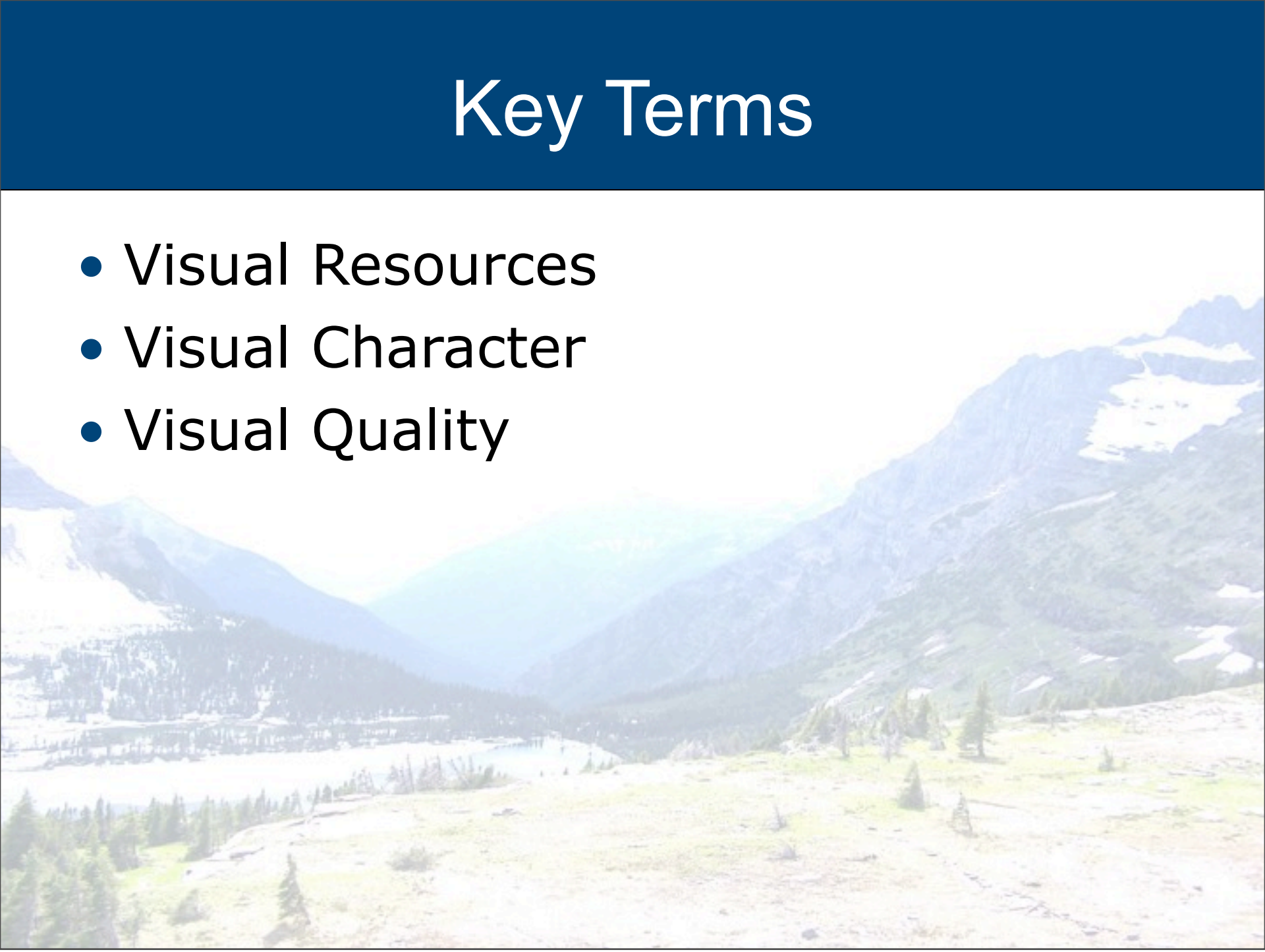
Looks Count!

Key Terms

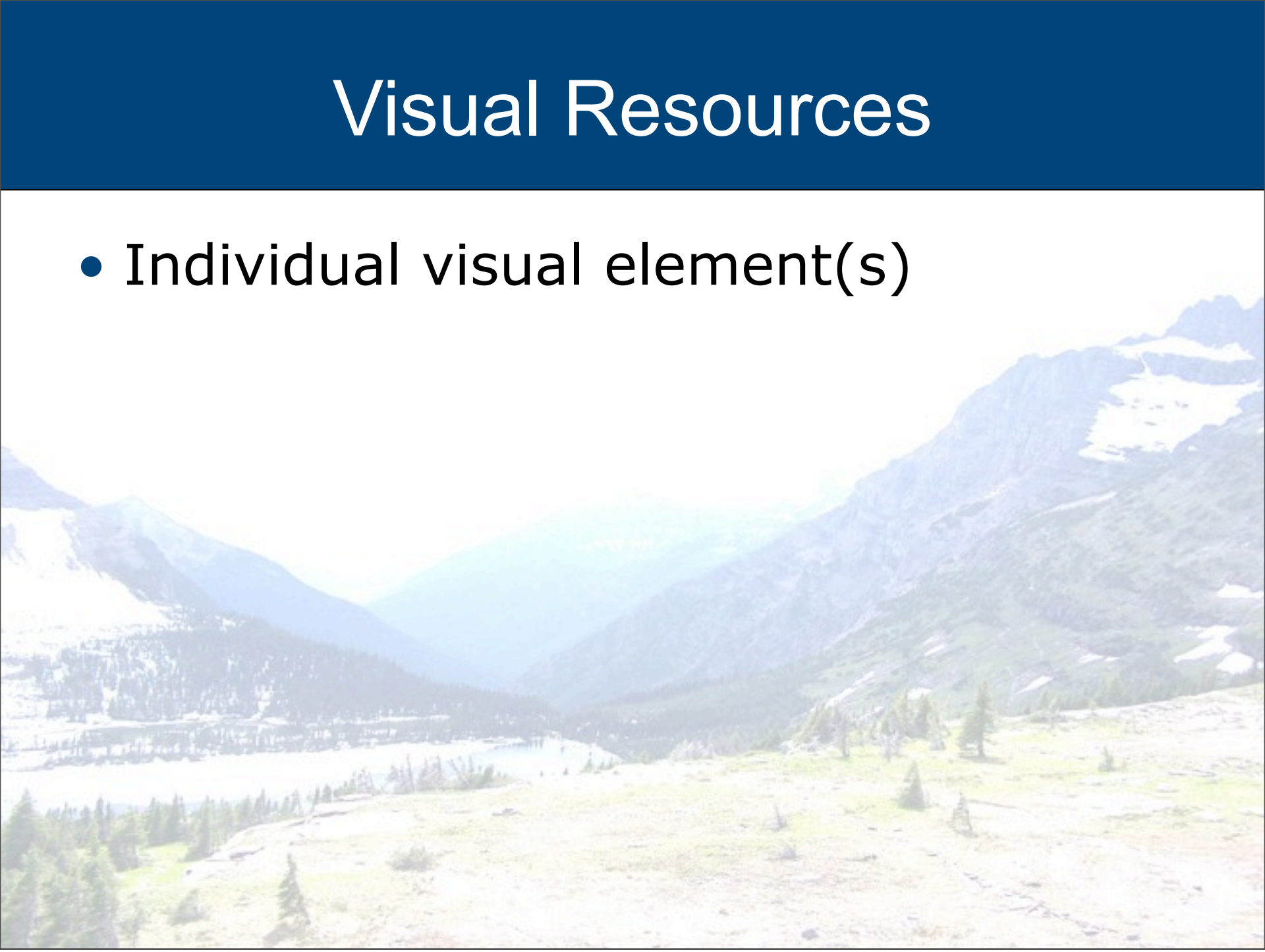
- Visual Resources
- Visual Character
- Visual Quality



