United States Department of the Interior

Bureau of Land Management

Record of Decision and Approved Cottonwood Resource Management Plan

ID-420-2005-EIS-1058

December 2009

BLM

Cottonwood Field Office

United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Cottonwood Field Office
1 Butte Drive
Cottonwood, Idaho 83522

In Reply Refer To:
1610 (IDC020)

December 18, 2009

Dear Reader:

Enclosed is the Record of Decision (ROD) and Approved Cottonwood Resource Management Plan (RMP). This plan will guide future management of public lands, federal minerals and resources administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Cottonwood Field Office, in Latah, Clearwater, Nez Perce, Lewis, Idaho, and Adams Counties of Idaho. The RMP is the result of five years of collaboration with interested parties. The BLM developed and analyzed four alternatives in an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), and the Cottonwood Proposed RMP/Final EIS was published in August 2008. The ROD summarizes modifications and clarifications made to the Proposed RMP (Alternative B), after consideration of review comments and resolution of protests by the Director of the BLM and prior to selection of the alternative by the State Director for implementation. The ROD serves as BLM's final decision for the land use planning decisions, as described in the Approved RMP.

The BLM received five letters of protest to the Cottonwood Proposed RMP. The protest issues were reviewed and analyzed and, as a result, the BLM Director upheld all decisions in the Proposed RMP except those relating to four grazing allotments that overlap or occur in the vicinity of bighorn sheep habitat. The Director recognized the validity of the protests related to these specific proposed decisions and required further analysis on this issue. Therefore, the enclosed ROD/RMP includes management decisions for all resources managed by BLM, except those relative to grazing on the four allotments. Until BLM completes the additional analysis and issues a management decision, these allotments will continue to be managed in accordance with the direction from the 1981 Chief Joseph Management Framework Plan and 1982 North Idaho Range Program Summary Report, the 1981 Northern Idaho Grazing Environmental Impact Statement, and current BLM policies for the administration of grazing and management of habitat. BLM is concurrently initiating preparation of a Supplemental EIS, and will provide more information to interested parties regarding opportunities for public participation for future use in issuing a decision for the grazing allotments.

In addition to providing land-use planning direction for travel management, the Approved RMP also designates motorized travel routes. According to BLM policy, route designations are implementation level decisions that are subject to administrative appeal. Therefore, any party who feels they may be adversely affected by the route designations may appeal within 30-days of the publication of the Notice of Availability for this ROD and Approved RMP in the *Federal Register*. The ROD contains more detailed information about appeals.

I would like to thank the individuals and organizations who participated in this planning process. I hope your involvement will continue as we move forward to implement and monitor the Approved RMP.

Sincerely,

Will Runnoe
Field Manager

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LIST OF ACRONYMS

Acronym or Abbreviation	Full Phrase
ACEC	Area of Critical Environmental Concern
AUM	Animal unit month
BLM	United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management
BMP	Best management practice
CFO	United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Coeur d'Alene District, Cottonwood Field Office
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CSU	Controlled Surface Use
DBH	Diameter at breast height
DFC	Desired future condition
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
FLPMA	Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976
FMA	Fire management area
FRCC	Fire regime condition class
HMP	Habitat management plan
HUC	Hydrologic unit code
IDEQ	Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
MFP	Management Framework Plan
MIST	Minimum impact suppression tactics
NMFS	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NSO	No Surface Occupancy
NWSRS	National Wild and Scenic Rivers System
OHV	Off-highway vehicle

LIST OF ACRONYMS *(continued)*

Acronym or Abbreviation	Full Phrase
PFC	Proper Functioning Condition
PVG	Potential Vegetation Group
RCA	Riparian Conservation Area
RHCA	Riparian Habitat Conservation Areas
RMP	Resource Management Plan
RNA	Research Natural Area
ROD	Record of decision
ROS	Recreation Opportunity Spectrum
RV	Recreational vehicle
SRMA	Special Recreation Management Area
TL	Timing Limitation
US	United States
USC	United States Code
USFS	United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service
USFWS	United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service
VRM	Visual Resource Management
WACI	Watershed and Aquatic Condition Indicator
WMA	Wildlife Management Area
WSA	Wilderness Study Area
WSR Act	Wild and Scenic Rivers Act
WUI	Wildland-urban interface

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RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION

The attached resource management plan (RMP) is hereby approved for the public lands and resources managed by the United States (US) Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Coeur d'Alene District, Cottonwood Field Office (CFO), within Latah, Clearwater, Nez Perce, Lewis, Idaho, and Adams counties of Idaho.

The BLM prepared this plan under the regulations implementing the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) (43 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Part 1600). An environmental impact statement (EIS) was prepared for this RMP, in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969.

OVERVIEW OF THE ALTERNATIVES

The BLM developed four RMP alternatives, including a No Action Alternative, and analyzed them in detail in an EIS (BLM 2006, 2008a). Each alternative emphasizes a different combination of resource uses, allocations, and restoration measures to address issues and resolve conflicts among uses, with each alternative meeting program goals to a different extent. The four alternatives considered are summarized below.

Alternative A (No Action—Continue Current Management)

Referred to as the No Action Alternative, this alternative would continue present management practices based on the existing land use plan and amendments.

Alternative B (Proposed Resource Management Plan)

Alternative B has become the Approved RMP with minor modifications and clarifications. This alternative and the Approved RMP emphasize balancing protection, restoration, and commodity production to meet the needs for resource protection and resource use. The BLM feels that this alternative best addresses the issues identified during scoping.

Alternative C (Preservation Emphasis)

Alternative C emphasizes preservation and protection of ecosystem health across the CFO. This alternative includes active and specific measures to protect and enhance habitat for fish and wildlife, including special status species. This alternative reflects a reduction in resource production goals for forest products, forage, and minerals.

Alternative D (Commodity Emphasis)

Alternative D emphasizes commodity production, amenities, and services. Under this alternative, preservation is secondary to restoring ecosystem health and vigor in forests, upland, and riparian areas. Management emphasizes economic return and community stability. Protection and enhancement of resources is secondary, except as mandated by laws, regulations, and policies.

ENVIRONMENTALLY PREFERRED ALTERNATIVE

The BLM determined Alternative B, the Approved RMP, to be the environmentally preferable alternative, taking into account both the human (social and economic) environment and the natural environment. The Council on Environmental Quality has defined the environmentally preferable alternative as the one that will promote the national environmental policy, as expressed in Section 101 of NEPA. This section lists the following goals for all federal plans, programs, and policies:

- Fulfill the responsibilities of each generation as trustee of the environment for succeeding generations;
- Ensure for all Americans safe, healthful, productive, and aesthetically and culturally pleasing surroundings;
- Attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences;
- Preserve important historical, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage and maintain, wherever possible, an environment that supports diversity and variety of individual choice;
- Achieve a balance between population and resource use that will permit high standards of living and a wide sharing of life's amenities; and
- Enhance the quality of renewable resources and approach the maximum attainable recycling of depletable resources.

Based on these criteria, identifying the environmentally preferable alternative involves balancing current and potential resource uses, resource impacts, and mitigation to maintain a healthy environment while meeting human needs. Alternative B, the Approved RMP, provides this balance. Alternatives A and D were the least environmentally preferable alternatives because they offered the most intensive active management for uses of the area but provided the fewest restrictions for protecting resources. Alternative C would be more protective of many natural and biological values than the other alternatives but provided for fewer or restricted uses, resulting in the greatest economic and social effects. Also, the

emphasis on minimal active management under this alternative could have a harmful effect and increase wildland fire potential.

UPDATES FROM THE PRMP/FEIS TO THE APPROVED RMP

The Approved RMP includes a number of clarifications and data updates. These include:

- All maps and references to area (acres) throughout the RMP have been updated to reflect the federal lands currently managed by the CFO.
- Travel Management Maps (**Appendix O**, Maps 4-6) include travel route designations that were made effective by other project level decisions that have occurred since publication of the PRMP/FEIS. These maps also show public easements across non-BLM administered public and private lands.
- Clarifications have been made to Fish and Wildlife actions (WS-1.9.3, WS-1.11.2, and AF-1.3.7) to reflect recognition of Tribal treaty rights and the Idaho State Department of Wildlife's mandated mission and authority.

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS/DECISION RATIONALE

The decision about the Approved RMP is based on consideration and evaluation of the following :

- How well the purpose and need is met;
- How well the planning issues are addressed; and
- How it relates to associated environmental consequences.

The facts found through analysis in the FEIS provide the basis for determining how well the purpose and need is met and the planning issues are addressed and for considering the environmental consequences of implementing the plan. The decision to select the PRMP as the Approved RMP is based on the conclusion that the management direction in the PRMP best meets the purpose and need and addresses the planning issues, as summarized below. The decision is also based on the conclusion that the PRMP has relatively low adverse environmental impacts and relatively favorable outcomes for various resources and programs, compared to the other alternatives.

Purpose and Need

As stated in the PRMP/FEIS, the Cottonwood RMP is needed because regulatory and resource conditions have changed, as have public demands, which warrant revisiting decisions in the 1981 MFP and its amendments. Many new laws, regulations, and policies have created a need for additional public land management considerations. As a result, some of the decisions in the MFP and amendments are no longer valid or have been superseded by requirements that did not exist when they were prepared. Likewise, user demands and impacts have evolved, requiring new management direction.

The purpose of the RMP is to respond to resource conditions that have changed, to respond to new issues, and to provide a comprehensive framework to guide management of public lands and interests administered by the CFO with a focus on maintaining or restoring resource conditions and helping provide community stability through resource use and enjoyment.

Meeting the Purpose and Need, Addressing the Planning Issues, and Environmental Consequences

The analysis and conclusions in the FEIS support the conclusions that the PRMP best meets the purpose and need and best addresses the planning issues and that it has relatively low adverse environmental impacts and relatively favorable outcomes for resources and programs, compared to the other alternatives.

All of the action alternatives presented in the FEIS provide alternate plans in response to changed resource conditions and new issues and provide a comprehensive framework to guide management of public lands and interests. Nevertheless, the PRMP provides management direction that best balances restoration of resource conditions with resource use and enjoyment. This balance is expressed in how the Approved RMP addresses the nine planning issues, which are detailed below.

Issue 1: How will the problem of invasive plant species be addressed?

The RMP establishes a goal (VW-1) to "prevent establishment of new invasive plant species and reduce infested acreage of established invasive plant species." Due to the number of isolated parcels, rough topography, lack of access, and resource conflicts (such as occurrence of federally listed plant species), achieving this goal requires diligent efforts to work closely with private landowners, other land management agencies, and partners. The objectives and actions in the RMP that support this goal reflect this geographic situation and provide the best means to accomplish the goal. The RMP also includes a series of best management practices that will help achieve this goal, while allowing resource use and enjoyment to continue.

Issue 2: How will forest vegetation be managed to attain desired stand structure, or meet the range of natural variability, or both?

The goal for managing forest vegetation (VF-1) calls for maintaining or improving forest health, composition, structure, and diversity consistent with site potential and historical range of variability; thus, it directly addresses this issue. The objectives and actions supporting this goal define desired future conditions and provide a means to accomplish this goal, while also allowing a reasonable opportunity for harvesting forest products to support local economies and needs.

Issue 3: How will special status species and their habitats be managed?

The RMP includes many conservation and restoration measures that will restore and protect special status species habitats. Employment of these measures will provide a means for allowing resource uses and enjoyment, while protecting these species of concern.

Issue 4: How will priority watersheds or areas be determined for conservation, or restoration strategies, or both?

The RMP identifies priority conservation and restoration watersheds, explains how they were selected, and provides detailed guidance on how to achieve desired conditions.

Issue 5: How will motorized and nonmotorized travel be managed to provide access, while minimizing impacts on natural and cultural resources?

