



Trail corridor

Pacific Northwest National Scenic Trail Advisory Council

October 15, 2015



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Trail corridor

1. Law
2. Policy
3. How
4. Examples



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Section 7(a) of the National Trails System Act:

*Secretary shall select the **rights-of-way** ... and shall publish notice thereof*

.....

*The **location and width of such rights-of-way** across Federal lands under the jurisdiction of another Federal agency shall be by agreement between the head of that agency and the appropriate Secretary.*

In policy and practice, more than linear feature of trail tread:

*provide for ... the conservation and enjoyment of the **nationally significant scenic, historic, natural, or cultural qualities** [Sec. 3(a)].*



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Executive Order 13195 “Trails for America in the 21st Century”

Federal agencies have duty in *protecting the **trail corridors** associated with national scenic trails ... to the to the degrees necessary to ensure that the values for which each trail was established remain intact.*

Providing and promoting a wide variety of trail opportunities and experiences for people of all ages and abilities

Providing trail opportunities of all types, with minimum adverse impacts and maximum benefits for natural, cultural, and community resources



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BLM Manual 6250 National Scenic and Historic Trail Administration defines the trail corridor as *a public land area of sufficient width within which to encompass National Trail resources, qualities, values, and associated settings and the primary use or uses that are present*



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National Park Service – Director’s Order 45

include, at a minimum, those provisions stipulated in 16 USC 1244(e) or (f) that outline trail comprehensive plan requirements

identify the minimum level of regulation necessary to protect the resources and attributes that warranted the trail's designation by Congress



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Forest Service Handbook 1909.12 – Chapter 20

Identify Congressionally designated national scenic and historic trails and plan components must provide for the management of rights-of-ways

Plan components must be compatible with the objectives and practices identified in the comprehensive plan for the management of the national scenic and historic trail.



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**So how
do we
do it?**



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Zone	Distance
Foreground (visible)	0' to 1/2 mile
Middle Ground	1/2 mile to 4 miles
Background	4 miles to horizon.

Scenery Management System (SMS)



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Unit	NST	Management Area / Corridor description	year
George Washington – Jefferson NF	AT	The foreground area visible from the Appalachian National Scenic Trail footpath, and as designated on a case-by-case basis associated trail shelters, overnight use sites, viewpoints, water sources and spur trails.	2014
Cherokee National Forest	AT	Those lands mapped as the foreground area visible from the Appalachian National Scenic Trail (A.T.) footpath, trail shelters, overnight use sites, viewpoints, water sources and spur trails.	2004
Green Mountain NF	AT	The foreground area visible from the AT footpath and associated trail shelters, overnight use sites, viewpoints, water sources, and spur trails. This MA has a minimum width of 500 feet on either side of the AT footpath for protection from social, aural, and other impacts. The minimum width will apply to areas on either side of the Appalachian Trail where the mapped foreground area is 500 feet or less.	2006
White Mountain NF	AT	the Appalachian National Scenic Trail management area is the land designated as 0.5 miles either side of the trail and includes spur trails to shelters, overnight-use sites, viewpoints, and water sources.	2005
Lake Tahoe Basin Mgmt Unit	PCT	Foreground Scenic Corridor with narrowing at developed sites with associated strategies, desired conditions, standards, and guidelines.	2014
CA State BLM DRECP	PCT	Protect 0.5 miles from centerline of scenic trail corridor (all alternatives); Restrict renewable energy development within 1 miles of scenic trail corridor; VRM Class II within 1 mile from centerline of historic trail corridor	2014 Draft
Colville NF	PNT	The corridor where management direction applies consists of the visible foreground, which is generally one-half mile in width either side of the centerline of the trail, including viewpoints, water sources, campsites, and spur trails to these features.	2015 Draft

Example of ½ mile from center on each side of the PNT on the Kettle Crest, Colville NF