Visual Resources

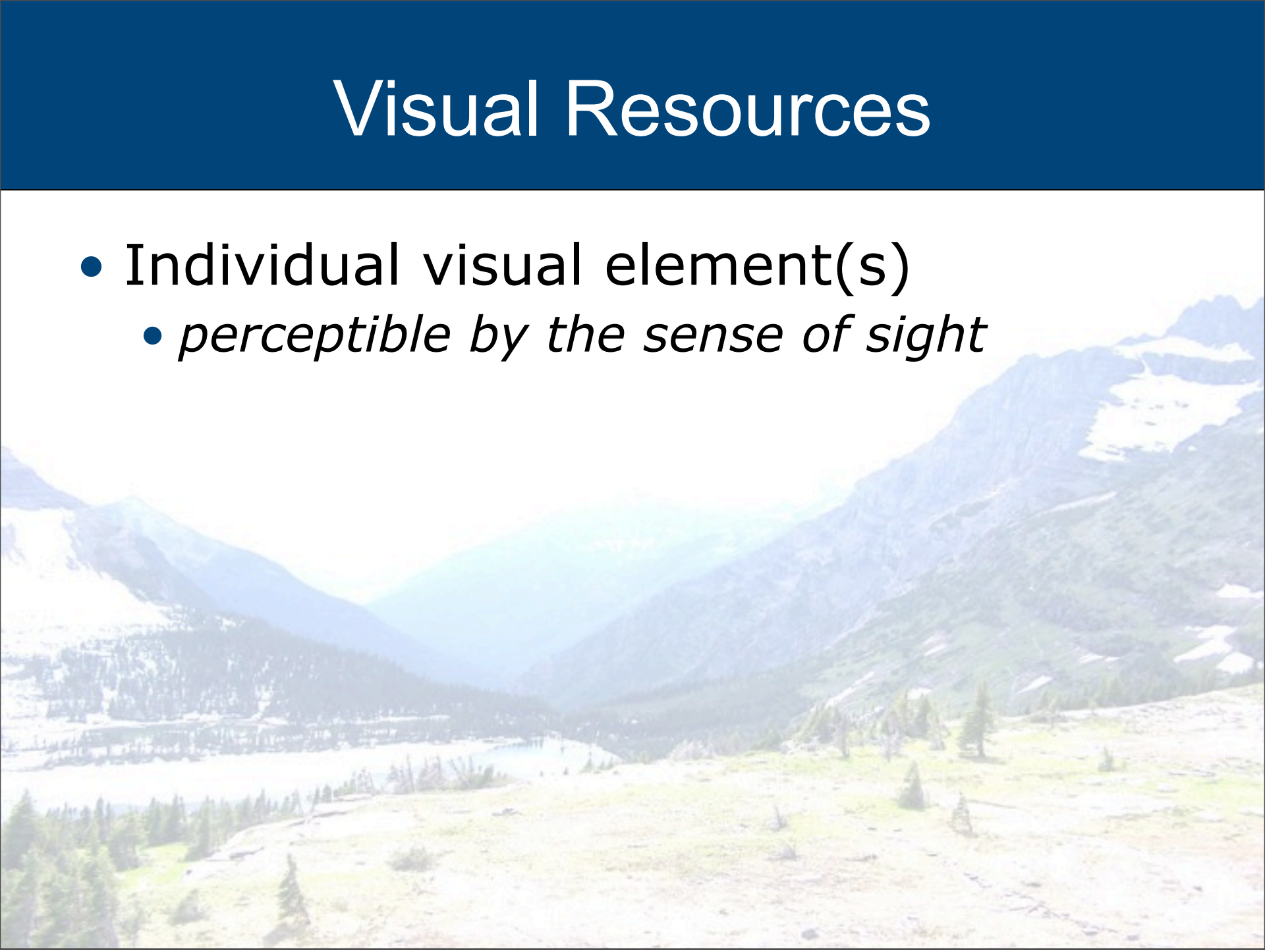
Visual Resources

- Individual visual element(s)



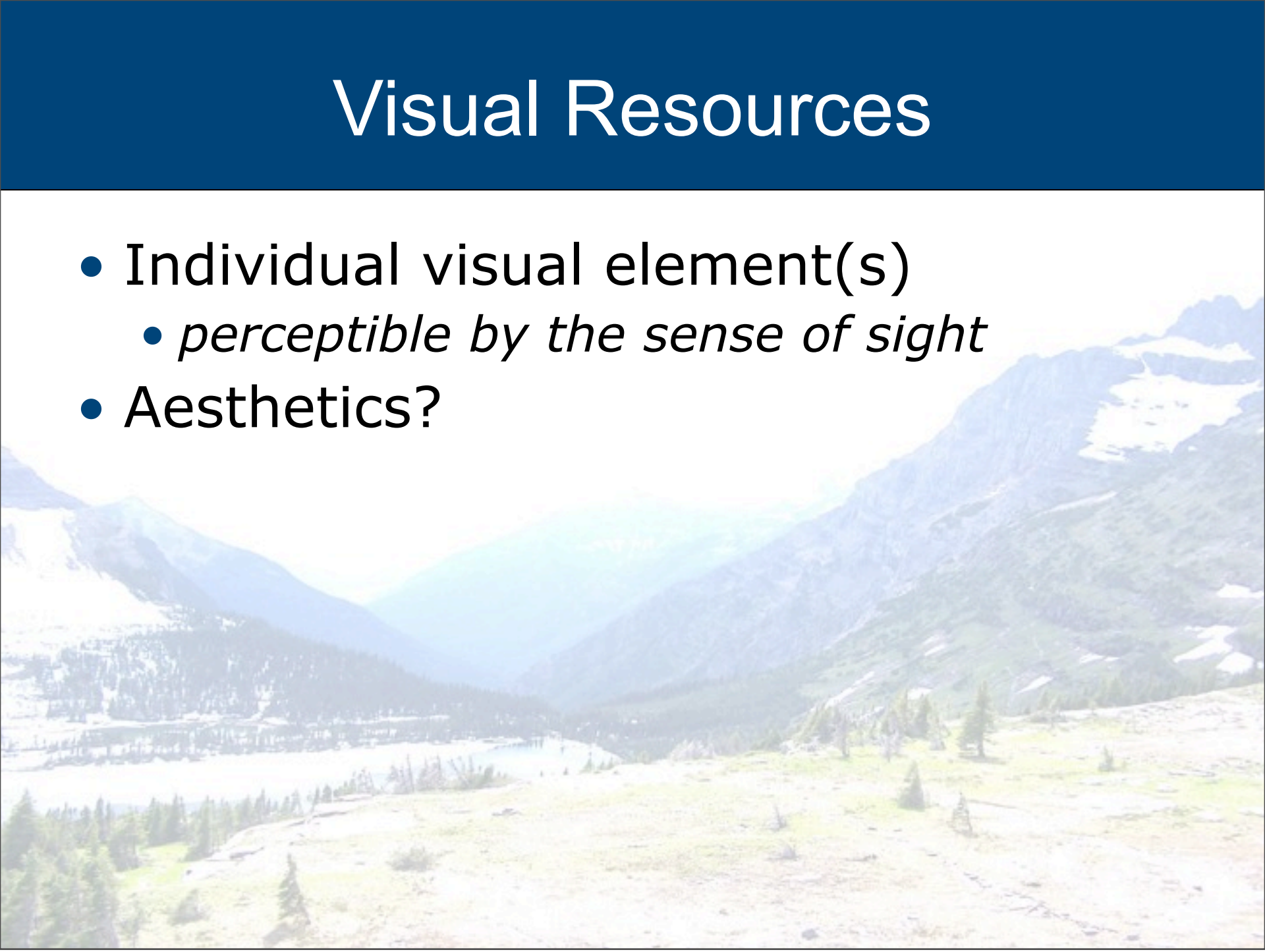
Visual Resources

- Individual visual element(s)
  - *perceptible by the sense of sight*



Visual Resources

- Individual visual element(s)
  - *perceptible by the sense of sight*
- Aesthetics?



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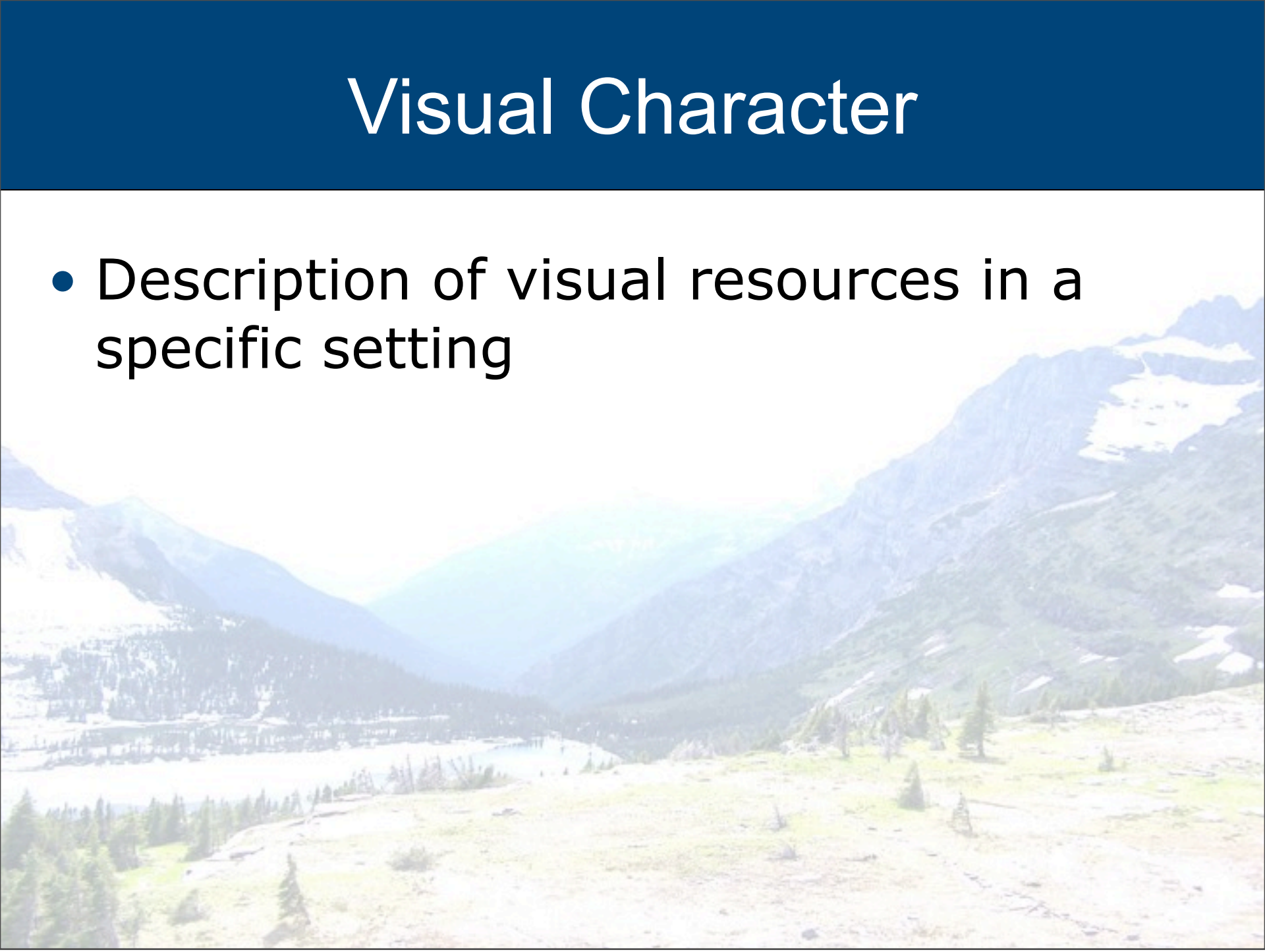
  - *perceptible by the sense of sight*
- Aesthetics?
  - *study of psychological response to beauty and artistic experiences*
- Scenic?
  - *pertaining to natural scenery*
- HUH???
  - *basically the same thing*