To protect resources, the RMP changes the area designation on over 85,000 acres from being open to off-road travel to being limited to designated roads and trails. It further designates 109.61 miles of roads and trails in these areas to support the current and foreseeable future demand for motorized travel and recreation.

Issue 6: At what levels will commercial uses (minerals, forest products, livestock grazing, and recreation) be authorized?

The RMP provides opportunities for mineral development, forest products, livestock grazing and commercial recreation close to current levels, while stipulating conservation measures, best management practices, and constraints that will improve the protection and enhancement of other resources. The RMP identifies 118,727 acres (does not include split estate) acres open to mineral leasing, 118,727 acres open to mineral material disposal, and 108,611 acres open to locatable minerals. It provides for a probable sale quantity of 3.1 million board feet for forest products over the life of the plan (15 to 20 years) and allocates 72,643 acres for livestock grazing. It also directs that the special recreation permitting process be used to accommodate commercial recreation activities.

Issue 7: What types of fuels reduction will be implemented to reduce risk to the public, firefighters, property, and natural and cultural resources, and where will they be reduced?

The RMP establishes a goal to "manage fuels and wildland fires to protect lives and property and to protect or enhance resource values." In support of this goal, the RMP includes objectives to provide appropriate management responses to all wildland fires, reduce hazard and the potential for stand-replacement fires in the wildland-urban interface (WUI), and to maintain or return vegetative communities outside the WUI to their historic fire regime. The RMP also calls for the treatment of 40 percent of lands classified as moderate to high hazard over any five-year period to reduce fuels and fire hazards.

Issue 8: How will public land resources be managed in scattered or isolated parcels, given varied resource values and priorities?

Much of the BLM-managed land within the planning area consists of scattered and isolated parcels. This was a primary consideration during development of the RMP resource goals, objectives, actions, allocations, and constraints, which are applicable to isolated parcels as well as contiguous larger blocks of public lands. This is especially reflected in the numerous references to other agencies and partners throughout the RMP. Partnerships are crucial in managing resources on such a land pattern. The RMP directs that lands, including scattered parcels, that meet established criteria will be retained in federal ownership. It directs the BLM to consider disposing of parcels that do not meet the criteria.

Issue 9: How will future demands for recreation on public lands be addressed?

Based on current and future demand and recreational markets, the RMP designates two new and redesignates three existing special recreation management areas and provides direction for intensive recreation management within these areas. In addition, the RMP provides guidance for managing recreation outside of those areas, for developing recreation facilities, for enhancing recreation access, and for working with local communities to promote recreation opportunities.

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs)/Research Natural Areas (RNAs)

The RMP designates five new and redesignates eight existing ACECs and RNAs to protect. In addition to addressing the planning issues associated with these ACECs and RNAs, the RMP makes them available for scientific study. The RMP also designates important and relevant resources and values, such as special status plants and animals, old growth forest, and cultural sites. Additionally, the RMP expands the areas of two of the redesignated ACECs/RNAs to provide better protection of the identified values.

The RMP did not redesignate the Craig Mountain and Elk City Dump ACECs. Moreover, the RMP did not designate the proposed Partridge/Elkhorn and the Little Salmon River as ACECs because other management direction provided in the RMP is sufficient to protect the resource or value from risks or threats of damage/degradation, or the RMP provides sufficient protection from these hazards.

Relevant and important values for Craig Mountain were scenic, cultural, federally listed fish and Spalding's catchfly, Idaho BLM sensitive wildlife and plants, and a National Historic Trail. These values are protected by other provisions in the RMP, such as conservation measures outlined in the Wildlife and Special Status Wildlife; Aquatic Resources, Fish, and Special Status Fish; Special Status Plants sections; and use and protective measures described for National Trails. In addition, fish-bearing streams in the Craig Mountains are designated as restoration watersheds.

The RMP contains specific decisions in the Public Safety-Abandoned Mines and Hazardous Materials sections to protect the public from and to remediate hazards, such as those posed by the Elk City Dump site.

Old growth, natural processes, and Idaho BLM sensitive wildlife in Partridge Creek/Elkhorn and Little Salmon River ACECs were the relevant and important values. The RMP identifies other protective measures for these values, as described above for Craig Mountain.

Wild and Scenic Rivers

Decisions on Wild and Scenic Rivers were made based on a Wild and Scenic River study consisting of an eligibility and a suitability phase in accordance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (WSR Act) (Public Law 90-542; 16 USC 1721-1287) and BLM Manual 8351, Wild and Scenic Rivers—Policy and Program Direction for Identification, Evaluation, and Management (BLM 1993).

After screening stream segments in the planning area for eligibility, the CFO conducted a detailed suitability study on all eligible segments to determine if they met the criteria to be suitable additions to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (NWSRS). Through the suitability analysis and consideration of public comments on the Draft RMP/Draft EIS, the CFO found four segments on Lolo, Lake, Hard, and Hazard creeks to be preliminarily suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS (refer to **Appendix I** of the Proposed RMP/Final EIS (BLM 2008a) for the Final Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility and Suitability Study).

At this time, the CFO is deferring recommendation to Congress on the four preliminarily suitable segments in the Payette National Forest. It will do this until either the US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service completes evaluation of suitability for segments affecting Forest Service lands next to BLM segments or the Idaho Department of Water Resources develops a comprehensive state water plan for the respective river basins. In the interim, the BLM will coordinate protective management of the suitable segments with the Idaho Department of Water Resources and the Forest Service.

MITIGATION MEASURES

The Approved RMP requires that land use be managed to avoid, mitigate, or minimize environmental impacts where practicable. The plan uses best management practices (BMPs), use restrictions, and stipulations for activities such as road construction, recreational development and mineral activities. Additional mitigation may also be developed during site specific activity and project level analysis.

PLAN MONITORING

BLM planning regulations (43 CFR 1610.4-9) require continuous monitoring of RMPs and periodic formal evaluations. The BLM will monitor the approved RMP to determine whether its objectives are being met and if the land use plan direction is effective. As needed, monitoring for each program area is identified in the management decisions section and appendices of the approved plan. If monitoring shows that the land use plan or BMPs are not effective, the BLM may modify or adjust management without amending or revising the plan, as long as assumptions and impacts disclosed in the analysis remain valid and overall goals and objectives are not changed. If the BLM considers taking or approving actions that alter or do not conform to the plan, the BLM will amend or revise the plan and will analyze related environmental issues in an appropriate NEPA document.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

The BLM conducted an extensive public outreach program to encourage broad public participation during the development of this RMP. Participation by the public and by state and federal agencies and the Nez Perce Tribe enhanced the BLM's understanding of the various viewpoints to be considered in developing the alternatives for analysis. The public, state and federal agencies, and tribe's participation also helped in selecting the preferred alternative in the Draft RMP/EIS, the proposed alternative for the Proposed RMP/Final EIS, and the final decision implementing the RMP.

Scoping

The BLM conducted formal public scoping from September 3 to November 15, 2004. During the scoping period, the BLM held three public meetings, distributed a newsletter to interested parties, established a project Internet Web site, and published notices in the *Federal Register* and local newspapers. The BLM received 31 comment letters and e-mails, containing over 150 comments. The BLM analyzed these comments and used the results to identify the planning issues to confirm that the planning criteria were appropriate (see Approved RMP), to develop alternatives, and to conduct an environmental analysis of the alternatives.

Draft RMP/EIS

On August 25, 2006, the BLM published the Draft RMP/EIS and provided a 90-day public review and comment period. The BLM made the document available on the project Internet Web site and distributed it on request. The document was also available for review and photocopying at five public libraries in Lewiston, Grangeville, Moscow, Cottonwood, and Riggins, Idaho. The document was also available at the BLM's Cottonwood Field Office and at the BLM Idaho State Office in Boise. During the comment period, the BLM conducted three public meetings and distributed a newsletter to interested parties. The BLM received 30 comment letters and e-mails, containing approximately 375 individual comments.

Proposed RMP/Final EIS

Preparers of the Proposed RMP/Final EIS considered and incorporated public comments on the Draft RMP/EIS, internal review, and consultation with the Nez Perce Tribe. A Notice of Availability for the Proposed RMP/Final EIS was published in the *Federal Register* on August 8, 2008, beginning a 30-day protest period. The Proposed RMP/Final EIS contained responses to all substantive comments received on the Draft RMP/EIS. The BLM distributed copies of the Proposed RMP/Final EIS on request and made the document available on the project Internet Web site. The document was also available at public libraries in Lewiston, Grangeville, Moscow, Cottonwood, and Riggins, Idaho, at the BLM's Cottonwood Field Office, and at the BLM Idaho State Office in Boise. The BLM distributed newsletters to all interested parties and published notices in local newspapers.

Record of Decision/Approved RMP

Copies of this Record of Decision (ROD) and Approved RMP are available upon request and on the project Internet Web site, at the CFO, and at the BLM Idaho State Office in Boise. The document will also be available at public libraries in Lewiston, Grangeville,

Moscow, Cottonwood, and Riggins, Idaho, at the BLM's Cottonwood Field Office, and at the BLM Idaho State Office in Boise.

COLLABORATION

The BLM invited the Commissioners from Adams, Clearwater, Latah, Lewis, Nez Perce, and Idaho counties; representatives from the Idaho Departments of Commerce/Tourism Division, Fish and Game, Lands, Parks and Recreation, and Environmental Quality; and representatives from the Nez Perce Tribe to participate in the planning process. These agency representatives declined the offer of a formal relationship as a cooperating agency, but several agency representatives expressed interest in developing a collaborative partnership with the BLM.

The BLM met with the Nez Perce Tribe Natural Resources Subcommittee and natural resource specialists to discuss specific resource concerns and issues in the planning area. Noted issues of interest include impacts on bighorn sheep, the BLM's prioritization of conservation restoration watersheds, the delineation of management areas, land tenure areas targeted for disposal or acquisition, wetlands, fuels management versus water quality, riparian buffer zone guidelines, protection from sediment delivery, and restoration of fish habitat. Areas of interest include the Nez Perce settlement of Snake River Basin (Public Law 108-447 [Title X of Division J], 18 Stat. 3431-3441) and the Elk City area, including the East Fork of the American River. The BLM also met with the Nez Perce Tribe cultural resources specialists.

The BLM met with the Clearwater County Commissioners; Idaho County Commissioners; Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ); and Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Clearwater Region to discuss their concerns and involvement in the planning process.

Coordination between the BLM, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and US Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) began in the initial stages of the planning process and will continue throughout the planning and consultation process, in accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

The BLM submitted the Proposed RMP/Final EIS to the Governor of Idaho for the Governor's consistency review. The purpose of the Governor's consistency review is to ensure the RMP is consistent with state and local plans, policies, and programs. The Governor responded on November 26, 2008, expressing concern over a specific action that would allow for transplants, reintroduction, and natural spread of bighorn sheep populations. Clarifications have been made to applicable sections (WS-1.9.3 and WS-1.11.2) in the wildlife section of the Approved RMP, to address this concern and recognize the State's authority regarding management of wildlife.

The BLM provided the Coeur d'Alene District Resource Advisory Council with updates throughout the planning process at Resource Advisory Council meetings.

PROTESTS AND APPEALS

BLM policy, outlined in its Land Use Planning Handbook (BLM 2005a), specifies the types of decisions that are considered land use planning decisions and those that are considered implementation level decisions. Land use planning decisions are subject to protest, in accordance with land use planning regulations (43 CFR 1610.5-2). These regulations state that the decision of the BLM Director on protests is the final decision for the Department of the Interior and is not subject to further administrative appeal.

All decisions covered by this ROD, except for the route designations for motorized travel, are land use planning decisions that were protestable on publication of the Proposed RMP; hence, route designations are the only decisions in this ROD/Approved RMP that are subject to administrative appeal, as described by 43 CFR 4.4.

