way necessary to construct or support a project.
adverse effect (historic and cultural resources)	Within the context of an historic and cultural resources analysis, an effect to an historic property that alters the characteristics which qualify it for the National Register of Historic Places in such a way that the property's eligibility for the National Register would be diminished.
arterial	A major street that primarily serves through-traffic, but also provides access to abutting properties. Arterials are often divided into principal and minor classifications depending on the number of lanes, connections made, volume of traffic, nature of traffic, speeds, interruptions (access functions), and length.
A-weight	A standard frequency weighting that simulates how humans perceive sound (dBA).
bicycle lane	A portion of a roadway reserved for preferential or exclusive use by bicycles. These lanes are identified using striping, signs, and/or pavement markings.
buffer (land use)	A transitional area that separates land uses that are not naturally compatible. Often the buffer is green space, and is termed a landscape buffer. Other times, a buffer can be a structure or a type of development.
capacity	The maximum sustained traffic flow of a transportation facility under prevailing traffic and roadway conditions in a specified direction.
Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)	The arrangement of the general and permanent rules published by the executive departments and agencies of the Federal government. It is divided into 50 titles that represent broad areas subject to federal regulation. Each volume of the CFR is updated once each calendar year.
congestion	The condition when unstable traffic flows constrain travel speeds to less than the posted limit. Recurring congestion is caused by constant excess traffic volume compared with the highway's capacity. Nonrecurring congestion is caused by unusual or unpredictable events such as traffic accidents.
construction footprint	The physical area affected by project construction activities.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
constructive use	A type of indirect use in which a transportation project's proximity effects (as opposed to direct effects) are so severe that the activities, features, or attributes that qualify a resource for protection under Section 4(f) are substantially impaired. Examples include excessive noise levels, diminished aesthetic features, or other indirect intrusions on the resource's environment or utility.
context-sensitive solutions	A collaborative, interdisciplinary approach to develop a transportation facility that fits its physical surroundings and is responsive to the community's scenic, aesthetic, social, economic, historic, and environmental values and resources, while maintaining safety and mobility.
corridor	Within the context of a visual analysis, the road or highway and the adjacent area that is visible from and extending along the highway. The distance the corridor extends out from the highway may vary depending on different factors, such as land use and topography, or the corridor may be defined as a set width, such as one-quarter or one-half mile.
cultural resource	Any district, site, building, structure, object, person or people, document, or traditional place that may be important in American history or prehistory.
decibel (dB)	A logarithmic based unit of measure of sound pressure.
Department of the Interior (DOI)	The nation's principal conservation agency, the DOI plays an important role in conserving the nation's natural and cultural heritage. It comprises many agencies, including the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Park Service.
Department of Transportation (DOT)	As the federal steward of the nation's transportation system, the DOT comprises agencies that provide transportation services to the American public, including the Federal Highway Administration; the Federal Transit Administration; the Federal Aviation Administration; and the U.S. Coast Guard.
direct effect	An effect caused by an action or alternative and occurring at the same time and location. Effects may be ecological, aesthetic, historic, cultural, economic, social, or health-related.
direct use	The physical and permanent procurement of a protected resource for use by a transportation project.
duration	The length of time of an event.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
easement	An agreement with a property owner that provides a limited right to make use of a property.
effect	Something brought about by a cause or agent; a result. This may include ecological, aesthetic, historic, cultural, economic, social, health, or other effects, whether direct, indirect, or cumulative. Effects may include those resulting from actions that may have both beneficial and detrimental effects.
eligible	Refers to cultural resources that meet the National Park Service criteria for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.
environmental impact statement (EIS)	A document prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act and/or the State Environmental Policy Act that identifies and analyzes, in detail, environmental effects of a proposed action. As a tool for decision-making, the EIS describes positive and negative effects and examines reasonable alternatives for an undertaking.
extraordinary magnitude	Within the context of a Section 4(f) analysis, a reference to exceedingly high costs or other substantial objectionable factors associated with a project alternative that characterizes the effects as beyond consideration as feasible and prudent.
feasible and prudent	Within the context of a Section 4(f) analysis, this phrase refers to the viability of an alternative that avoids the use of a Section 4(f) resource. The term "feasible" refers to the constructability of a project -whether or not it can be built using current construction methods, technologies, and practices. The term "prudent" refers to how reasonable the alternative is—in essence, whether or not it makes sense.
Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)	One of several agencies in the U.S. Department of Transportation, the FHWA provides federal financial assistance to the states through the Federal Aid Highway Program, the purpose of which is to construct and improve the National Highway System, urban and rural roads, and bridges.
general-purpose lane	A freeway or arterial lane available for use by all traffic.
high-capacity transit (HCT)	A system of public transportation services and facilities that provides a substantially higher level of passenger capacity, speed, and service frequency than traditional public transportation systems operating principally on general-purpose roadways. Examples include express buses on HOV lanes, passenger ferry service, light and heavy rail systems, and bus rapid transit.

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high-occupancy vehicle (HOV)	High-occupancy vehicle is a special designation for a bus, carpool, or vanpool provided as an encouragement to increase ride-sharing. Specially designated HOV lanes and parking are among the incentives for persons to pool trips, use fewer vehicles, and make the transportation system more efficient. HOV lanes are generally inside (left-side) lanes, and are identified by signs and a diamond on the pavement. Currently, two or more (2+) occupants are required to use the I-405 HOV lanes. Motorcycles are allowed to use freeway HOV lanes as well.
historic property	A cultural resource that is on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.
Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation (IAC)	The Office of the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation was renamed the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) in July 2007.
jurisdiction	A municipal government agency, such as a city or county, and as appropriate, federal, and state agencies and federally recognized tribes. The term also can mean “to have authority over.”
Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (LWCFA)	Federal legislation adopted in 1965 that established the Land and Water Conservation Fund, a matching-fund assistance program that provides grants which pay half the acquisition and development cost of outdoor recreation sites and facilities. Section 6(f) of the act prohibits the conversion of property acquired or developed with these grants to a non-recreational purpose without the approval of the Department of the Interior (DOI), National Park Service. The DOI must ensure that replacement lands of equal value, location, and usefulness are provided as a condition of such conversions.
minimization	Taking measures to reduce potential effects to the smallest practical amount, extent, size, or degree. Minimization could include alignment shifts, a commitment to seasonal construction windows, replacement of land or facilities, restoration or landscaping, or payment of fair market value for affected lands.
mitigation (Section 4(f))	Within the context of a Section 4(f) analysis, an effort to replace land or facilities either with resources that are comparable in value and function, or with monetary compensation that can be used to enhance the remaining land or facilities. The cost of mitigation should be a reasonable public expenditure in light of the severity of the impact on the Section 4(f) resource.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
modeling	Use of statistics and mathematical equations to simulate and predict real events and processes.
National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)	Standards established by the Environmental Protection Agency under the Clean Air Act for pollutant concentrations in outside air throughout the country. See also: "criteria pollutants".
National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)	Federal legislation adopted in 1969 that established a national environmental policy intentionally focused on federal activities and the desire for a sustainable environment balanced with other essential needs of present and future generations. NEPA also established federal agency responsibility and created the basic framework for integrating environmental considerations into federal decision-making. The fundamentals of the NEPA decision-making process include: an interdisciplinary approach in planning and decision-making for actions that affect the human environment, interagency coordination, consideration of alternatives, examination of potential environmental consequences and mitigation, documentation of the analysis, and making the information available to the public for comment prior to implementation.
National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA)	Federal legislation adopted in 1966 that requires federal agencies to consider the effects of their undertakings on historic properties and provide the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation with an opportunity to comment on such undertakings.
National Park Service (NPS)	An agency within the U.S. Department of the Interior, the NPS is charged with preserving the natural and cultural resources and values of the national park system for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of current and future generations. The NPS is keeper of the National Register of Historic Places. Under Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, the NPS also reviews land conversions for transportation projects.
National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)	Authorized under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, this is the Nation's official list of properties and other cultural resources that are recognized as deserving preservation. The National Register is administered by the National Park Service as part of a national program to coordinate and support public and private efforts to identify, evaluate, and protect our historic and archaeological resources. Properties listed in the register include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
noise abatement criteria	The FHWA noise abatement criteria specify exterior and interior noise levels for various land activity categories such as residential and commercial. WSDOT considers a noise impact to occur if predicted equivalent hourly noise levels (Leq (h)) approach within 1 dBA of the noise abatement criteria.
noise level	The sound pressure level measured using a meter with an "A" frequency weighting and reported as dBA.