Visual Character

- Description of visual resources in a specific setting



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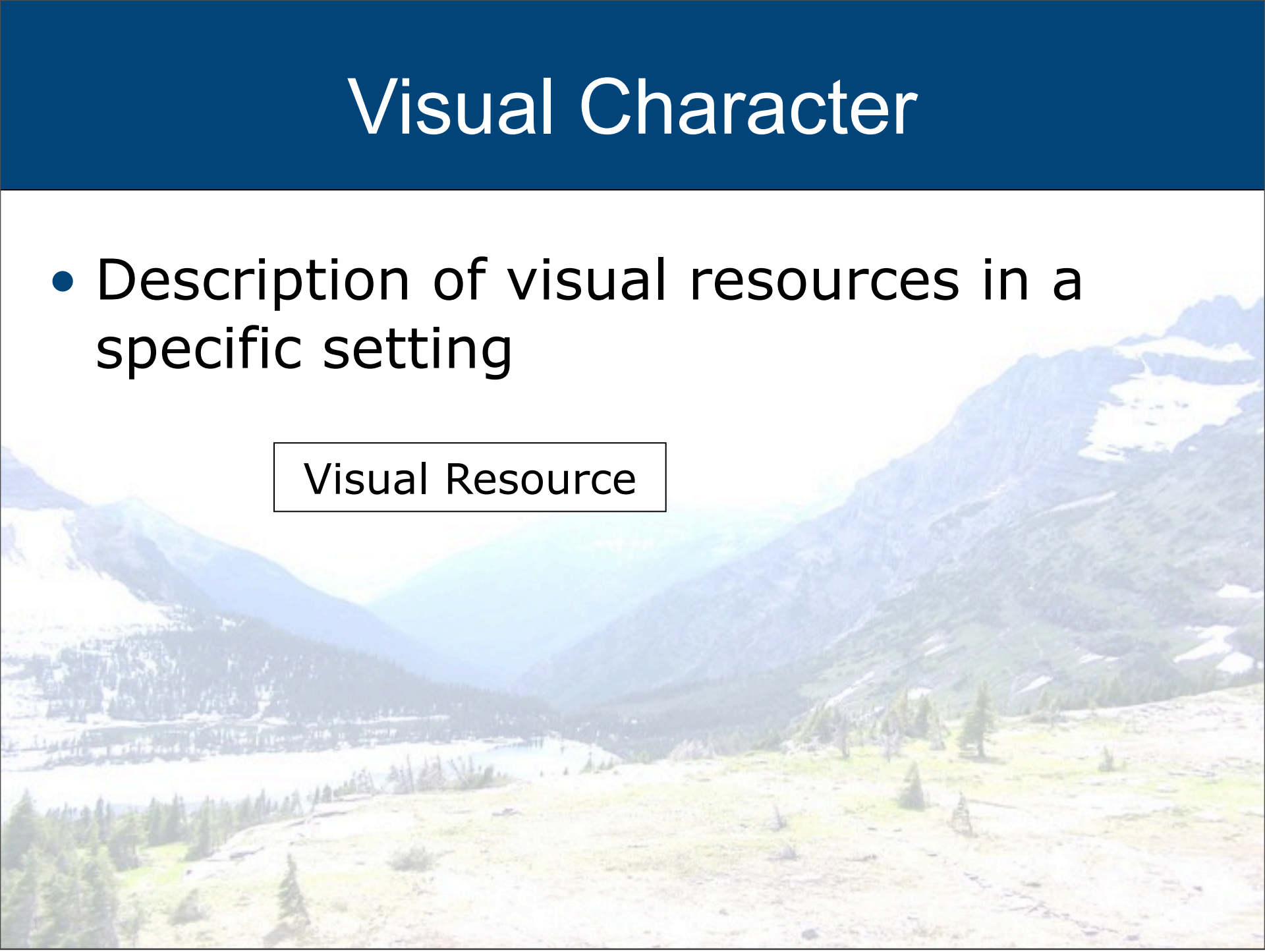
Visual Resource



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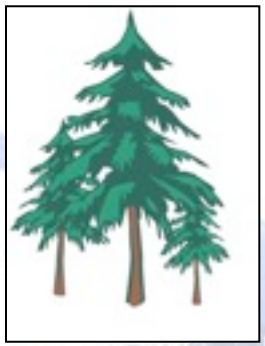

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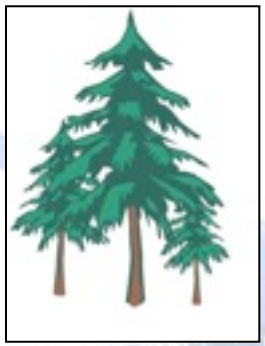

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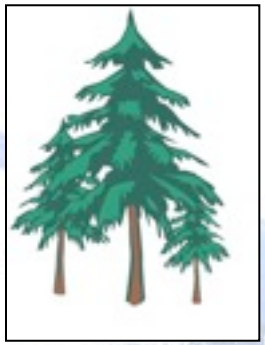

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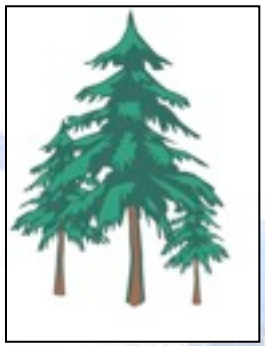
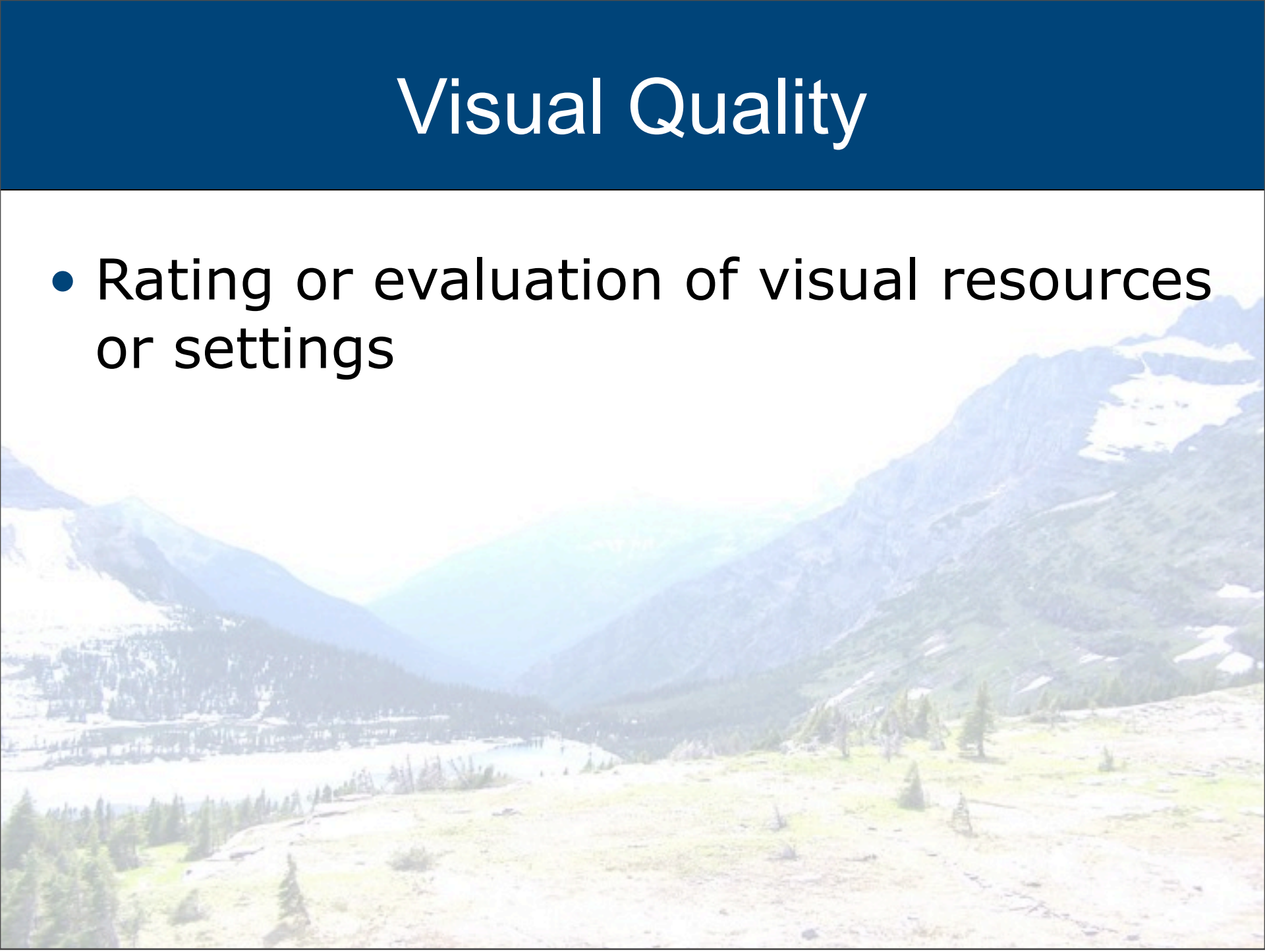