Results of Protest Review

The BLM received a total of five protest letters on the proposed RMP. The BLM's policy and process for resolving proposed RMP protests is outlined on its national Web site, at www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/planning/protest_resolution.html.

Protests received and partially granted on the Cottonwood RMP identified the need to perform additional analysis with regard to domestic sheep grazing on four allotments which overlap bighorn sheep habitat. In granting portions of these protests, the decisions originally identified in the proposed resource management plan and final environmental impact statement that specifically address domestic sheep grazing on these four allotments are withheld pending completion of additional analysis through a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS). The additional analysis will apply solely to the four allotments identified in the protests where domestic sheep grazing areas overlap bighorn sheep habitat. The additional analysis has no bearing on other objectives and allocations identified in the proposed RMP; therefore approval of this Record of Decision represents final agency direction on all aspects of the plan except for domestic sheep grazing in the four identified allotments. A separate Record of Decision specifically addressing objectives and grazing management actions on these four allotments will be completed – informed by additional analysis described in the SEIS. Management of the four allotments will continue in accordance with the 1981 Chief Joseph Management Framework Plan and the North Idaho Range Management Program Summary Report until they are superseded by the SEIS and approved ROD.

The BLM denied all other protests. Its responses to the protest issues are available on the Internet at www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/planning/protest_resolution/protestreports

Appealable Decisions and Procedures

Route designations for motorized travel in this ROD are subject to appeal. The administrative review period for all other decisions ended with the close of the protest period following publication of the Proposed RMP. Any party adversely affected by the motorized route designations may appeal within the 30-day appeal period for this decision, in accordance with the provisions of 43 CFR Part 4.4. The appeal period will begin on

publication of the Notice of Availability of this ROD/Approved RMP in the *Federal Register*. An appeal should state the specific route(s) by township, range, and section on which the decision is being appealed. The appeal must be filed with the Field Manager, at the following address:

Bureau of Land Management
Cottonwood Field Office
1 Butte Drive
Cottonwood, ID 83522

Those wishing to appeal the motorized route designations may include a statement of reasons with the notice of appeal or may file the statement of reasons within 30 days after filing the appeal. If the statement of reasons is filed separately, it must be sent to the address listed above and to the following:

Interior Board of Land Appeals
Office of Hearings and Appeals
801 N. Quincy Street, Suite 300
Arlington, VA 22203

Any appeal should be sent certified mail, return receipt requested.

A copy of the appeal, statement of reasons, and all other supporting documents must also be sent to:

Office of the Field Solicitor
US Department of the Interior
University Plaza
960 Broadway Avenue, Suite 400
Boise, ID 83706

Approval

Having considered a full range of reasonable alternatives, associated effects, and public input, I approve the Cottonwood Resource Management Plan.

Thomas H. Dyer — Date
Idaho State Director
Bureau of Land Management

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APPROVED COTTONWOOD RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

INTRODUCTION

This is the Approved Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the portion of the National System of Public Lands administered by the BLM Cottonwood Field Office (CFO).

Purpose and Need

The Cottonwood RMP is needed because regulatory and resource conditions have changed, as have public demands, which warrant revisiting decisions in the 1981 Management Framework Plan (MFP) and its amendments. Many new laws, regulations, and policies have created a need for additional public land management considerations. As a result, some of the decisions in the MFP and amendments are no longer valid or have been superseded by requirements that did not exist when they were prepared. Likewise, user demands and impacts have evolved, requiring new management direction.

The purpose of the RMP is to respond to resource conditions that have changed, to respond to new issues, and to provide a comprehensive framework to guide management of public lands and interests administered by the CFO with a focus on maintaining or restoring resource conditions and helping provide community stability through resource use and enjoyment.

Planning Area

The CFO boundary defines the planning area assessed in this RMP. The planning area encompasses over 8.8 million acres in Latah, Clearwater, Nez Perce, Lewis, Idaho, and Adams counties of north-central Idaho. The BLM administers about 1.5 percent, or 130,480 acres, of lands in the planning area. This acreage figure reflects changes in ownership that have occurred since the start of the planning process and is therefore slightly different from the acreage figures identified in the Draft RMP/EIS and the PRMP/FEIS. This RMP applies only to the National System of Public Lands within the planning area and to the federal mineral estate administered by the CFO. The CFO manages numerous blocks of public land, ranging in size from less than 40 acres to over 12,000 acres. A detailed land status map of the planning area can be found in **Appendix O** (**Map 1**, Planning Area Surface Management).

Planning Issues

After the formal scoping period, the BLM analyzed public comments received, input from collaborative partners, and preliminary internal planning and identified the following primary issues that should be addressed in the RMP:

- How will the problem of invasive plant species be addressed?

- How will forest vegetation be managed to attain desired stand structure and/or meet the range of natural variability?
- How will special status species and their habitats be managed?
- How will priority watersheds or areas be determined for conservation and/or restoration strategies?
- How will motorized and nonmotorized travel be managed to provide access, while minimizing impacts on natural and cultural resources?
- At what levels will commercial uses (minerals, forest products, livestock grazing, and recreation) be authorized?
- Where and what types of fuels reduction will be implemented to reduce risk to the public, firefighters, property, and natural and cultural resources?
- How will public land resources be managed in scattered or isolated parcels, given varied resource values and priorities?
- How will future demands for recreation on public lands be addressed?

Issues Considered but Not Further Analyzed

During scoping, several concerns were raised that are beyond the scope of this planning effort or represented questions on how the BLM would go about the planning process and implementation. There were several issues raised in scoping that were clearly of concern to the public but that are already governed by laws and regulations (for example, water quality). The Cottonwood RMP Scoping Report (BLM 2005b) provides a comprehensive list of issues outside the scope of the RMP.

Planning Criteria/Legislative Constraints

The FLPMA is the primary authority for the BLM's management of public lands. This law provides the overarching policy by which public lands will be managed and establishes provisions for land use planning, land acquisition and disposition, administration, range management, rights-of-way, designated management areas, and the repeal of certain laws and statutes. The NEPA provides the basic national charter for environmental responsibility and requires the consideration and public availability of information regarding the environmental impacts of major federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. In concert, these two laws provide the guidance for administration of all BLM activities.

Preliminary planning criteria were developed prior to public scoping meetings to set the focus for planning the Cottonwood RMP and to guide decision making by topic. These preliminary criteria were introduced to the public for review in September 2004 on the project Internet Web site, in October 2004 in the project newsletter, and in November 2004 at scoping meetings. The BLM received no comments on these criteria, which were carried forward to use in forming judgments about decision making, analysis, and data collection during the planning process. These criteria are as follows:

- The plan will comply with all applicable laws, regulations, and current policies. This includes local, state, tribal, and federal air quality standards; as well as water quality standards from the Idaho Nonpoint Source Management Program Plans.
- The RMP planning effort will be collaborative and multijurisdictional in nature. The BLM will strive to ensure that its management decisions are complimentary to other planning jurisdictions and adjoining properties within the boundaries described by law and federal regulations.
- The planning process will establish new guidance and identify existing guidance upon which the BLM will rely to manage public lands within the planning area.
- The planning area is defined as the CFO.
- All previously established WSAs will continue to be managed for wilderness values and character until Congress designates them as wilderness areas, or releases them for multiple use management.
- The RMP will recognize all valid existing rights.
- As part of this RMP process, the BLM will analyze areas for potential designation as ACECs in accordance with 43 CFR 1610-7-2, and river corridors for recommendation and designation under the WSR Act.

Relationship to BLM Policies, Plans, and Programs

This RMP complies with all current BLM and BLM Idaho policies, plans, and program guidance.

Related Plans

Planning regulations require that BLM plans be consistent with officially approved or adopted resource related plans of other federal, state, local, and tribal governments to the extent those plans are consistent with federal laws and regulations applicable to public lands. The following plans were reviewed and considered during development of the RMP/EIS**Error! Bookmark not defined.**:

- Recovery Plan for the Pacific Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) (USFWS 1995);
- Revised Recovery Plan for MacFarlane's Four-O'clock *(Mirabilis macfarlanei)* (USFWS 2000);
- Canada Lynx *(Lynx canadensis)* Conservation Assessment and Strategy (Ruediger et al. 2000);
- Recovery Plan for the Northern Idaho Ground Squirrel *(Spermophilus brunneus brunneus)* (USFWS 2003);
- Recovery Plan for *Silene spaldingii* (Spalding's catchfly) (USFWS 2007a);
- Draft Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plans in progress (National Marine Fisheries Service 2006);
- Draft Bull Trout Recovery Plans in progress (USFWS 2002);

- Idaho Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (Idaho Department of Fish and Game 2006a);
- 2001-2006 Fisheries Management Plan (Idaho Department of Fish and Game 2006b);
- National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan (40 CFR 300);
- Best Management Practices for Mining in Idaho (Idaho Department of Lands 1992);
- IDEQ's Final Area-wide Risk Management Plan (IDEQ 2004);
- A View to the Future: A Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan for Idaho (Idaho State Historic Preservation Office 2002);
- Proposed Plan Amendments and EIS for Small WSAs, Statewide (BLM 1988a); and
- Idaho's 2003–2007 Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Plan (Idaho State Parks and Recreation 2003).
- Section 368 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (designation of West-wide energy corridors) is being implemented through the current development of an interagency Programmatic EIS. The Final Programmatic EIS will provide plan amendment decisions that will address numerous energy corridor related issues, including the utilization of existing corridors (enhancements and upgrades), identification of new corridors, supply and demand considerations, and compatibility with other corridor and project planning efforts. The approved Programmatic EIS will subsequently amend the Cottonwood RMP; however, it is not likely that the identification of corridors in the Programmatic EIS will affect the CFO planning area.

MANAGEMENT DECISIONS

Management decisions in this RMP include the following:

- *Goals*—Broad statements of desired outcomes that are usually not quantifiable;
- *Objectives*—Specific desired outcomes that are usually, but not always, quantifiable and measurable and may have established timeframes for achievement; objectives are identified as means to achieve goals;
- *Actions* (Management Actions)—Anticipated actions to achieve desired outcomes, including actions to maintain, restore, or improve land health; and
- *Allocations* (Allowable Uses)—Uses and allocations that are allowable, restricted, or prohibited on the public lands and mineral estate; allocations identify surface lands and subsurface mineral interests where uses are allowed, including any restrictions that may be needed to meet goals and objectives.

Public Involvement

During implementation of this RMP, the BLM, subject to funding, will identify and implement specific projects to comply with identified decisions. During planning and analysis of these specific projects, the BLM will provide opportunities for public, collaborative partner, and interested party involvement. The BLM may also develop

implementation level plans to provide more specific guidance for managing certain areas or resources. The public, collaborative partners, and interested parties will also be invited to participate in these planning processes.

Management Plan Implementation

To achieve the goals and objectives set forth in this plan, the CFO will develop an implementation strategy that provides for the systematic accomplishment of decisions in the approved RMP. During implementation of the RMP, additional analysis and documentation may be required to comply with NEPA.

This strategy will tie management decisions in the RMP to specific proposed projects on the ground and will identify budget and work load planning requirements. Implementation of all proposed actions and decisions identified will be contingent upon actual funding and priorities.

Plan Evaluations/Adaptive Management

Evaluation is a process in which the plan and monitoring data are reviewed to see if management goals and objectives are being met and if management actions are appropriate and remain effective. Land use plan evaluations determine if decisions are being implemented, if mitigation measures are satisfactory, if there are significant changes in the related plans of other entities, if there are new data of significance to the plan, and if decisions should be changed through amendment or revision. Monitoring data gathered over time is examined and used to draw conclusions on whether or not management actions are meeting stated objectives, and if not, why. Conclusions are then used to make recommendations to continue current management or to adapt management by identifying necessary changes in management practices to meet objectives.