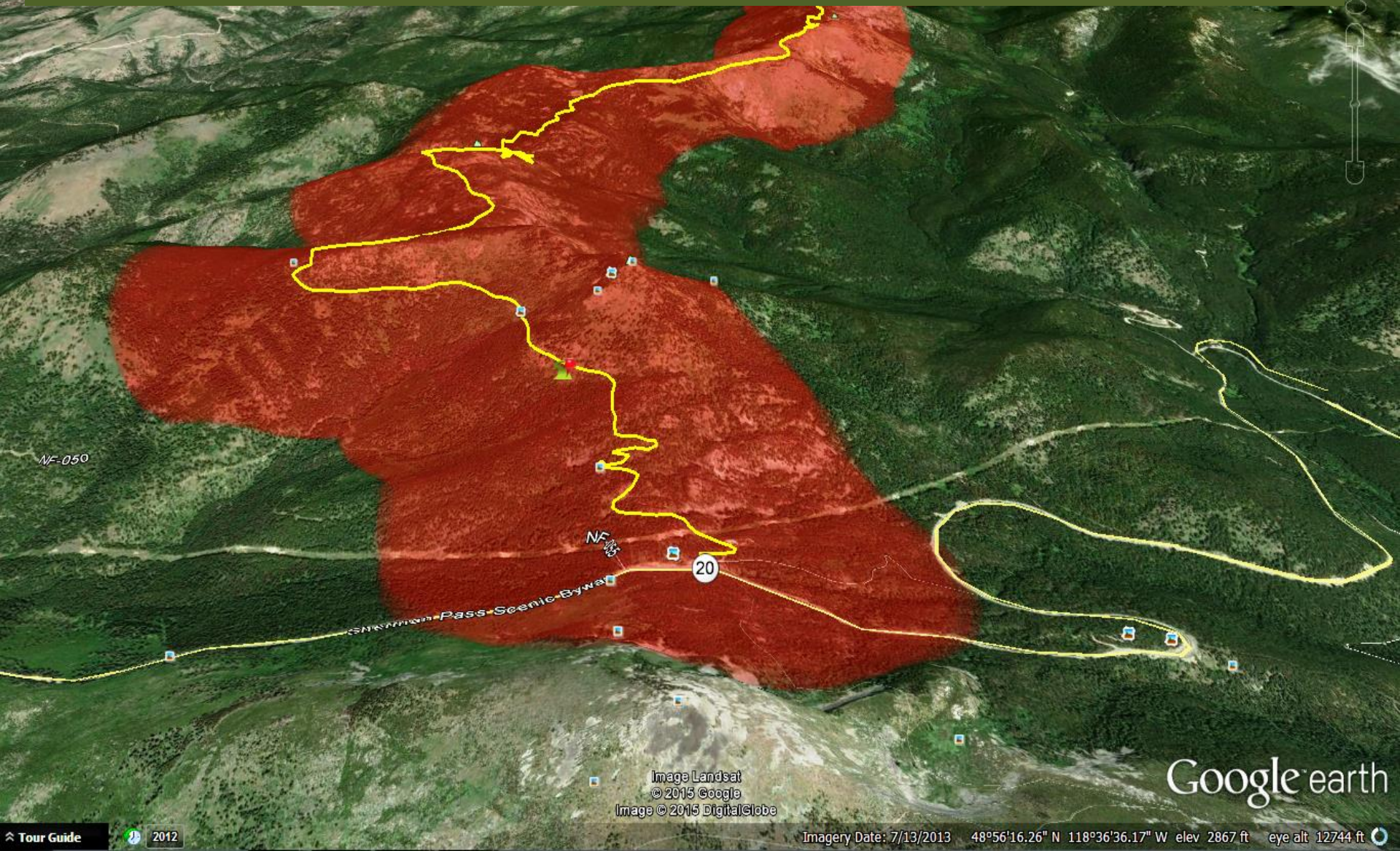


Image Landsat
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Google earth

Imagery Date: 7/13/2013 48°56'16.26" N 118°36'36.17" W elev 2867 ft eye alt 12744 ft