Visual Resource

Visual Character

Visual Quality

- Rating or evaluation of visual resources or settings



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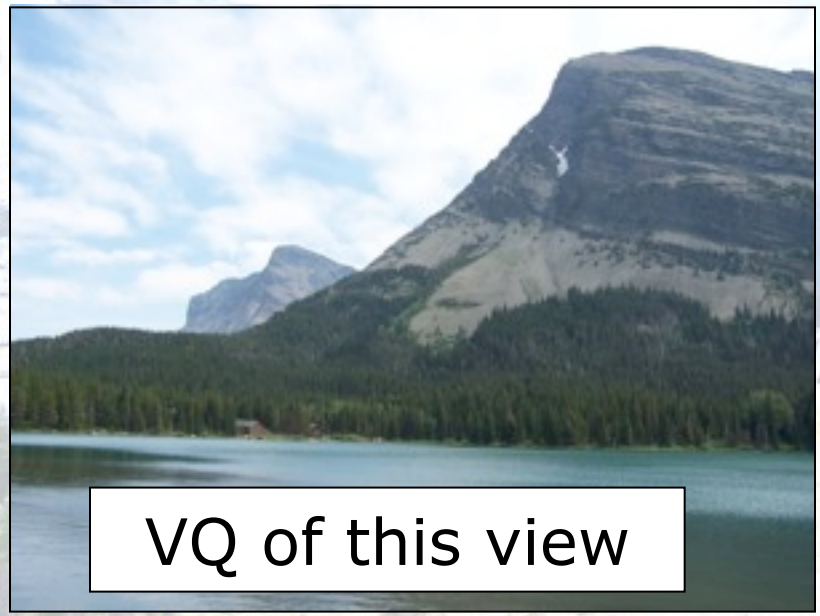

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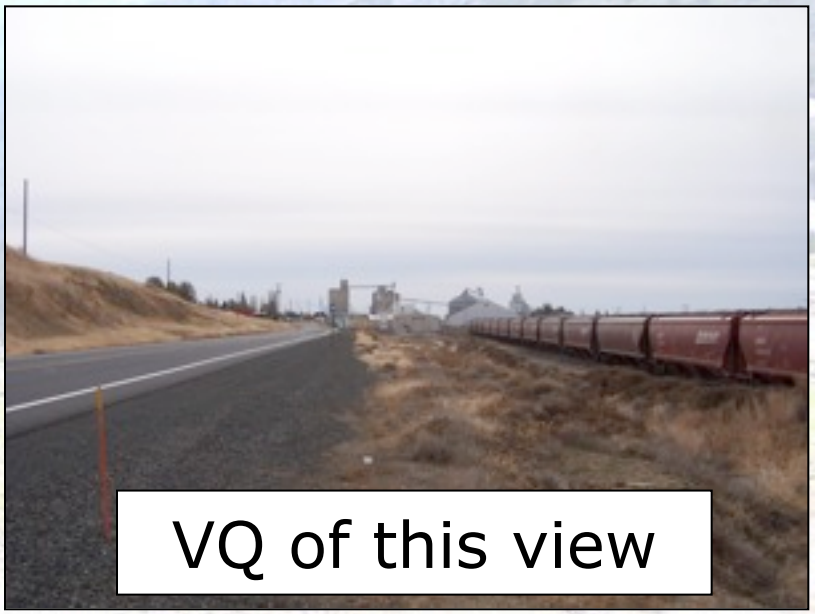
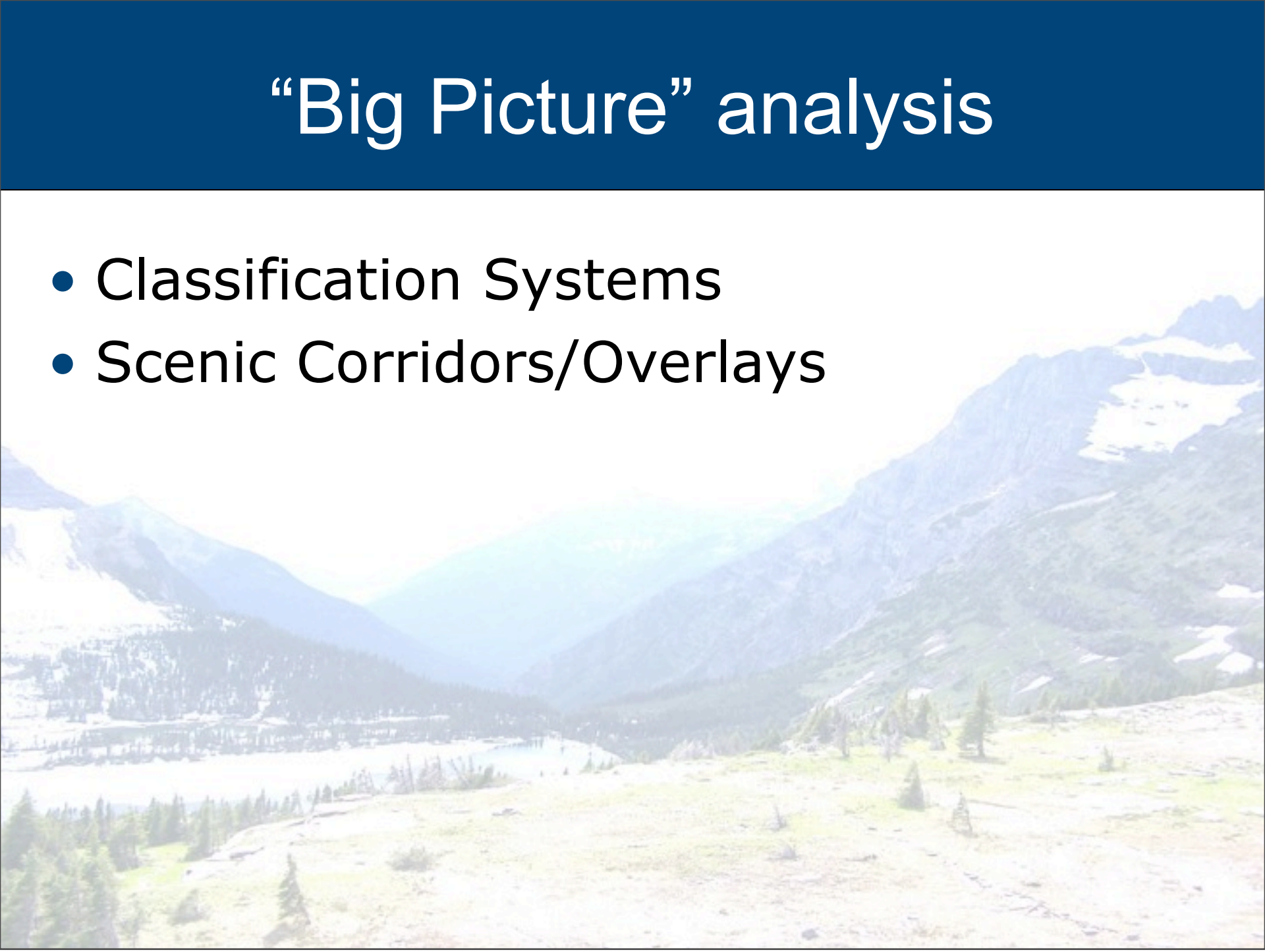
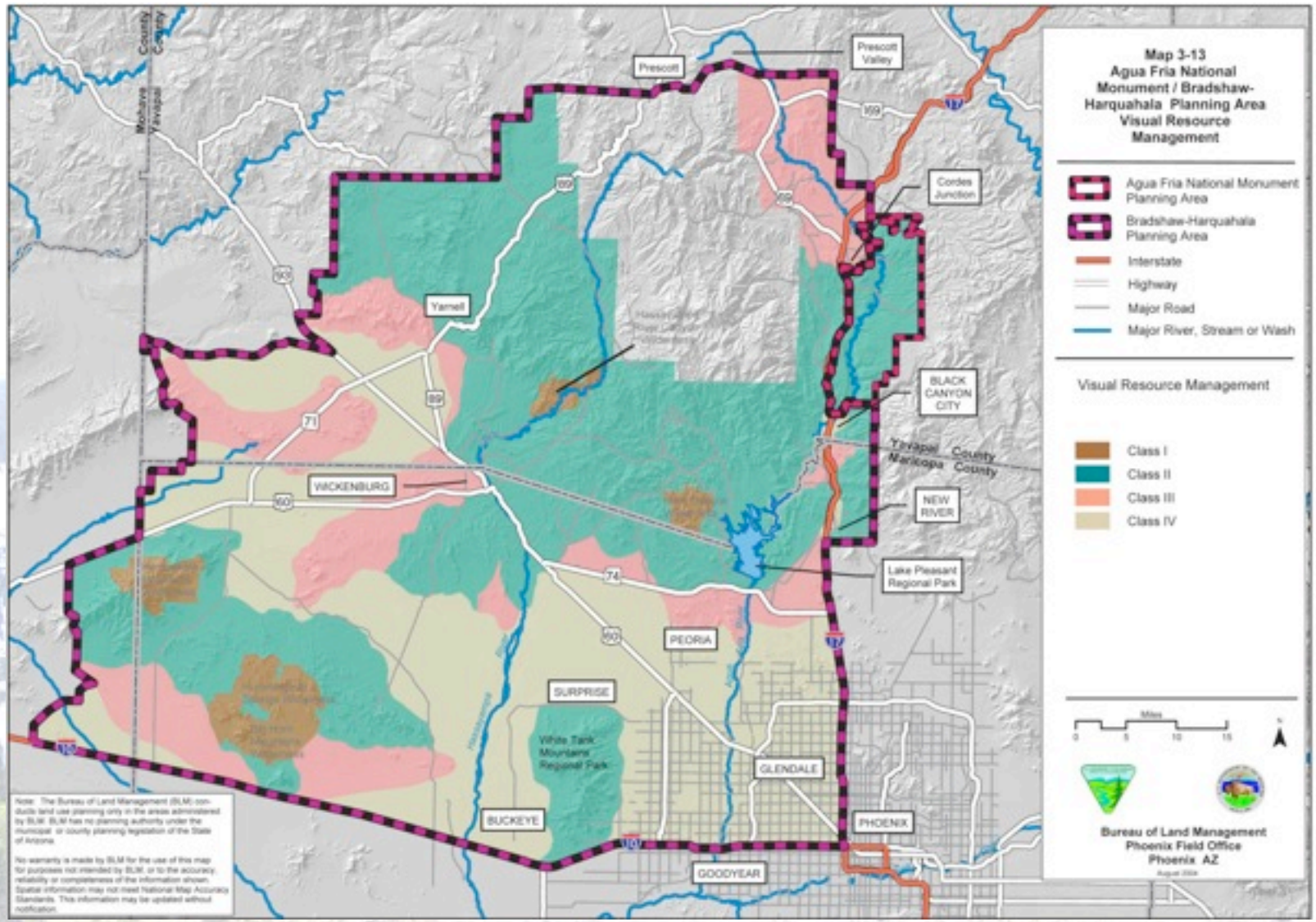