The BLM will use periodic land use plan evaluations to determine if the decisions in the RMP, supported by the accompanying NEPA analysis, are still valid in light of new information and monitoring data. Unexpected actions, new information, or significant changes in other plans, legislation, or litigation may also trigger evaluations.

This Approved RMP was developed based on the ecosystem management approach. The ecosystem management approach focuses on the ecological system instead of a single species or single resource. Before ecosystem management can be implemented, two inherent rules must be understood. The greatest hurdle to overcome in effective ecosystem management is uncertainty. To mitigate uncertainty, the BLM will use adaptive management.

Adaptive management recognizes that there is incomplete data when dealing with natural resources and that through continued research and monitoring of the effects of management practices, new information will be developed. This information can be reevaluated and incorporated into the management plan, and practices can be adjusted accordingly.

Decisions

The following plan decisions are identified by type (goal, objective, action, or allocation) and are organized by program. The decisions use the words restoration and rehabilitation interchangeably. It should be noted that while management actions taken by the BLM can promote or facilitate natural processes, areas and functions are restored through the work of natural processes. Decisions regarding wildlife resources also use the words habitat and species synonymously. Please note that the BLM has been delegated management authority over habitats and that other agencies are charged with managing species and populations. Therefore, in discussions regarding actions to species the text should be read as actions to habitat that affect species. The decisions are organized by the following programs:

- Resources
  - Air quality (AQ),
  - Geology (GE),
  - Soils (SO),
  - Water resources (WA),
  - Vegetation—forests (VF),
  - Vegetation—weeds (VW),
  - Vegetation—rangelands (VN),
  - Vegetation—riparian and wetlands (VR),
  - Wildlife and special status wildlife (WS),
  - Aquatic resources, fish, and special status fish (AF),
  - Special status plants (SP),
  - Wildland fire management (WF),
  - Cultural resources (CR),
  - Paleontological resources (PR), and
  - Visual resources (VR);

- Resource uses
  - Forest products (FP),
  - Livestock grazing (LG),
  - Minerals (MN),
  - Recreation (RC),
  - Renewable energy (RE),
  - Transportation and travel management (TM), and
  - Lands and realty (LR);

- Special designations
  - Areas of Critical Environmental Concern and Research Natural Areas (AR),
  - National trails (NT),

  - Wild and Scenic Rivers (WR),
  - Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas (WW),
  - Watchable wildlife viewing sites (WV), and

- Social and economic
  - Native American tribal uses—social and economic (NA),
  - Public safety (PS), and
  - Social and economic conditions (SE).

Resources

Air Quality (AQ)

Goal AQ-1—Comply with existing air quality laws and regulations to meet health and safety requirements.

Objective AQ-1.1—Manage prescribed fire and fire managed for resource benefit in a manner to minimize degradation of the airshed.	**Action AQ-1.1.1—**Manage wildland fire, to include prescribed fire, while meeting federal and IDEQ air quality and opacity standards and follow related regulations. This includes applicable Tribal regulations under the US Environmental Protection Agency's Federal Air Rules for Reservations. **Action AQ-1.1.2—**Include minimization of impacts on air quality as a criterion in Wildland Fire Situation Analysis, Wildland Fire Implementation Plans, Wildland Fire Decision Support System, and Prescribed Fire Burn Plans.
Objective AQ-1.2—Cooperate with other members of the Montana/Idaho Airshed Group on smoke management.	**Action AQ-1.2.1—**Coordinate smoke management through the Montana/Idaho Airshed Group and, when smoke is expected to impact reservation lands, the Nez Perce Tribe. **Action AQ-1.2.2—**Planned activities shall be conducted in accordance with the Idaho State Implementation Plan of the Clean Air Act (upon completion), and other plans and policies that control smoke emission on public lands. **Action AQ-1.2.3—**Ensure treatments using prescribed fire are consistent with US Environmental Protection Agency's Interim Air Quality Policy on Wildland and Prescribed Fires, or more current direction.
Objective AQ-1.3—Ensure that all authorized activities on public lands meet federal and IDEQ air quality standards and regulatory requirements.	**Action AQ-1.3.1—**Prescribe and implement BMPs to reasonably prevent degradation of air quality when authorizing actions. **Action AQ-1.3.2—**Specify that compliance with federal and IDEQ standards is required when authorizing actions.

Geology (GE)

Goal GE-1—Provide opportunities for the use of geologic resources while protecting resource values.

Objective GE-1.1—Promote the scientific, educational, and recreational use and access to unique features.	**Action GE-1.1.1—**Identify where unique geologic features exist. **Action GE-1.1.2—**Develop plans for interpretive, recreational trails and informative sites near unique features.

Soils (SO)

Goal SO-1—Maintain and restore watershed health, soil productivity, and areas of fragile soils.

Objective SO-1.1—Ensure that management actions for other resources incorporate adequate soil protection.	**Action SO-1.1.1—**Implement BMPs (**Appendix A**, Best Management Practices) for soil-disturbing activities. **Action SO-1.1.2—**Apply appropriate reclamation measures to mitigate adverse impacts on soils and water resources on impacted sites.
Objective SO-1.2—Manage soil-disturbing activities to protect landslide-prone areas and minimize potential for mass wasting.	**Action SO-1.2.1—**During project development, inventory and record sensitive land types (e.g., highly erosive soils, unstable or landslide prone land types, slopes exceeding 55 percent). **Action SO-1.2.2—**Design projects to avoid or minimize the potential for adverse impacts in landslide prone areas and sensitive land types and adjacent areas. **Action SO-1.2.3—**Inventory and prioritize existing roads on sensitive land types for restoration (decommissioning, obliteration, partial recontouring). **Action SO-1.2.4—**Assess naturally occurring slope failures for potential stabilization and/or restoration. **Action SO-1.2.5—**Before authorizing any soil-disturbing activity on slopes exceeding 55 percent and/or in areas exhibiting potential slope instability, evaluate to determine potential landslide risk. Landslide-risk delineation and evaluation shall include field assessment by an interdisciplinary team. When high-risk landslide areas are identified, avoid management activities that will adversely affect slope stability. **Action SO-1.2.6—**Implement a 100-foot (or greater, when warranted) slope distance landslide protection zone around landslides and landslide-prone areas.

Water Resources (WA)

Goal WA-1—Manage water resources to protect beneficial uses and to meet or exceed state and federal water quality standards. Maintain or improve the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of water resources.

Objective WA-1.1—Comply with all state and federal requirements to protect water quality.	**Action WA-1.1.1—**Implement all applicable BMPs (**Appendix A**, Best Management Practices) to limit nonpoint source pollution and minimize degradation of water quality.**Error! Bookmark not defined.** **Action WA-1.1.2—**Conduct implementation and effectiveness monitoring commensurate with the level of on-the-ground activities and BMPs. Incorporate adaptive changes to management direction in response to monitoring results. The appropriate monitoring will be identified during project development and assessment. **Action WA-1.1.3—**Land uses involving hazardous materials will include appropriate spill contingency plan and project design measures to avoid impacts on water sources.
Objective WA-1.2—Protect and maintain watersheds so that they appropriately capture, retain, and release water of quality that meets or exceeds state and federal standards.	**Action WA-1.2.1—**Identify all applicable or appropriate state and federal standards for each sixth hydrologic unit code watershed containing BLM land and determine or estimate (with respect to those standards) the status of receiving waters that drain or receive drainage from BLM land. **Action WA-1.2.2—**Conduct implementation and effectiveness monitoring commensurate with the level of on-the-ground activities. Adaptively change management direction to avoid or minimize adverse effects on water quality. The appropriate implementation and effectiveness monitoring will be identified during project development and assessment. For ongoing activities and programs, develop interdisciplinary monitoring plans as needed. **Action WA-1.2.3—**If receiving waters are nonconforming (nonachievement or maintenance) of designated beneficial uses, state and federal water quality standards and total maximum daily loads; evaluate contributing sources on BLM land. Identify potential source reduction/remediation options, and feasibility of implementation. If remedial action is required or warranted, develop an action plan. Implement actions based on urgency, cost-effectiveness, or other criteria. **Action WA-1.2.4—**Cooperate with adjacent landowners, agencies, tribes, individuals, communities, and municipalities to meet achievement or maintenance of designated beneficial uses, state and federal water quality standards, and total maximum daily loads. **Action WA-1.2.5—**Promote activities that help achieve, or do not preclude achievement of, DFCs in restoration watersheds (**Appendix B**, Conservation and Restoration Watersheds). Restoration subwatersheds were identified because biological and physical processes and functions do not reflect natural conditions because of past and long-term land disturbances. See **Map 2**, Conservation and Restoration Watersheds. **Action WA-1.2.6—**Watersheds that provide water for public consumption should be managed to meet state water quality standards established for the protection of drinking water quality, and land management activities should be consistent with applicable state source water protection plans. **Action WA-1.2.7—**In restoration watersheds, project design should limit predicted increased water yield or peak flows to less than 15 percent above baseline. Equivalent clear-cut area is an accepted surrogate technique for indicating increased water yield and typically should remain below 30 percent equivalent clear-cut area based upon channel condition and sensitivity to erosion and peak stream flows.
Objective WA-1.3—Manage streams to maintain or restore designated beneficial use support status and, where feasible, achieve delisting of Clean water Act 303(d)-listed stream segments.	**Action WA-1.3.1—**Cooperate with adjacent landowners, agencies, tribes, and others to meet beneficial use criteria. **Action WA-1.3.2—**Do not implement management actions that preclude maintenance or achievement of defined designated beneficial uses. Implement appropriate restoration actions to support achievement of defined designated beneficial uses.
Objective WA-1.4—Secure water rights to ensure water availability for multiple use management.	**Action WA-1.4.1—**Prepare necessary documentation in support of water rights program. As needed, acquire water rights from Idaho Department of Water Resources to ensure water availability for various resource programs. **Action WA-1.4.2—**Maintain claim files, data bases, maps and data for water rights. **Action WA-1.4.3—**Conduct field investigation and documentation of water sources to support BLM water right program.

Water Resources (WA)

	Action WA-1.4.4—Review other federal, state, and private water right applications and provide appropriate response.
Objective WA-1.5—Prevent or reverse impacts on flood-prone areas.	**Action WA-1.5.1—**No actions will be permitted that will cause definable adverse impacts on the natural and beneficial functions of flood-prone areas. **Action WA-1.5.2—**Identify opportunities for restoration of impaired flood-prone areas, including removal of hazardous materials and nonessential structures that adversely impact function of flood-prone areas.
Objective WA-1.6—Comply with all state and federal requirements to protect groundwater.	**Action WA-1.6.1—**Land management activities shall provide for protection and maintenance of aquifers.

Vegetation—Forests (VF)

Goal VF-1—Manage forests to maintain or improve forest health, composition, structure, and diversity consistent with site potential, and Historical Range of Variability.