noise wall	A designed wall that provides a noise buffer between a noise source and adjacent residences or other sensitive noise receptors.
non-motorized	Bicycle, pedestrian, and other modes of transportation not involving a motor vehicle.
official with jurisdiction	The legal representative at the agency owning or administering a resource, unless the agency has delegated or relinquished this authority via formal agreement.
proximity effects	See "constructive use."
prudent	See "feasible and prudent."
publicly owned	Property that is owned and/or operated by a public entity. If a governmental body has a proprietary interest in the land (such as fee ownership, drainage easements or wetland easements), it can be considered publicly owned. Land subject to a public easement in perpetuity can also be considered to be publicly owned land for the purpose for which the easement exists.
Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO)	The Recreation and Conservation Office is a state agency that serves two boards: the Recreation and Conservation Funding Board and the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. The agency is charged with implementing policies and programs established by the boards, the legislature, and the Governor. The RCO administers state and federal grant programs for recreation and habitat conservation.
retaining wall	A structure used to hold earth in place where the natural grade cannot be maintained.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
retention/detention pond	A drainage facility designed to reduce stormwater runoff quantity and quality effects either by holding the increased runoff volume that results from development for a considerable amount of time, allowing the suspended particles to settle out, and then slowly releasing it through natural means on site; or by holding the runoff for a short period of time and then releasing it to the stormwater management system for treatment and discharge.
right-of-way	Land purchased prior to the construction of transportation improvements along with land for sound walls, retaining walls, stormwater facilities, and other project features. This also includes permanent or temporary easements for construction and maintenance. Vacant land may also be set aside for future highway expansion under certain circumstances.
Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act	Under Section 106 of the Act, federal agencies must identify and evaluate cultural resources and consider how their undertakings affect historic properties eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. See also: "National Historic Preservation Act".
Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act	Section 4(f) of the U.S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 (49 USC 303) declares as a national policy that a special effort be made to preserve the natural beauty of the countryside, including public park and recreation lands, wildlife and waterfowl refuges, and historic sites.
Section 6(f) of The Land Water Conservation Fund Act (LWCFA)	Section 6(f) of The Land Water Conservation Fund Act directs the Department of the Interior, National Park Service to assure that replacement lands of equal value, location, and usefulness are provided as conditions to approve conversions of lands that were acquired with LWCFA funding.
sensitive receptors	Land uses that are considered to have an increased susceptibility to noise effects, such as residences and schools.
significance	Within the context of a Section 4(f) analysis, an expression of whether a resource is considered important within the recreational, park, and refuge objectives of the community. Barring a determination from the official with jurisdiction to the contrary, the Section 4(f) resource is typically presumed to be significant.
simulation	An illustration based on photographs from selected viewpoints that portrays proposed project features and changes to the visual condition.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Meaning</b>
State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)	A governor-appointed position and, typically, a member of a state historic preservation agency, the SHPO reviews projects for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.
study area	The area specifically evaluated for environmental effects.
substantially impaired	The condition where the protected activities, features, or attributes of a natural resource are largely diminished.
temporary occupancy	Within the context of a Section 4(f) analysis, an entry on the land that is so minimal that it does not constitute a use within the meaning of Section 4(f). This is the case when the duration is temporary, the scope of work is minor, there are no anticipated permanent adverse physical effects, and the land will be fully restored. For this provision to apply, there must be documented agreement of the appropriate federal, state, or local officials having jurisdiction over the resource regarding the above conditions.
use	Within the context of a Section 4(f) analysis, use generally occurs when (1) land from a Section 4(f) site is acquired for a transportation project, (2) there is an occupancy of land that is adverse in terms of the statute's preservationist purposes, or (3) the proximity effect of the transportation project on the Section 4(f) site, without acquisition of land, is so great that the functions of the Section 4(f) site are substantially impaired.
vehicle	Any car, truck, van, motorcycle, or bus designed to carry passengers or goods. Bicycles and other pedestrian-oriented vehicles are not included in this definition.
viewers	People who have views of the project or resource. Viewers are usually discussed in terms of general categories of activities, such as resident, boater, jogger, or motorist. See also: viewer groups.
visual corridor	The changing views along the facility experienced by users.
visual quality	A subjective measure of the character of the visual resource. The many factors that contribute to a landscape's visual quality are grouped under intactness, unity, and vividness.
visual resources	The collection of all features and things that can be seen in an area.

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