“Big Picture” analysis

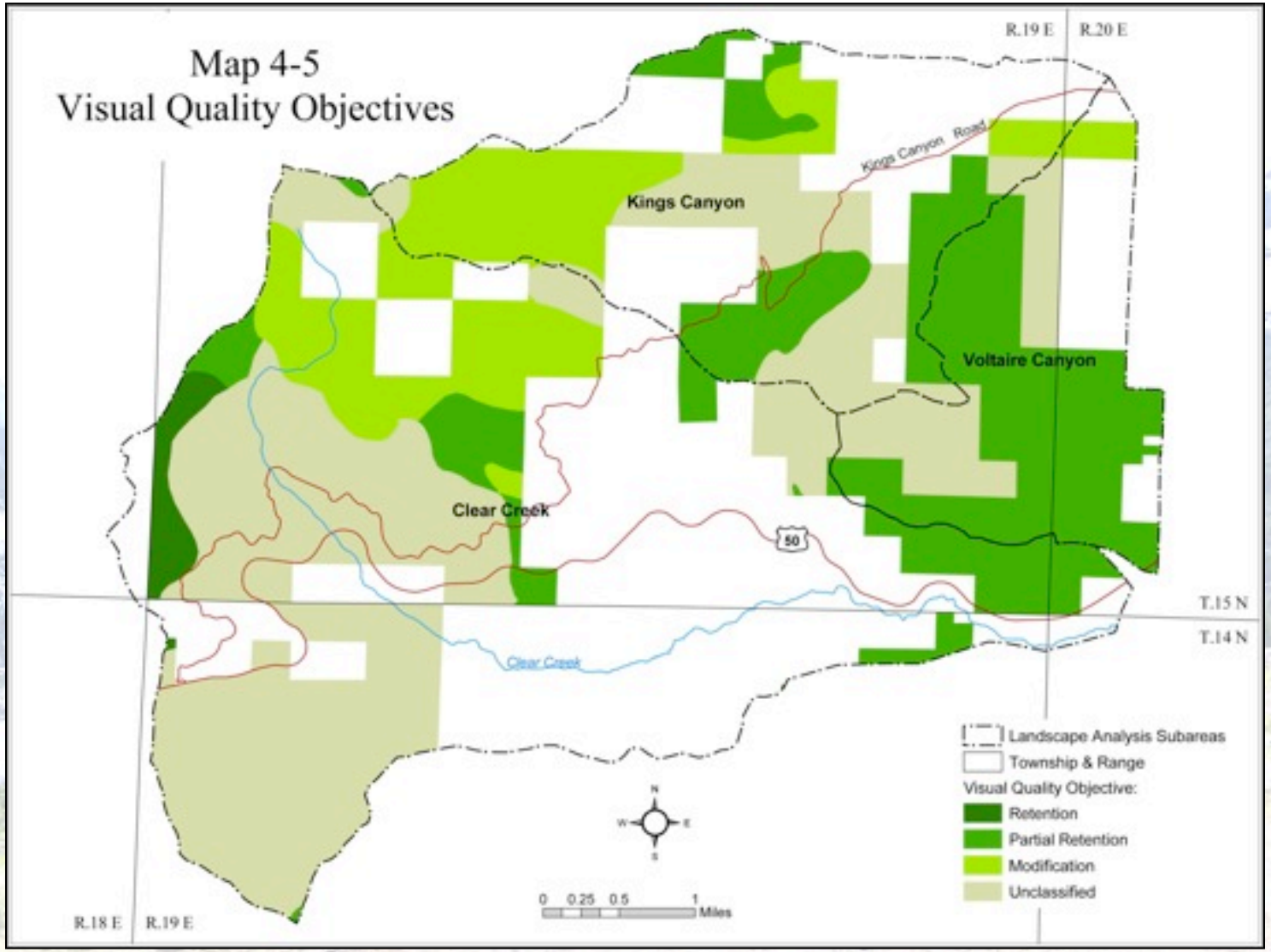
- Classification Systems
- Scenic Corridors/Overlays



Visual Resource Management classes (BLM – Arizona)



Visual Quality Objectives
(Forest Service – Humboldt-Toiyabe NF, Nevada)