Objective VF-1.1—Manage for forest health and/or habitat diversity in DFC blocks (**Map 3**, Desired Future Condition Blocks) of 1,000 or more forested acres.	**Action VF-1.1.1—**Design treatment projects to enhance forest health and/or habitat diversity (consistent with **Appendix C**, Desired Future Conditions for Forest Vegetation/Wildlife Habitat). **Action VF-1.1.2—**To the extent practicable, emphasize retention of large tree size ponderosa pine *(Pinus ponderosa)*; western larch *(Larix occidentalis)*; and/or Douglas-fir *(Pseudotsuga menziesii)* in dry conifer sites. **Action VF-1.1.3—**Use site-specific analysis to determine adequate/appropriate canopy closure for large tree class. **Action VF-1.1.4—**Identification of old growth forest stands will be based on the structure and composition characteristic of the forest types identified in Hamilton (1993) and Green et al. (1992, errata corrected 2005) or best science (see **Appendix C**). Site specific stand analysis for determination of old growth will include documentation of habitat type, stand size, tree sizes, stand structure, composition, and other pertinent old growth characteristics.
Objective VF-1.2—In areas not included in Objective 1 (DFC blocks identified on **Map 3**, Desired Future Condition Blocks) manage for multiple resource values that include but are not limited to habitat management, grazing, etc.	**Action VF-1.2.1—**Perform site-specific analysis on forest vegetation project proposals. **Action VF-1.2.2—**When applying treatments in the vicinity of stands which are large tree and/or old growth stands, these treatments will contribute toward the restoration of the structure and composition of old growth stands according to the pre fire-suppression old growth characteristics. **Action VF-1.2.3—**In the stands described in Action VF-1.2.2, if outbreaks of insect or disease, or mortality related to wildland fire or other disturbance, threaten the structure, silvicultural treatments may be applied that reduce potential mortality. These treatments will attempt to maximize retention of the structure while minimizing loss due to the disturbance.

Vegetation—Weeds (VW)

Goal VW-1—Prevent establishment of new invasive plant species and reduce infested acreage of established invasive plant species.

Objective VW-1.1—Work with partners in coordinated weed management areas to develop and implement annual treatment strategies.	**Action VW-1.1.1—**Prioritize the use of BLM resources in areas with established partnerships. **Action VW-1.1.2—**Support or conduct weed inventories with partners to provide for the efficient prioritization of weed control activities. **Action VW-1.1.3—**Support or conduct education and awareness activities with partners. Utilize local, state, and national expertise and outreach opportunities. **Action VW-1.1.4—**Implement prevention activities (**Appendix A**, Best Management Practices for Weed Prevention) as part of field activities to avoid contributing to spread of invasive plants from BLM actions. **Action VW-1.1.5—**Implement invasive plant control methods including, but not limited to, physical, mechanical, biological, and chemical control.

Vegetation—Weeds (VW)

	Action VW-1.1.6—Rehabilitate treated areas to provide competitive plant communities and avoid establishment of invasive plant populations.
	Action VW-1.1.7—Monitor control and rehabilitation projects to document results and provide a record for future activities. When funding is available, control activities will be monitored annually and rehabilitation activities will be monitored two years post treatment.
Objective VW-1.2—Outside of weed management areas, implement treatment strategies in accordance with other resource goals.	**Action VW-1.2.1—**Conduct weed inventories to provide for the efficient prioritization of weed control activities. **Action VW-1.2.2—**Implement prevention activities (**Appendix A**, Best Management Practices for Weed Prevention) as part of field activities to avoid contributing to spread of invasive plants from BLM actions. **Action VW-1.2.3—**Implement invasive plant control methods including, but not limited to, physical, mechanical, biological, and chemical control. **Action VW-1.2.4—**Rehabilitate treated areas to provide competitive plant communities and avoid establishment of invasive plant populations.

Vegetation—Rangelands (VN)

Goal VN-1—Maintain or improve rangeland plant community health (diversity, composition, function, and vigor) relative to site potential.

Objective VN-1.1—In perennial plant communities, maintain existing native plants and manage desirable nonnative plants for diversity, production, soil stability and nutrient cycling.	**Action VN-1.1.1—**Monitor or evaluate rangelands on an annual basis in accordance with resource priority and assess rangelands in relation to standards and guides a minimum of every 10 years to assure resource objectives are being met. **Action VN-1.1.2—**When assessments determine objectives are not being met, implement interdisciplinary-based management changes or projects utilizing available technologies and plant materials. Prioritize use of native species. **Action VN-1.1.3—**Promote native plant community health in Craig Mountain and Rattlesnake Ridge to achieve resource objectives (wildlife, soils, and sensitive plant communities).
Objective VN-1.2—Plant communities dominated by nonnative annual plants will be managed to promote soil stability and rehabilitation opportunities.	**Action VN-1.2.1—**Monitor or evaluate rangelands dependent on priority resource concerns a minimum of every 10 years to assure resource objectives are being met. **Action VN-1.2.2—**When assessments determine objectives are not being met, implement interdisciplinary-based management changes or projects utilizing available technologies and plant materials. Prioritize use of native species. **Action VN-1.2.3—**Implement actions to accomplish the conversion of nonnative plant communities to desired plant communities. Consider the use of available technologies and plant materials to achieve the desired outcome.

Vegetation –Riparian and Wetlands (VR)

Goal VR-1—Maintain or improve riparian and wetland areas to achieve Proper Functioning Condition (PFC). Manage for riparian plant community types appropriate for the site.

Objective VR-1.1—Strive to improve degraded riparian and wetland vegetation relative to site potential and potential natural vegetation composition and habitat diversity.	**Action VR-1.1.1—**Improvement of riparian condition may be accomplished in a variety of ways, examples include: (1) riparian restoration (e.g., plantings, seedings, recontouring, placement of topsoil, control of undesirable vegetation); (2) modifying lands uses that further degrade riparian conditions (e.g., livestock grazing; vehicle use, recreation use); and (3) implementation of Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy (**Appendix D**, Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy). **Action VR-1.1.2—**Establish Riparian Conservation Areas (RCAs) consistent with the Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy (**Appendix D**, Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy). **Action VR-1.1.3—**Use the following criteria in establishing RCAs. **Category 1—Fish-bearing streams:** RCAs consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active channel to the top of the inner gorge, or to the outer edges of the 100-year floodplain, or to the outer edges of the riparian vegetation, or 300 feet slope distance (600 feet, including both sides of the stream channel), whichever is greatest.

Vegetation –Riparian and Wetlands (VR)	
	Category 2—Permanently flowing non-fish-bearing streams: RCAs consist of the stream and the area on either side of the stream extending from the edges of the active channel to the top of the inner gorge, or to the outer edges of the 100-year floodplain, or to the outer edges of the riparian vegetation, or 150 feet slope distance (300 feet, including both sides of the stream channel), whichever is greatest. **Category 3 - Ponds, lakes, reservoirs and wetlands greater than one acre:** RCAs consist of the body of water or wetland and the area to the outer edges of the riparian vegetation, or to the extent of the seasonally saturated soil, or 150 feet slope distance from the edge of the maximum pool elevation of constructed ponds and reservoirs or from the edge of the wetland, pond or lake, whichever is greatest. **Category 4—Seasonally flowing or intermittent streams, and wetlands less than one acre:** This category includes features with high variability in size and site-specific characteristics. The RCA is the area from the edges of the stream channel, wetland, the extent of riparian vegetation or 100 feet slope distance, whichever is greatest. Nonforested rangeland ecosystems Category 1 and 2 streams extent of 100 year flood plain. **Action VR 1.1.4—**Management activities within RCAs will be conducted in accordance with the Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy (**Appendix D**, Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy).
Objective VR-1.2—Develop activity plans that support achievement of aquatic and riparian management objectives.	**Action VR-1.2.1—**Review and update as necessary existing aquatic habitat management plans (HMPs). Prioritize where HMPs should be developed to support conservation and restoration of aquatic and riparian resources. **Action VR-1.2.2—**Updated and new aquatic HMPs will include identification of resource objectives, needed management actions, and monitoring. Updated and new HMPs will use an interdisciplinary team and coordination with appropriate state, federal, tribal, and private parties.
Objective VR-1.3—Manage streams, riparian areas, and wetlands (hereafter referred to as “sites”) in PFC so their condition rating is not degraded.	**Action VR-1.3.1—**Identify and record sites at risk of degradation. This will include fish-bearing streams; perennial, intermittent, ephemeral non fish-bearing streams; and ponds, lakes, and wetlands. **Action VR-1.3.2—**Prioritize, inventory and/or monitor riparian/wetlands sites that are “functional at risk” or “nonfunctional” every three to five years (effectiveness monitoring). **Action VR-1.1.3—**Implement appropriate management activities that maintain PFC ratings for riparian and wetland habitats (see Objective VR-1.1, Actions VR 1.1.1 and VR 1.1.4 for corresponding management).
Objective VR-1.4—Move non-functional or functional-at-risk sites toward PFC.	**Action VR-1.4.1—**If feasible, implement appropriate management activities (see Objective VR-1.1, Actions VR 1.1.1 and VR 1.1.4 for corresponding management) to restore or move sites toward PFC. This will include fish-bearing streams; perennial, intermittent, ephemeral non fish-bearing streams; and ponds, lakes, and wetlands. **Action VR-1.4.2—**Conduct field investigations to determine and assess the factors causing sites to be non-functional or functional-at-risk. **Action VR-1.4.3—**Improve degraded riparian and wetland vegetation relative to ecological status (poor, fair, good, excellent) using appropriate Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy guidelines (**Appendix D**, Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy), BMPs, and other appropriate restoration measures. Refer to **Appendix B** (Conservation and Restoration Watersheds) in regards to watershed, riparian, and aquatic resources management emphasis and priority.

Wildlife and Special Status Wildlife (WS)

Goal WS-1—Manage habitat to contribute to the conservation of special status species habitats and to maintain biological diversity of wildlife.

Objective WS-1.1—Protect, maintain, or restore habitat for threatened and endangered species in a manner that contributes to the delisting of the species.	**Action WS-1.1.1—**Review ongoing activities to determine if direct , indirect , or cumulative adverse impacts on federally listed, proposed, or candidate species (see **Appendix E**, Special Status Species) or their habitats are occurring as a result of BLM discretionary actions. If needed, modify the activity to avoid or minimize adverse impacts on the species and suitable habitats. Review of ongoing activities will be conducted by journey level Area Biologist/Ecologist. As needed, review of needed activity or program modifications to avoid adverse effects will include appropriate conferencing/consultation with USFWS, staff members, and BLM Field Manager. **Action WS-1.1.2—**Before authorizing new federal actions within areas providing suitable habitat for federally listed, proposed, and candidate species (see **Appendix E**, Special Status Species), determine if direct, indirect or cumulative adverse impacts on the species potentially could occur as a result of BLM discretionary actions. If needed, modify the activity to avoid or minimize adverse impacts on the species and suitable habitats. **Action WS-1.1.3—**Promote threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species (see **Appendix E**, Special Status Species) conservation through land tenure adjustments, conservation easements, and cooperative planning. **Action WS-1.1.4—**If a species is delisted, it will be managed under the appropriate USFWS delisting requirements, applicable conservation strategy, Idaho Department of Fish and Game management guidance, and/or in accordance with BLM policy for sensitive species. **Action WS-1.1.5—**The BLM will coordinate and/or consult with USFWS on recovery efforts and actions that may impact listed species. **Action WS-1.1.6—**If a new species is listed or critical habitat is designated, the appropriate management actions will be implemented to insure that recovery for the species will not be retarded or impeded in the long term. In consultation with USFWS the appropriate conservation and restoration measures and BMPs will be identified for new listed species. **Action WS-1.1.**7**—**Upon development of new, updated, or amended listed species recovery plans; where applicable and feasible incorporate appropriate conservation and restoration measures for listed species and suitable habitats.
Objective WS-1.2—Promote conservation or restoration measures to support recovery for the listed Canada lynx and its habitats.	**Action WS-1.2.1—**Implement Canada lynx resource management and conservation measures identified in **Appendix F**, Federally Listed and Candidate Species Management, Conservation, and Restoration Measures. See **Appendix G** (Species-specific Habitat Definitions) for lynx habitat and other definitions. **Action WS-1.2.2—**When appropriate, implement applicable conservation and restoration measures identified in *Canada Lynx Conservation Assessment and Strategy* (Ruediger et al. 2000), future Recovery Plan developed for Canada lynx, and any recovery plan or conservation strategy updates. **Action WS-1.2.3—**With new information or specific habitat surveys, update Lynx Analysis Unit maps and lynx habitat within Lynx Analysis Units that are associated with BLM lands within the planning area. Lynx Analysis Unit boundaries should not be changed unless such modification is supported by appropriate rationale or is in error. Where applicable, this will be coordinated between CFO, BLM Idaho State Office, USFWS, and Forest Service. **Action WS-1.2.4—**Where applicable, timber management can be used in conjunction with, or in place of fire as a disturbance process to create and maintain snowshoe hare habitat in lynx habitats occurring in Lynx Analysis Units to achieve desired conditions in accordance with *Canada Lynx Conservation Assessment and Strategy* (Ruediger et al. 2000). **Action WS-1.2.5—**Where applicable, projects will be designed to promote current and future denning habitat in Lynx Analysis Units to achieve desired conditions in accordance with *Canada Lynx Conservation Assessment and Strategy* (Ruediger et al. 2000). **Action WS-1.2.6—**Where applicable, management actions will support achievement of connectivity (i.e., travel corridors and/or travel habitat) within and between Lynx Analysis Units and/or suitable lynx habitat (**Appendix G**, Species-specific Habitat Definitions).

