Chapter V – GLOSSARY

The following terms are used in the RMP as defined below.

**Actual Expenses:** Expenses directly related to the permitted activity. These expenses may include the costs of such items as food, rentals, transportation, and permit or use fees. Actual expenses do not include the rental or purchase of personal equipment, amortization of equipment, salaries or other payments to participants, or profit.

**Camp/Campground:** A land use area designed and used for overnight camping. The level of physical improvements varies from undeveloped to highly developed. Put-in and takeout by boaters may occur, depending on location. Road access may or may not exist. Special Use Permits are required for commercial operations.

**Carrying Capacity:** A prescribed number and type of people that an area will accommodate, given the desired biophysical/cultural resources, visitor experiences, and management program.

**Commercial Use:** Recreational use of the river for business or financial gain. The activity, service, or use is considered commercial if any of these conditions is present:

1. Any person, group, or organization makes or attempts to make a profit, receives money, amortizes equipment, or obtains goods or services as compensation from participants in recreation activities occurring on the river and led, sponsored by, or organized by that person, group, or organization. Compensation for recreation services may come from participants and/or other sources.
2. Anyone collects a fee or receives other compensation that is not strictly a sharing of actual expenses, or exceeds actual expenses, incurred for the purposes of the activity, service, or use. (See Glossary definition of Actual Expenses.)
3. There is public advertising to seek participants.
4. Participants pay for a duty of care, i.e., an expectation of safety.

As noted, public advertising qualifies a use as commercial. Public advertising includes, for example, newspaper ads, Internet banners, radio, television air time, newsletters, bulletin board announcements, web site or online social postings, flyers, posters or e-mails.

Use by nonprofit organizations is commercial and subject to a permit requirement when any of the preceding criteria is present. The nonprofit status of any group or organization, alone, does not determine that an event is noncommercial. By contrast, profitmaking organizations are automatically classified as commercial, even if that part of their activity covered by the permit is not profitmaking.

Commercial use can be either public or nonpublic. Public commercial use is characterized by efforts to promote the activity as available for general public participation. Nonpublic commercial uses are those that are available only to a limited group of participants (e.g., members of a club). Examples of commercial activity include, but are not limited to, fundraising, outfitter/guide services, courses with a recreation component, and outdoor skills workshops.

An activity may be deemed noncommercial where no compensation is received for the activity, the activity leaders’ positions are not established to organize and/or conduct recreation activities, no fees other than cost sharing of actual expenses are paid by participants, the activity is not publicly advertised, and the organizers share trip expenses equally with participants.
**Duty of Care:** An expectation of safety owed to participants by service providers as a result of compensation or because the trip leader has a legal obligation to provide for the safety of the participants.

**Financial Gain:** Gain as a result of an individual or entity receiving or attempting to receive money, donations, gratuities, or gifts; amortizing equipment; or bartering for goods or services. Financial gain includes payments of money; revenue from the sale of images or broadcast rights; onsite sales or rentals; and gratuities, donations, gifts, bartering, trophy fees, etc., regardless of source, associated with the use of the river.

**First-Aid Kit:** A first aid kit should include supplies for treating medical emergencies and traumatic injuries (gloves, facial barrier, splinting material, trauma dressings, etc.).

**Institutional Group:** A non-commercial group participating in a river trip through an accredited academic program as part of the educational curriculum of a school, college, or university. Fees or charges may only be collected to cover the actual costs of the trip.

**Large Group:** A non-commercial/private group of four or more boats having three or more occupants, or a total of 18 or more people on the river without a River Use Permit.

**Limiting Factors:** Any natural, social, or economic constraint to use of the river system.

**Lunch and Rest Stops:** A location along the river where non-commercial and/or commercial boaters stop for a period of time to rest or have lunch and put-in or takeout does not occur.

**Non-Commercial/Private Boater:** Members of the general public who float the river for recreational purposes where actual expenses are shared among all members or participants and no financial or business gain will be derived from the proposed use. Fundraising, for any purpose, renders an activity a commercial use.

**Outfitter:** A business or organization who organizes and transports people on the river. Outfitters are required to hold a River Use Permit. Outfitters are permitted for Commercial Use of the river. (Chapter III, Element 6 contains more details of outfitter requirements.)

**Participant:** An individual directly involved in an activity. A participant may be considered essential to completing the activity, for example a pit crew member or spotter who directly supports a competitor in a four-wheel drive event.