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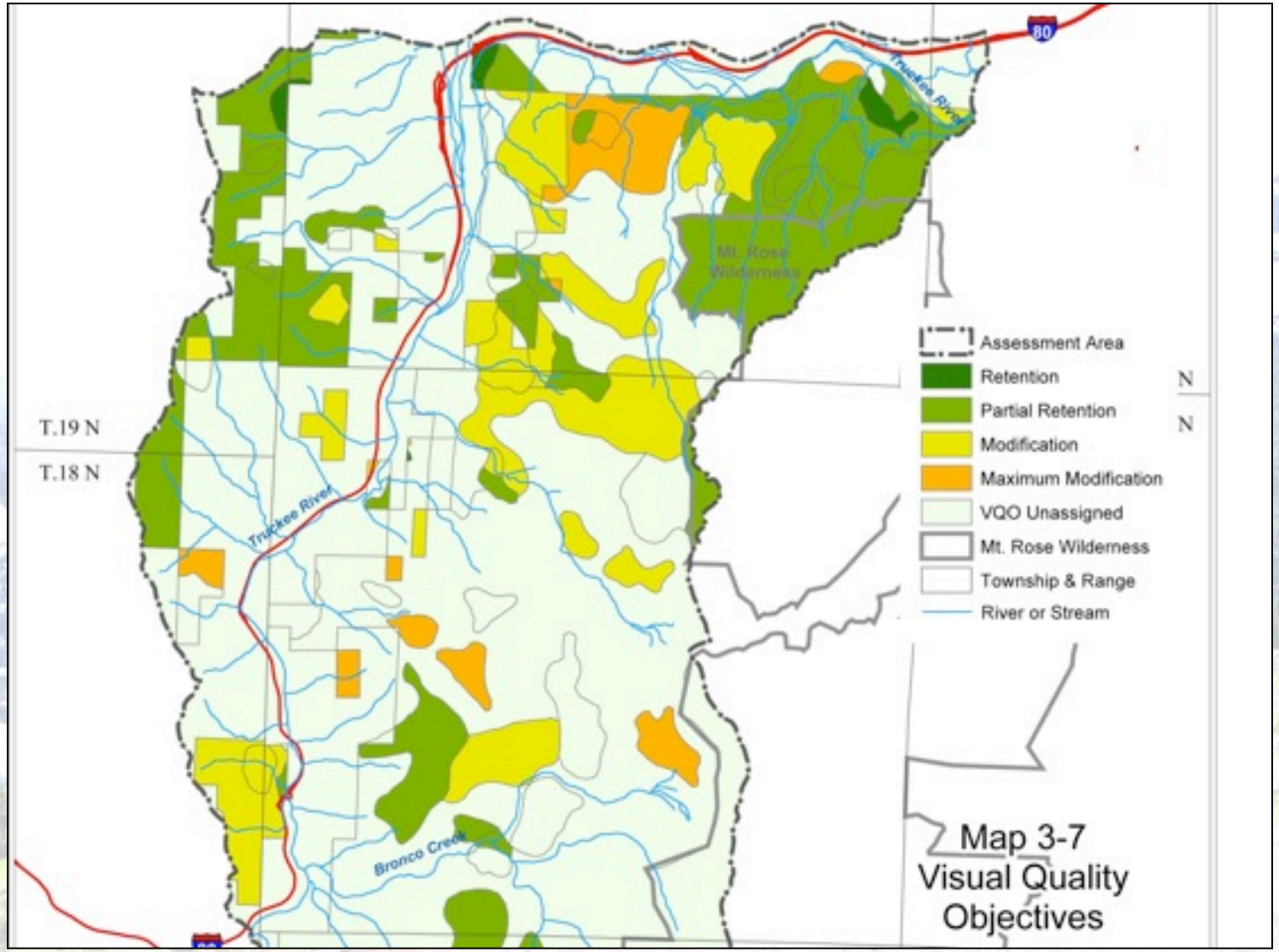
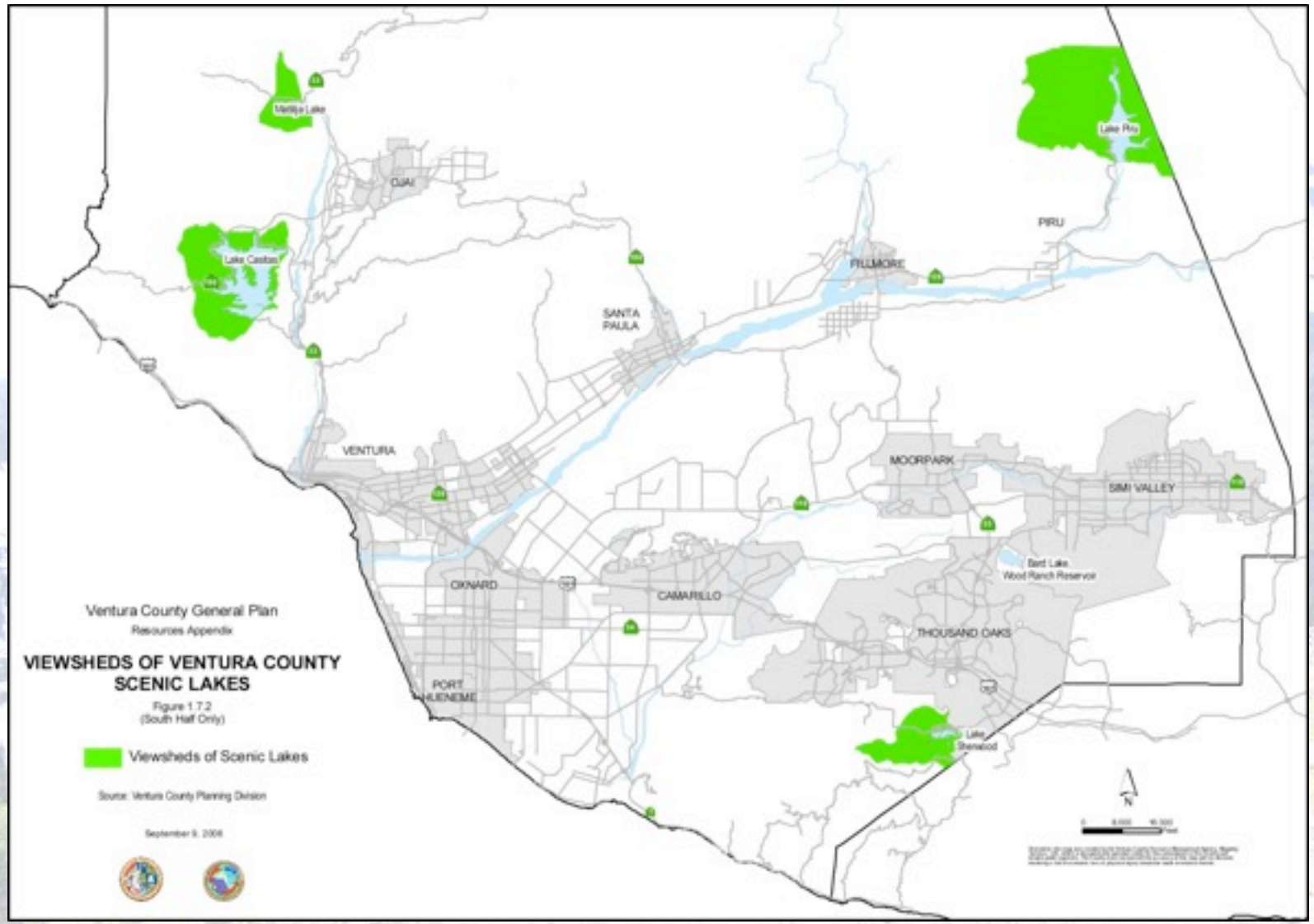
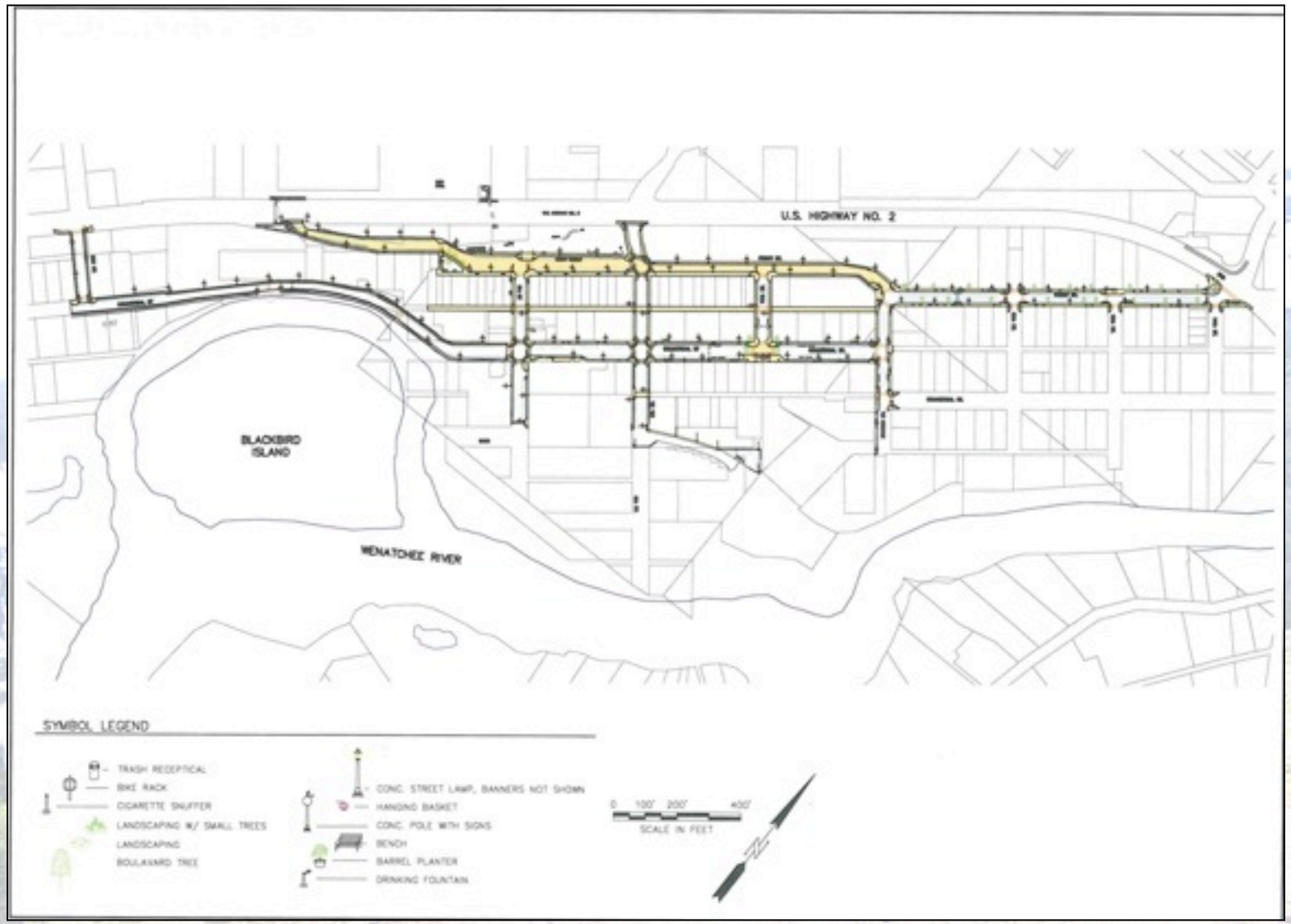