Wildlife and Special Status Wildlife (WS)	
Objective WS-1.3—Promote conservation or restoration measures to support recovery for the listed northern Idaho ground squirrel and its habitats.	**Action WS-1.3.1—**Implement northern Idaho ground squirrel resource management and conservation measures identified in **Appendix F**, Federally Listed and Candidate Species Management, Conservation, and Restoration Measures. Conservation and restoration management emphasis will occur in occupied habitats or adjacent suitable habitats. See **Appendix G** (Species-specific Habitat Definitions) for northern Idaho ground squirrel suitable habitat and other definitions. **Action WS-1.3.2—**Develop site-specific management plans for colonies/populations found on BLM lands. **Action WS-1.3.3—**In cooperation with Idaho Department of Fish and Game, USFWS, and others, survey, identify, and map populations and suitable habitats. **Action WS-1.3.4—**If populations are found on BLM lands, cooperate in monitoring northern Idaho ground squirrel population trends and habitat conditions. **Action WS-1.3.5—**Protect northern Idaho ground squirrel from adverse disturbances and impacts that would preclude recovery. Avoid disturbing activities in areas with known populations during the above-ground activity season (site dependent: late March to mid-September), and avoid adverse ground-disturbing activities at all times of the year in areas with colonies of northern Idaho ground squirrels and in suitable habitats.
Objective WS-1.4—Promote conservation measures for the federal candidate yellow-billed cuckoo *(Coccyzus americanus)* and its habitats.	**Action WS-1.4.1—**Implement yellow-billed cuckoo resource management and conservation measures identified in **Appendix F**, Federally Listed and Candidate Species Management, Conservation, and Restoration Measures. See **Appendix G** (Species-specific Habitat Definitions) for yellow-billed cuckoo suitable habitat and other definitions. **Action WS-1.4.2—**Maintain and update records of all suitable habitat for yellow-billed cuckoo. Within suitable habitat, participate in surveys for yellow-billed cuckoo and map new populations as found. Systematic inventories will continue to be conducted in cooperation with other agencies. **Action WS-1.4.3—**In suitable habitat conduct periodic surveys to determine if these habitats are occupied. **Action WS-1.4.4—**Maintain or enhance suitable habitat, primary management emphasis includes actions that promote or maintain large stands of cottonwoods. Where appropriate, update or develop management plans for suitable habitat, particularly in areas with known populations, as well as restoration areas.
Objective WS-1.5—Manage BLM sensitive species habitats so actions do not contribute to species decline or contribute to federal listing.	**Action WS-1.5.1—**Maintain a database that includes sensitive species, identifies suitable habitats and important habitat niches (**Appendix E**, Special Status Species). **Action WS-1.5.2—**Promote sensitive species surveys, monitoring, and studies that support conservation efforts while updating existing habitat records. **Action WS-1.5.3—**For each new project, compile, develop and implement appropriate species and/or habitat-specific BMPs to avoid or minimize adverse impacts on sensitive species and their habitats. Compile and develop CFO programmatic-level activity BMPs for sensitive species that may be used as needed for ongoing projects or for new project development. **Action WS-1.5.4—**Manage wildlife habitats using established BMPs and guides for BLM sensitive species. Use a species habitat guild approach (e.g., riparian, old growth, canyon grasslands, etc.) for identification of desired conditions, conducting analysis, and developing project and activity design measures. Development of project design measures should include conservation and restoration measures for BLM sensitive species, while striving forappropriate habitat diversity and achievement of project objectives. **Action WS-1.5.5—**Promote sensitive species conservation through land tenure adjustments, conservation easements, restoration projects, and cooperative planning (**Appendix E**, Special Status Species).

Objective WS-1.6—Manage rangeland and forest vegetation habitats to provide for diversity, cover, structure, forage, and security to contribute to healthy populations of rangeland and forest dependent species and other wildlife.

Action WS-1.6.1—To minimize or avoid adverse effects to elk habitat, Elk Habitat Management Coordinating Guidelines can be used as needed during project design analysis, authorization, and implementation of land uses that affect elk habitat.

Action WS-1.6.2—Strive to maintain or improve ecological condition status of native grassland plant communities. Priority areas will include important winter and spring range areas for bighorn sheep, elk, and deer. Emphasis management areas will include the Craig Mountain WMA and Rattlesnake Ridge areas.

Action WS-1.6.3—Priority subwatersheds or areas where BLM programmatic management direction will support progress towards attainment of DFC for forest wildlife habitat vegetation includes BLM forested contiguous areas that are greater than 1,000 acres (**Appendix C**, Desired Future Conditions for Forest Vegetation/Wildlife Habitat; **Map 2**, Conservation and Restoration Watersheds).

Action WS-1.6.4—Develop new activity plans or update as necessary existing activity plans (e.g., HMPs) to facilitate the implementation of the appropriate management and conservation measures that will promote the maintenance or enhancement of habitats for rangeland and forest dependent species and other wildlife.

Action WS-1.6.5—During the development and review of new project proposals, final design criteria will consider and minimize or eliminate where possible adverse impacts on wildlife travel corridors and fragmentation of habitats when consistent with project objectives. Emphasis areas for identification and validation of travel corridors and habitat connectivity will include riparian and ridge top areas.

Action WS-1.6.6—Manage riparian and upland areas to provide for snag-dependent species (**Appendix C**, Desired Future Conditions for Forest Vegetation/Wildlife Habitat).

Action WS-1.6.7—In priority management areas for public motorized vehicle use, programmatic direction is to authorize no net increase in roads and trails open to motorized vehicle use on BLM lands and/or BLM controlled roads/trails (**Map 4**, Travel Management**—**Area 1, **Map 5**, Travel Management**—**Area 2, and **Map 6**, Travel Management**—**Area 3):

- Craig Mountain (27,813 acres);
- Lower Salmon River (20,783 acres);
- John Day/Wet Gulch (3,473 acres);
- Slate Creek (1,274 acres);
- East of Riggins(12,537 acres);
- Sheep**/**Hat Creek**/**Denny Creek (5,195 acres);
- Elk Creek/Little Elk Creek (1,487 acres);
- Hazard**/**Hard**/**Little Salmon River Face (3,663 acres);
- Trail Creek**/**Boulder Creek (4,502 acres);
- Marshall Mountain (11,720 acres);
- Lolo Creek (5,258 acres); and
- Clearwater River Face/Pardee (1,534 acres).

Programmatic direction does not apply to authorized access across BLM-managed lands to nonfederal lands. In addition to above listed “emphasis areas,” general road management policy will be to maintain or improve wildlife security when possible and consistent with other resources within the planning area.

Action WS-1.6.8—Identify and undertake opportunities to decommission, partially obliterate, or fully obliterate roads and trails not needed for long-term management (more than 10 years). Emphasis areas will be in restoration and conservation watersheds (**Appendix B**, Conservation and Restoration Watersheds).

Action WS-1.6.9—Public education will be conducted to inform the public about special status and other native wildlife species, species habitat needs, ecosystem functions, and BLM conservation and restoration management strategies.

	Action WS-1.6.10—The following guidelines can be used when designing vegetation projects in big game habitat (shrub and forest habitats): • To provide forage areas, promote the creation of openings less than 40 acres (preferred less than 20 acres) and/or maximum width is less than 1,000 feet. • Openings should be bordered on all sides by cover not less than 800 feet wide. • Rejuvenate and enhance the desired shrub and forage component of big game winter ranges by simulating or promoting natural disturbance regimes for early-seral habitats. **Action WS-1.6.11—**Provide for migratory bird habitat through implementation of actions supporting habitat diversity (e.g., historic range of variability, guilds, riparian and aquatic strategies, etc.).
Objective WS-1.7—Maintain, restore, or enhance riparian and wetland areas so that they provide habitat diversity and healthy riparian and aquatic conditions for riparian and wetland dependent species and other wildlife species.	**Action WS-1.7.1—**Implement the appropriate actions to promote maintenance or enhancement of riparian areas and wetlands so that they achieve PFC and/or good or excellent ecological condition. See *Vegetation—Riparian and Wetlands* and **Appendix D**, Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy. **Action WS-1.7.2—**Priority areas for implementation of riparian conservation and restoration projects are identified in **Appendix B**, Conservation and Restoration Watersheds (see **Map 2**, Conservation and Restoration Watersheds). **Action WS-1.7.3—**Avoid or minimize the adverse impacts from projects that encroach or degrade riparian areas or stream channels and curtail attainment of riparian management objectives. See *Vegetation—Riparian and Wetlands* and **Appendix D**, Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy. **Action WS-1.7.4—**As needed for grazing allotments, the appropriate riparian management strategy will be implemented to prevent adverse impacts on riparian areas, fish habitat and water quality. Such may include specific riparian grazing season of use and stream bank use criteria.
Objective WS-1.8—Manage wildlife habitats to provide for overall species diversity.	**Action WS-1.8.1—**Pursue opportunities to maintain, improve, and provide adequate water sources for a variety of wildlife. **Action WS-1.8.2—**As needed, develop or compile, and implement species specific BMPs to avoid or minimize adverse impacts on a variety of game and non-game species that are dependent on forest/shrub, rangelands, and riparian habitats. (e.g., breeding/nesting habitats, young rearing habitats, important winter and spring ranges). **Action WS-1.8.3—**The BLM recognizes Idaho Department of Fish and Game's statutory mandate to preserve, protect, perpetuate and mange wildlife and fish within the state of Idaho. The BLM recognizes Tribal treaty rights and trust responsibilities regarding management actions that affect wildlife species and habitats. The BLM will coordinate with Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Tribes, USFWS, and other appropriate agencies and partners on management of wildlife populations and habitat. **Action WS-1.8.4—**Because of the BLM's mixed or limited amounts of ownership in many areas; pursue and prioritize management efforts that maintain high quality or improve: wildlife habitat, travel corridors, habitat connectivity, and wildlife security with partners, Tribes, state agencies, federal agencies, and private landowners.
Objective WS-1.9—Provide for the protection of active raptor nests.	**Action WS-1.9.1—**Provide a 450-foot non-disturbance and no-treatment buffer (10 to 15 acres) around occupied nests for Type 2 and 3 BLM sensitive raptor species (see **Appendix E**, Special Status Species). Provide a 300-foot buffer around nest for other raptors. Buffer size may be modified depending on potential for disturbance from an activity or project. **Action WS-1.9.2—**Avoid implementation of discretionary land use activities that may result in adverse disturbance to nesting raptors during the occupancy period (the nesting period varies by species but is typically during the spring through early to mid-August) Such activities may include timber harvest, prescribed burning and construction/restoration projects. **Action WS-1.9.3—**Provide protection specific to the species and nest sites for bald eagles and golden eagles as provided under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The *National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines* (USFWS 2007b) will also be used to minimize or avoid adverse impacts to bald eagles.