**Pirate Boaters:** Any person or outfitter operating on the South Fork who meets the definition of commercial outfitter, but does not hold a River Use Permit for such operations.

**Public Advertising:** Any written, oral, or graphic statement or representation made by any person or event representative to the general public for the purpose of soliciting participants for a recreational activity or event (e.g., television, radio, Internet/social media sites available to the general public, listing on public event calendars, printed brochures, newspapers, billboards, banners, and signs). Advertising is considered public if it is an inducement for anybody to participate, as opposed to an invitation or communication to members of an identifiable membership such as a church or club. The posting of information on an organization’s website would not, on its own, be considered public advertising. If **paid** public advertising is present, a River Use Permit is required.

**Put-in:** A location where rafts, kayaks, and other craft are physically placed in the water; the act of ingress to the river with boats, equipment, and people for trip origination.
Rapids (Class I, II, III, IV, V, VI): A whitewater difficulty rating system adopted by the American Whitewater Affiliation.

Class I: Very easy (beginner). Waves small, regular; passages clear; sandbanks, some artificial difficulties like bridge piers; riffles.

Class II: Easy (intermediate). Rapids of medium difficulty, with passages clear and wide; low ledges; spraydecks useful.

Class III: Medium (experienced). Waves numerous, high, irregular; rocks, eddies, and rapids with passages that are clear through narrow, requiring expertise in maneuvering; inspection usually needed; spraydeck needed.

Class IV: Difficulty (highly skilled with several years’ experience with organized group). Long rapids, waves powerful and irregular; dangerous rocks; boiling eddies; passages difficult to reconnoiter; inspection mandatory first time.

Class V: Extremely difficult (teams of experts). Extremely difficult, long, and very violent rapids following each other almost without interruption; riverbed extremely obstructed; big drops, violent current, very steep gradient; reconnoitering essential but difficult.

Class VI: Extremely difficult (teams of experts). Difficulties of Class V carried to the extreme of navigability. Nearly impossible and very dangerous. For teams of experts only at favorable water levels.

Registration: As used in this RMP, the act of providing information to the County prior to each boating season or each trip. Registration enables the County to collect information, confirm that applicable requirements are met, and disseminate information concerning safety, trespass, and environmental protection. Registration requirements vary by user group, and are specified in Chapter III, Element 6.

Repair Kit: Repair kits suitable for each type of boat on the trip. A suitable repair kit included supplies capable of temporarily repairing tears in fabric, replacing or repairing valves and frame components in addition to inflating boats.

River User: A general description of people who use the river for a variety of activities, including swimming, boating, and fishing, and for aesthetic enjoyment.

River Use Permit: A permit issued by the County that enables an outfitter to operate on the South Fork. River Use Permits specify client and guest allocations and include terms, conditions and requirements that must be met.

Run (Upper, Middle and Lower): A reach or segment of the South Fork.

Upper Run: Reach of the South Fork from below Chili Bar Dam to Coloma.

Middle Run: Reach of the South Fork from Coloma to Greenwood Creek.

Lower Run: Reach of the South Fork from Greenwood Creek to Skunk Hollow/Salmon Falls.

Shuttle: A term used to describe a route and/or vehicle trips required from the put-in location to the takeout location.

Special Use Permit (SUP): A permit issued by the County that allows specific land uses pursuant to terms and conditions identified in the permit.

Sweep Kit: A sweep kit (a.k.a. a rescue kit or z-drag kit) contains gear to rescue a trapped boat which will allow for the use of a mechanical advantage.
**Takeout**: A location where rafts, kayaks, and other craft are physically removed from the water; the act of egress from the river with boats, equipment, and people for trip termination.

**Threshold**: Measurable levels of a particular limiting factor that can be used for management of the river over time. This RMP incorporates river use and density thresholds into its management mechanisms in the interest of public safety and natural resources protection.

**User Day**: A day, or any portion of a day, that a paying passenger, commercial outfitter, or private boater floats or otherwise travels on the river. A user day is defined as one person (i.e. student, client, guest, participant, etc.).

**User Day Fee**: A per person, per day fee.

**User Group**: A general term inclusive of four defined types of boaters used in this RMP to distinguish river users by type and requirements. User groups identified within this RMP include: permitted outfitters, institutional groups, large groups, and private boaters. Specific definitions and requirements associated with each of these user groups are contained within Chapter III, Element 6.