Scenic Overlay
Ventura County (CA)



Community Plans – Leavenworth



Community Plans – Leavenworth

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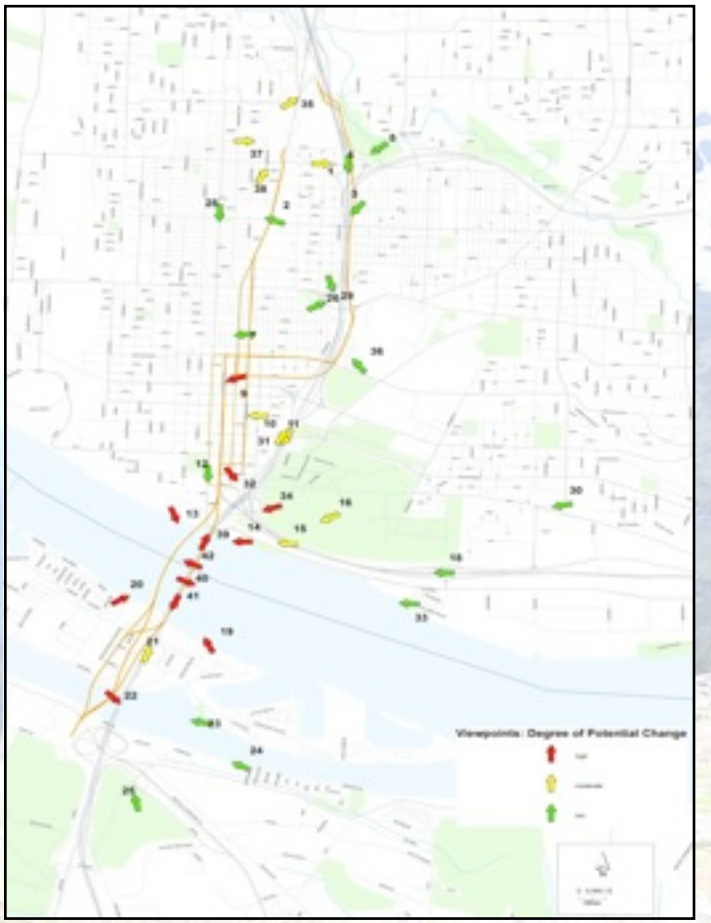
Assessment Methods

"Visual Impact Assessment for Highway Projects." FHWA-HI-88-054.

- Determine viewpoints and viewshed
- Complete FHWA assessments for each viewpoint
- Determine viewpoints with high, medium, and low degrees of change
- Review for consistency with draft design guidelines

Affected Environment
Potentially affected Views



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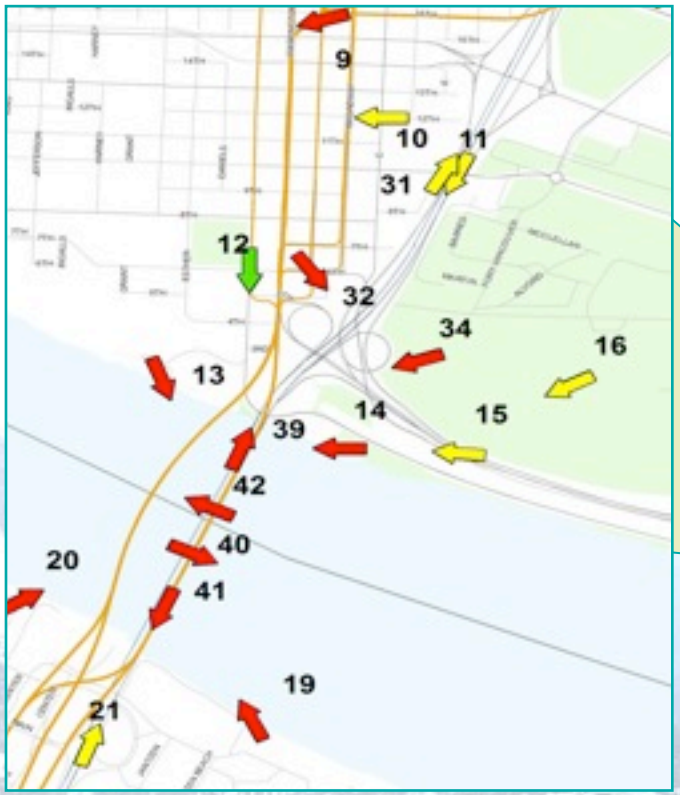

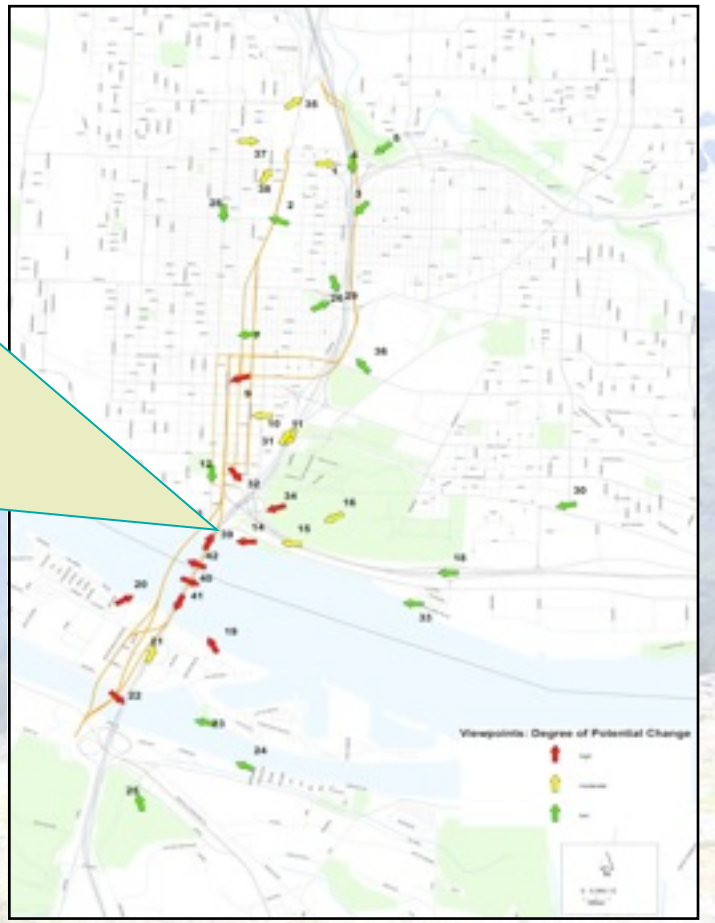

(19) New Condos (Hayden Island): View of Bridge

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(34) Fort (Kanaka) Village: View of Bridge and Hwy 14 interchange

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Methods

Visual Character:

Assess prominence of following:

- Landform, Land Cover (Water), Land Cover (Vegetation), Land Cover (Manmade Development)

Visual Quality:

- Assess Vividness, Intactness, Unity

Example view, Montlake (14)

Option	Vividness	Intactness	Unity
K: Tunnel			
L: Bascule			
Score	1-7	1-7	1-7

Example view, Montlake (14)