Objective WS-1.10—Maintain or restore Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep *(Ovis canadensis canadensis)* habitat.	**Action WS-1.10.1—**Where needed, improve poor, fair, and good ecological condition canyon grassland habitats and maintain excellent quality habitat. The priority emphasis area will be in the Craig Mountain WMA. **Action WS-1.10.2—**Coordinate with the State of Idaho, including the Department of Fish and Game and other appropriate state agencies, the Nez Perce Tribe, US Forest Service and other appropriate federal agencies, grazing lessees, and partners on population and habitat management of bighorn sheep **Action WS-1.10.3—**No existing allotments authorized for cattle and/or horse use within the Salmon River and/or Snake River drainages will be converted to sheep or goats, when such use would result in potential risk for disease transmission to bighorn sheep populations or affects the potential for bighorn sheep expansion into suitable habitats. **Action WS-1.10.4—**Goat grazing for weed control is prohibited in Hells Canyon (Snake River drainage), downriver from Maloney Creek (Salmon River drainage), and upriver from Little Salmon River (Salmon River drainage). In other areas, goat grazing for weed control will only be authorized when such use will result in no or very low risk for transmission of disease to bighorn sheep. **Action WS-1.10.5—**Support cooperative bighorn sheep studies and research within the Snake and Salmon River drainages that provide improved or updated habitat, distribution, and management information. Cooperate with survey and monitoring projects that document bighorn sheep observations, telemetry locations, and populations ranges within the Snake and Salmon River canyons, tributary drainages, and associated uplands.

Aquatic Resources, Fish, and Special Status Fish (AF)

Goal AF-1—Manage habitat to contribute to the conservation of special status and native fish species.

Objective AF-1.1—Provide for diverse and healthy aquatic habitats that contribute to the recovery of listed fish species and conservation of BLM sensitive fish species.	**Action AF-1.1.1—**Ensure that all ongoing and new BLM management actions support or do not retard or preclude recovery for federally listed fish (Endangered Species Act), designated critical habitat, and important aquatic habitats (supporting spawning, incubation, larval development, rearing, migration corridors, and aquatic habitats for forage species) (see **Appendix F**, Federally Listed and Candidate Species Management, Conservation, and Restoration Measures). Federally listed fish currently occurring in streams and rivers flowing through or adjacent to BLM lands include the sockeye salmon *(Oncorhynchus nerka)*, fall Chinook salmon *(O. tshawytscha)*, spring/summer Chinook salmon *(O. tshawytscha)*, steelhead trout *(O. mykiss)*; and bull trout *(Salvelinus confluentus)* (see **Appendix E**, Special Status Species). **Action AF-1.1.2—**Ongoing and new activity or project review will be conducted to assess effects to Essential Fish Habitat (Section 305[b][2] of the Magnuson-Steven Act). The BLM will consult with National Marine Fisheries Service on any action that will adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat for Chinook or Coho salmon *(O. kisutch)* and will implement appropriate measures to avoid, mitigate, or minimize adverse effects. **Action AF-1.1.3—**Survey and maintain updated fish population information and fish distribution maps. **Action AF-1.1.4—**Survey and maintain updated aquatic monitoring and habitat inventories for streams providing habitat for special status fish. **Action AF-1.1.5—**To promote conservation and restoration for special status fish, where applicable: (1) support conservation easements that protect or conserve special status fish habitat; (2) land acquisitions or exchanges that promote improved management for special status fish; and (3) cooperative planning efforts that promote conservation and restoration for special status fish. **Action AF-1.1.6—**Do not undertake management activities that will cause long-term degradation or will retard or preclude restoration and conservation for special status and desired native fish species, and aquatic habitats. (See: **Appendix B,** Conservation and Restoration Watersheds; **Appendix D**, Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy; **Appendix E**, Special Status Species; **Appendix F**, Federally Listed and Candidate Species Management, Conservation, and Restoration Measures; and **Appendix H**, Desired Conditions and Watershed and Aquatic Condition Indicators.)

Aquatic Resources, Fish, and Special Status Fish (AF)

	Action AF-1.1.7—If a new species is listed, critical habitat is designated, or recovery plan is completed, the BLM will ensure that management actions support or do not retard or preclude recovery of the species and aquatic habitats in the long term. **Action AF-1.1.8—**If a species is delisted, it will be managed under the appropriate delisting requirements, applicable conservation strategy, Idaho Department of Fish and Game management guidance, and/or in accordance with BLM policy for sensitive species. **Action AF-1.1.9—**Cooperatively with Idaho Department of Fish and Game and the Nez Perce Tribe, periodic review of BLM Idaho sensitive fish species (see **Appendix E**, Special Status Species) will be conducted. BLM sensitive species may be added, dropped, or have changed status rating to reflect new information, updated data, and current population status. **Action AF-1.1.10—**Public education will be conducted to inform the public about special status and native fish species, aquatic habitat needs, aquatic/riparian ecosystem functions, and BLM conservation and restoration management strategies. As needed, information will also be provided at key sites to inform the public about the presence of special status fish, how to identify them, and how to release them (if not legal to keep). Key sites may include recreation sites, boat ramps, trail heads, and other public fishing access areas.
Objective AF-1.2—Maintain genetic integrity for special status species.	**Action AF-1.2.1—**Support conservation and restoration measures that: (1) support genetic integrity of special status fish; (2) reduce adverse competition between special status fish and nonnative species; and (3) documentation of genetic identification that supports fisheries management.
Objective AF-1.3—Manage aquatic, riparian, and wetland habitats to provide diverse and healthy conditions for aquatic species.	**Action AF-1.3.1—**Activities within RCAs will be designed to minimize or avoid adverse impacts on the riparian and aquatic habitat(s) through implementation of specific standards and guides in the Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy (**Appendix D**, Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy]). **Action AF-1.3.2—**For each new project, compile, develop, and implement appropriate species and/or habitat-specific BMPs to avoid or minimize adverse impacts on aquatic and riparian habitats. Compile and develop CFO programmatic-level activity BMPs that may be used as needed for ongoing projects or for new project development to avoid or minimize potential for adverse effects. **Action AF-1.3.3—**Manage three watersheds as Conservation Watersheds (subwatersheds where watershed processes and functions that occur in a relatively undisturbed and natural landscape setting) and 25 watersheds as Restoration Watersheds (subwatersheds where biological and physical processes and functions do not reflect natural conditions because of past and long-term land disturbances) (**Appendix B**, Conservation and Restoration Watersheds). **Action AF-1.3.4—**Conduct implementation and effectiveness monitoring commensurate with the level of on-the-ground activities. The appropriate implementation and effectiveness monitoring will be identified during project development and assessment. Adaptively change management direction to contribute to recovery or conservation of special status fish. **Action AF-1.3.5—**Support actions to improve upstream and downstream passage for all life stages of aquatic dependent species. An assessment of aquatic species passage barriers will be conducted. A prioritization for barriers needing removal will be prepared. All barrier removal projects will consider the potential impacts from nonnative species competition and/or genetic integrity of special status and other native fish species. **Action AF-1.3.6—**Promote actions that support achievement of good quality riparian and aquatic habitats. Such actions may include, but are not limited to the following: riparian and aquatic restoration; instream fish habitat improvements; decommissioning of unneeded roads; and modification/elimination of land uses that further retard or preclude achievement of aquatic and riparian DFCs. **Action AF-1.3.7—**The BLM recognizes Idaho Department of Fish and Game's statutory mandate to preserve, protect, perpetuate and manage all wildlife and fish within the state of Idaho. The BLM recognizes Tribal treaty rights and trust responsibilities regarding management actions that affect aquatic species and their habitats. As needed, the BLM will coordinate, confer, and consult with Idaho Department of Fish and Game, tribes, NMFS, USFWS, other state and federal agencies, and partners in management actions that may affect aquatic species and habitats.

Aquatic Resources, Fish, and Special Status Fish (AF)

Objective AF-1.4—Manage fish-bearing lakes and adjacent lands to promote conservation of healthy aquatic habitats.	**Action AF-1.4.1—**Promote activities that will result in the conservation and restoration of aquatic habitats in fish-bearing lakes. **Action AF-1.4.2—**Maintain updated fish population, aquatic, riparian, and wetland information for lakes occurring on BLM lands. **Action AF-1.4.3—**Prior to conducting any fish transplants or fish-removal projects within lakes or ponds, develop management plan and strategy to identify long-term objectives for native species, desired nonnative species, and undesirable nonnative aquatic-dependent species. **Action AF-1.4.4—**Before any fish-stocking projects in ponds or lakes are implemented, an ecological and viability evaluation will be completed for short- and long-term effects to aquatic-dependent species.
Objective AF-1.5—Manage watersheds to promote conservation of high-quality riparian and aquatic habitats and promote restoration in watersheds that do not provide diverse and healthy aquatic habitats.	**Action AF-1.5.1—**Design activities that promote maintenance or achievement of desired conditions and result in the conservation of high-quality habitats in conservation watersheds (**Appendix B**, Conservation and Restoration Watersheds). **Action AF-1.5.2—**Promote activities to improve or do not retard or preclude achievement of DFCs in restoration watersheds (see **Appendix B**, Conservation and Restoration Watersheds). Refer to **Appendix H**, Desired Conditions and Watershed and Aquatic Conditions Indicators (WACIs) for aquatic and riparian desired conditions and condition rating for WACIs which are included in the *Matrix of Pathways and Indicators of Watershed and Aquatic Condition*. Aquatic and riparian Desired Conditions and condition rating for WACIs may be changed or modified based on resource specialist's expertise and supporting rationale and documentation (see **Appendix D**, Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy). **Action AF-1.5.3—**Management activities should strive for improvement or maintenance of good-quality desired conditions in conservation watersheds (see **Appendix B**, Conservation and Restoration Watersheds). Refer to **Appendix H**, Desired Conditions and Watershed and Aquatic Conditions Indicators for aquatic and riparian desired conditions and condition rating for WACIs which are included in the *Matrix of Pathways and Indicators of Watershed and Aquatic Condition*. Aquatic and riparian desired conditions and condition rating for WACIs may be changed or modified based on resource specialist's expertise and supporting rationale and documentation (see **Appendix D**, Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy). **Action AF-1.5.4—**Review and update as necessary existing HMPs. Prioritize where HMPs should be developed or updated to support conservation and restoration for special status fish and desired native fish species. **Action AF-1.5.5—**Implement Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy (**Appendix D**, Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy). **Action AF-1.5.6—**Because of the BLM's mixed or limited amounts of ownership in many areas/watersheds, pursue and prioritize management efforts that maintain high quality or improve: watershed conditions, riparian areas, and aquatic habitats with partners, tribes, state agencies, federal agencies, and private landowners.

Special Status Plants (SP)

Goal SP-1—Maintain or restore special status species and their habitat to contribute to species recovery.

Objective SP- 1.1—Manage federally listed, proposed, and candidate plants and their habitats to contribute to recovery and delisting.	**Action SP-1.1.1—**Monitor populations and habitats of MacFarlane's four-o'clock (naturally occurring and transplant population at Lucile Caves exclosure) and Spalding's catchfly occurring on BLM lands a minimum of once every three years after baseline trend is established (funding dependent). Baseline trend monitoring will require annual monitoring for a defined period of time to depict variations in environmental conditions, which are site dependent. Change management where applicable (i.e., adaptive management) if desired conditions or trends are not being achieved for listed plant populations. Refer to **Appendix G**, Species-specific Habitat Definitions, for MacFarlane's four-o'clock and Spalding's catchfly suitable habitat and other definitions. **Action SP-1.1.2—**Project- or activity-level actions or natural events (e.g., wildfire, severe droughts) may require annual monitoring of specific populations of federally listed, proposed, or candidate species to determine effects to species or habitats.