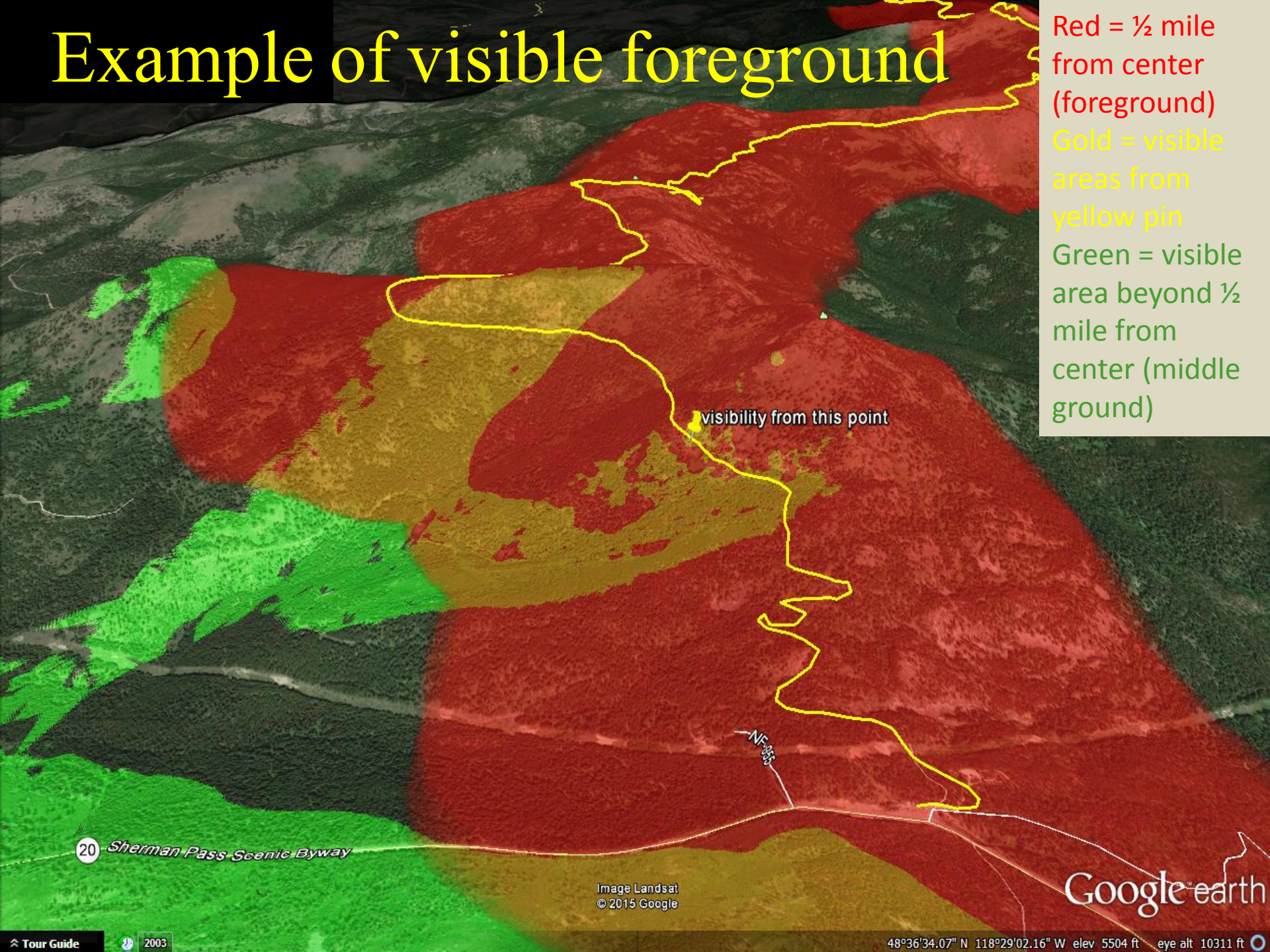
Tour Guide 2012

Example of visible foreground

Red = ½ mile from center (foreground)

Gold = visible areas from yellow pin

Green = visible area beyond ½ mile from center (middle ground)



visibility from this point

NF 455

20 Sherman Pass Scenic Byway

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**Route relocations and corridor
are main topics for our second
Advisory Council meeting**



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