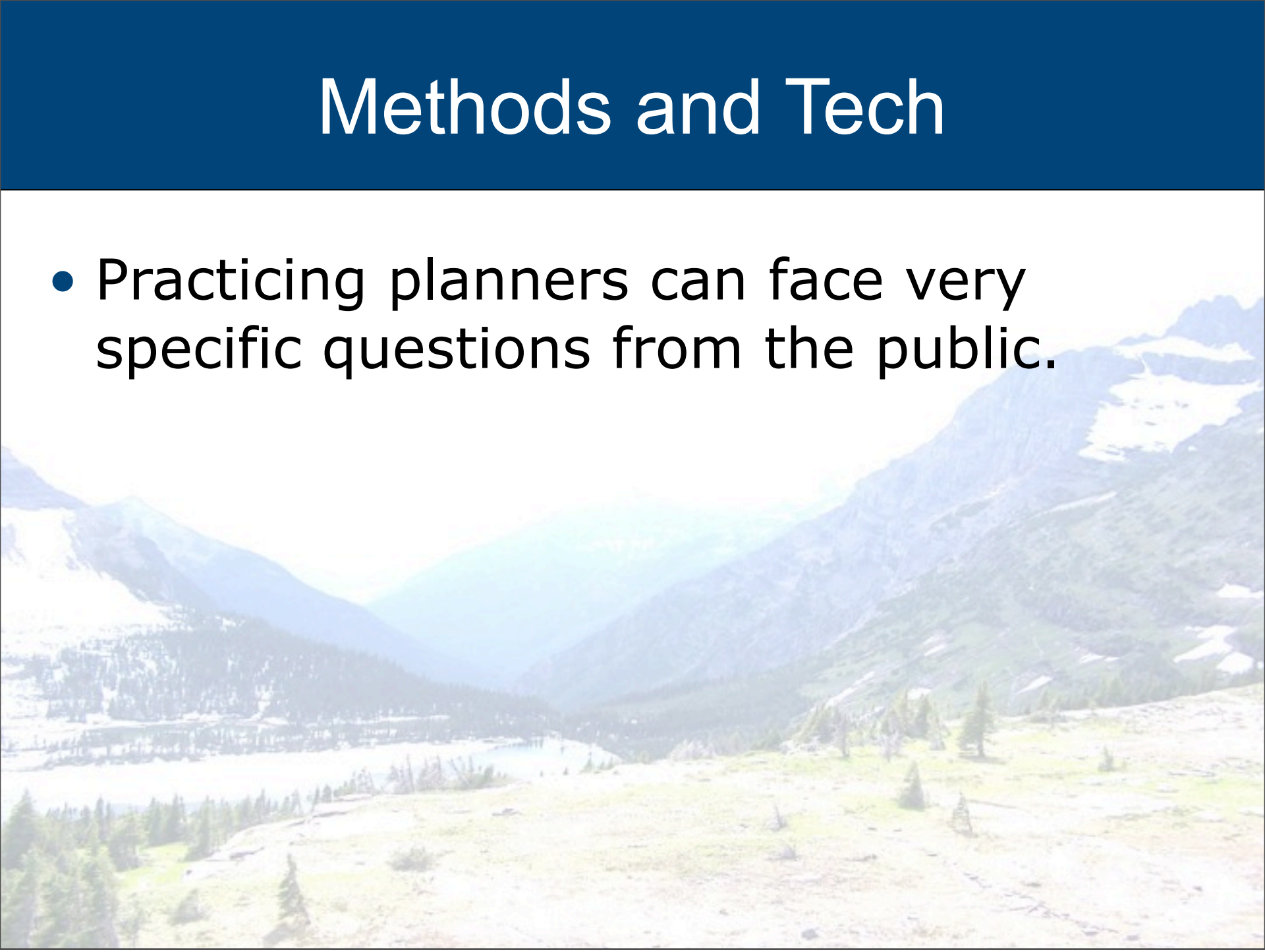
Option	Vividness	Intactness	Unity
K: Tunnel	4.25	4.34	5.67
L: Bascule	4.0	3.0	4.17
Score	1-7	1-7	1-7

Parametrix 3D Scanning

- Capabilities
  - Leica 3D laser scanner
  - Collects 50,000 survey grade data points (accurate x, y, z coordinates) per second.
  - Generates data collection files in upwards of 64,000,000 points in one single 8-hour day
- Parametrix applications
  - Hood Canal Bridge
  - UW Medical Center Expansion
  - Redmond Trail
  - Wawona wooden schooner
  - Honolulu Federal Building and US Courthouse

Methods and Tech

- Practicing planners can face very specific questions from the public.



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How will views be affected?

Will access to sunlight be preserved?

Methods and Tech

- Practicing planners can face very specific questions from the public.

Will it be compatible with existing development?

How will views be affected?

What will it look like?

Will access to sunlight be preserved?

Methods and Tech

- We can provide answers by using several techniques:
  - Visual simulations
  - 3D Modeling
  - Shade/Shadow Analysis

Visual Simulations

- Photographs of the project area showing artist rendering of project.
- Key factors to consider include:
  - Topography
  - Distance from viewer
  - Intervening objects

Visual Simulations

Source: EDAW, 1986

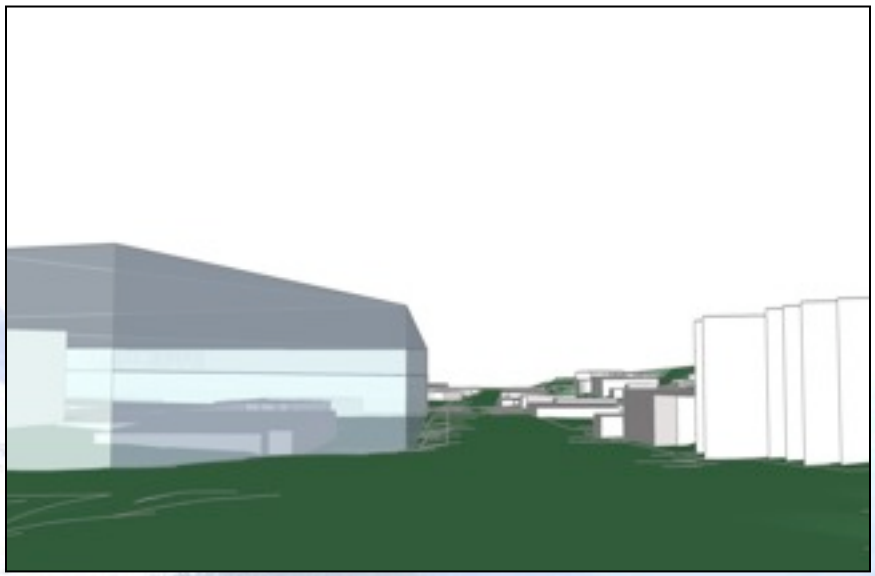
Visual Simulations

Figure 2
Existing and Simulated Views of Shiloh III Wind Project from Viewpoint 1: Highway 12 at Currie Road

Mass Modeling

- Height and bulk can greatly affect surrounding development.
- Digital modeling allows accurate comparisons to nearby structures.
- A variety of software is available:
  - Google SketchUp
  - AutoCAD
  - Autodesk 3ds Max

Mass Modeling



Terrain and building models created with ArcGIS and Sketchup

Photo simulation with model inserted

Mass Modeling

- Also useful for illustrating the effects of proposed development regulations or design guidelines.

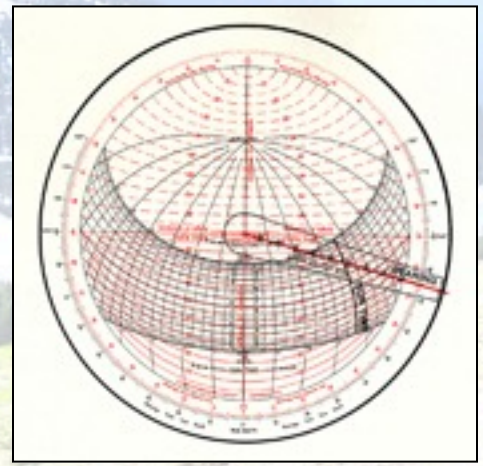
Shade and Shadow

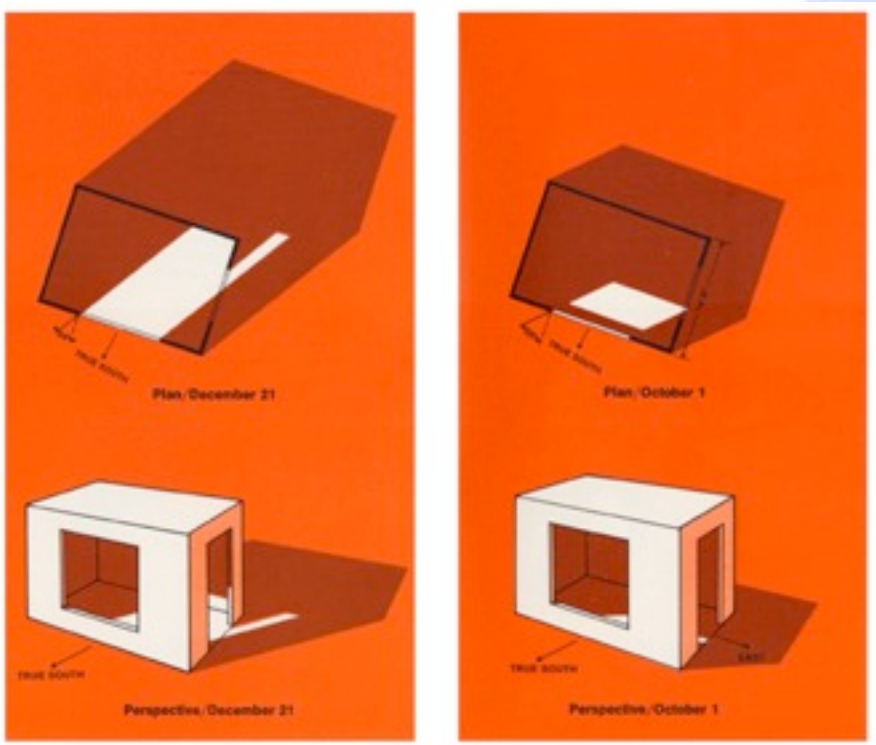
- Access to sunlight is an important factor in evaluating visual impacts.

No one wants to live in a “bowl.”

Shade and Shadow

- Shading diagrams once drawn by hand.
- Required sun angle calculators.





Shade and Shadow

- Currently, a variety of software is available to model shading conditions.
  - Building models can be imported from AutoCAD and other modeling programs.
  - Allows easy modeling at various times of the year.
- Aesthetic analysis usually evaluates summer and winter conditions.

Shade and Shadow

9:00 a.m.

Shading conditions:
June 21

4:00 p.m.

Shade and Shadow

10:00 a.m.

Shading conditions:
December 21

3:00 p.m.

Shade and Shadow

Shade and Shadow