

## **Chapter VIII: Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources**

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Construction and operation of the proposed Fjord Trail would involve the irreversible and irretrievable commitment of certain resources, both natural and human-made, which would be made unavailable for future use. These resources include use of the land, building materials, energy, and human effort (time and labor) required to develop, construct, and operate the Fjord Trail.

With construction of the Fjord Trail, various tracts of land along the Trail Corridor would be developed and would not be available for other uses while the Fjord Trail is in place.

There would be an irreversible and irretrievable commitment in the form of the building materials used in the construction of the Fjord Trail (e.g., timber, steel, concrete, gravel, brick, topsoil) and energy (in the form of gas, diesel fuel, and electricity) consumed during the construction of the Fjord Trail by construction equipment.

Once the Fjord Trail is constructed, there would be a long-term commitment of resources to manage, operate, and maintain it. These would include building materials needed for maintenance of the Fjord Trail (e.g., gravel, concrete, timber, steel) as well as energy (electricity) for lighting (if used and not renewable), and energy (gas and diesel) for vehicles and equipment used in its maintenance and for the proposed shuttle service.

The impacts associated with the irreversible and irretrievable commitments of environmental resources, as noted above, are not considered to be significant. \*