Special Status Plants (SP)

	Action SP-1.1.3—Implement appropriate conservation and restoration actions for any new listed, proposed, or candidate species documented as occurring on BLM lands to support delisting. Monitor trends for listed, proposed, and candidate plant populations and change management if applicable (i.e., adaptive management), when desired conditions or trends are not being achieved. As needed, update **Appendix G**, Species-specific Habitat Definitions, to identify new listed, proposed, or candidate species that occur on BLM lands. **Action SP-1.1.4—**Survey suitable habitats for new populations of listed plants. Maintain a map of BLM lands that delineates suitable habitats for listed plants and also include updated population and colony occurrences. Refer to **Appendix G**, Species-specific Habitat Definitions for MacFarlane's four-o'clock and Spalding's catchfly suitable habitat and other definitions. Survey 2,000 acres of suitable habitat for MacFarlane's four-o'clock and Spalding's catchfly annually utilizing a systematic inventory (funding dependent). If additional funding permits, the CFO will target a systematic inventory of 20 percent of suitable habitat annually with a goal of surveying all suitable habitats within five years. Prioritize surveys and inventories to address areas of suitable habitat with a high likelihood of species occurrences. Inventories should be scheduled to complement other program needs, such as the grazing permit- or lease-renewal schedule. **Action SP-1.1.5—**Review ongoing discretionary activities for impacts on listed plants or their habitats. Modify activities where necessary to avoid or minimize adverse impacts on listed plants. **Action SP-1.1.6—**Complete project specific inventories before authorizing discretionary new actions. Review and modify projects and activities to avoid or minimize adverse impacts on listed plants. **Action SP-1.1.7—**Consult with the USFWS on recovery efforts and on actions that may impact listed plants. See **Appendix F**, Federally Listed and Candidate Species Management, Conservation, and Restoration Measures for a complete list of Endangered Species Act conservation measures and program-specific coordination needs. **Action SP-1.1.8—**If a new plant species is listed, critical habitat is designated, or recovery plan is completed, the BLM will ensure that management actions support or do not retard or prevent recovery of the species and habitats in the long term.
Objective SP- 1.2—Support Recovery Plan actions for listed plants to contribute towards recovery and delisting	**Action SP-1.2.1—**Implement applicable conservation and restoration measures identified within Recovery Plan(s). **Action SP-1.2.2—**Develop new management plans or update existing plans as necessary to provide for the implementation of the appropriate management and conservation of populations of MacFarlane's four-o'clock and Spalding's catchfly occurring on BLM lands. A management plan may include a single population or several populations within a geographic area. At a minimum, the plan(s) will: identify population status and specific threats and Actions necessary to reduce or eliminate these threats; provide measures for the maintenance and/or enhancement of population(s); identify long-term monitoring and adaptive management strategies; and identify how management will support recovery objectives. **Action SP-1.2.3—**Implement control measures for invasive plants that adversely impact listed plant populations. Emphasis will occur on control of invasive plants inside listed plant populations and within 0.5-mile of the perimeter of listed plant populations. **Action SP-1.2.4—**Consider establishing and maintaining new populations of listed plants (plantings) that will support recovery efforts. **Action SP-1.2.5—**Consider cooperative management efforts with adjacent landowners, State, County, or other federal agencies, to support conservation and restoration efforts for listed plants. **Action SP-1.2.6—**Consider land acquisition, land exchanges, or conservation easements that support conservation and restoration efforts for listed plants. **Action SP-1.2.7—**Support seed banks by collecting listed plant seeds and storing them in a long-term seed storage facility. **Action SP-1.2.8—**Working with other agencies, develop and compile a general list of MPs that will apply to all ongoing programs or new projects. The intent of implementing BMPs will assist with consultation and species recovery. The intent of implementing BMPs is to avoid or minimize negative impacts on listed plants.

Special Status Plants (SP)

Objective SP- 1.3—Manage Idaho BLM sensitive plants and their habitats to contribute to conservation of the species and removal of the species from protective status.

Action SP-1.3.1—Monitor representative populations of Idaho BLM sensitive plants every three to five years after baseline data is collected and trend is established.

Action SP-1.3.2—Survey suitable habitats for new populations of Idaho BLM sensitive plants. Maintain an updated data base and map for documentation of known Idaho BLM sensitive plants occurring on public lands. Periodically review and update Idaho BLM sensitive plant species list for the CFO (**Appendix E**, Special Status Species).

Action SP-1.3.3—Complete project specific botanical inventories before authorizing new actions. If needed, modify the activity to avoid or minimize adverse impacts on Idaho BLM sensitive plants that may contribute to federal listing.

Action SP-1.3.4—Review ongoing discretionary activities for impacts on Idaho BLM sensitive plants and their habitats. Modify activities where necessary to avoid or minimize adverse impacts on Idaho BLM sensitive plants that may contribute to federal listing.

Action SP-1.3.5—Consider cooperative management efforts with adjacent landowners, State, County, or other federal agencies, to support conservation and restoration efforts for BLM sensitive plants.

Action SP-1.3.6—Maintain or improve habitat for Idaho BLM sensitive plant species to promote conservation and restoration. Prioritization for implementation of conservation measures is dependant on opportunities, with Type 2 species (**Appendix E**, Special Status Species) receiving the highest priority.

Action SP-1.3.7—Cooperatively with appropriate state, federal, tribal, and private individuals, conduct periodic review of BLM Idaho sensitive plant species (**Appendix E**, Special Status Species). BLM sensitive species may be added, dropped, or have changed status rating to reflect new information, updated data, and current population status.

Wildland Fire Management (WF)

Goal WF-1—Manage fuels and wildland fires to protect life and property and to protect or enhance resource values.

Objective WF-1.1—Provide appropriate response to all wildland fire: wildfire and prescribed fire.

Action WF-1.1.1—Delay implementation of prescribed burning projects, not including pile burning or slash treatments, when 30 percent or more of the CFO acres have burned in either a wildfire or prescribed fire in any five-year period.

Action WF-1.1.2—Annually, or as needed, update CFO fire management plan to ensure fire suppression, fuels treatment, emergency stabilization and rehabilitation, fire managed for resource benefit, and Community Assistance RMP decisions are being implemented.

Action WF-1.1.3—Evaluate each unplanned fire on BLM-administered land for fire managed for resource benefit in the Craig Mountain Area and the Salmon River Area south and east of Riggins (see **Appendix I**, Wildland Fire Management). See **Map 7**, Fire Management Units for Fire Management Units. Each fire will be individually evaluated on its potential to be managed for resource benefit. This will include time of season, proximity or threat to private land, structures, firefighter and public safety, availability of resources, current fire behavior, and predicted weather.

Action WF-1.1.4—Suppress wildfires using appropriate management response. Suppression activities will be guided by suppression priorities and resource protection protocols in **Appendix I**, Wildland Fire Management.

Action WF-1.1.5—During a full suppression response, strive for control status within one operational period.

Action WF-1.1.6—When assigning suppression priorities, base the decision on relative values to be protected commensurate with fire management costs.

Action WF-1.1.7—When managing long-term fire for resource benefit events, use the appropriate Wildland Fire Implementation Plan or Wildland Fire Decision Support System process and objectives in the Fire Management Plan to determine the appropriate response.

Action WF-1.1.8—When conducting prescribed fire, use an approved burn plan to determine appropriate management actions.

Wildland Fire Management (WF)

Objective WF-1.2—Reduce hazard and the potential for stand-replacement fire in areas identified as wildland-urban interface (WUI) and/or in municipal watersheds as follows (as identified in the fire management plan, community wildfire protection plans, or other hazard/risk assessment).	**Action WF-1.2.1—**Treat up to 40 percent of CFO lands classified as moderate to high hazard (i.e., fire regime condition class [FRCC] 2 or 3, respectively) over any five-year period. Fuel treatments should be designed to reduce hazard as follows: • 40 percent of the high hazard treated lands should move toward moderate hazard; • 30 percent of the moderate hazard treated lands should move toward low hazard; and • 30 percent of the treatments should be designed to maintain low hazard. **Action WF-1.2.2—**Use prescribed fire and fire managed for resource benefit in WUI where risks to public and firefighter safety can be mitigated or are low. Treat five percent to 15 percent of the CFO lands identified as moderate or high hazard in any five-year period. **Action WF-1.2.3—**Using mechanical treatments, treat two percent to six percent of the CFO lands identified as moderate or high hazard in any five-year period. **Action WF-1.2.4—**Using chemical and/or biological controls, treat five percent to 36 percent of the CFO lands identified as moderate or high hazard in any five-year period. **Action WF-1.2.5—**Design, develop and implement hazardous fuels reduction projects identified in or consistent with the goals of community wildfire protection plans. These projects should be developed and implemented consistent with the fuels treatment priorities and protocols displayed in **Appendix I**, Wildland Fire Management. **Action WF-1.2.6—**Initiate maintenance and hazard fuels reduction activities to 1. reduce the potential for high severity, stand-replacement fires, regardless of FRCC or historic fire regime; and 2. reduce potential fire size in areas where large, stand-replacement fires might cause adverse effects to WUI and adjacent resources. **Action WF-1.2.7—**Emphasize biomass utilization when developing fuels-treatment projects. **Action WF-1.2.8—**Suspend livestock grazing until revegetation and soil stabilization objectives are met in prescribed burn areas. **Action WF-1.2.9—**Develop and support community assistance projects and plans consistent with the community assistance priorities and protocols contained in **Appendix I**, Wildland Fire Management. **Action WF-1.2.10—**Fuel-reduction treatments in WUI to protect public or firefighter safety and/or infrastructure will be designed to meet Visual Resource Management (VRM) as much as possible, while meeting hazardous fuel reduction goals.
Objective WF-1.3—Maintain or return vegetative communities outside the WUI to their Historic Fire Regime and to FRCC 1.	**Action WF-1.3.1—**Design, develop, and implement hazardous fuels-reduction projects that accomplish multiple resource objectives consistent with the fuels treatment priorities and protocols displayed in **Appendix I**, Wildland Fire Management. **Action WF-1.3.2—**Emphasize biomass utilization as the preferred solution to meet natural resource management objectives. **Action WF-1.3.3—**Livestock are to be excluded from burned areas until monitoring results, documented in writing, show emergency stabilization and rehabilitation objectives have been met. **Action WF-1.3.4—**Increase the use of prescribed fire and fire managed for resource benefit activities in frequent fire regime groups (I, II, and III).
Objective WF-1.4—Determine appropriate response, rehabilitation actions, and fuels treatment type based on resource values to be protected and values at risk identified in the RMP, through the fire planning process and documented in the fire management plan.	**Action WF-1.4.1—**Use fire as a tool for site preparation and slash disposal; to reduce fire hazard; prepare areas for reforestation; reduce competition between existing or newly established trees and other vegetation, to expose mineral soil to encourage establishment of natural regeneration; for sanitation thinning; and to meet other forest management objectives.

Wildland Fire Management (WF)

	Action WF-1.4.2—Use non-fire fuel management strategies to meet various resource objectives such as: • Protection of cultural resources, where there is a problem with fuel build-up, • Maintaining or improving vegetative trend for range management, • Improving forage quality and quantity and managing for specific cover/forage ratios to benefit wildlife, • Weed eradication and return to native vegetation, and • Forest management activities as described above. **Action WF-1.4.3—**Use rehabilitation and emergency stabilization to mitigate the adverse effects of fire on the soil, vegetation, and water resources in a cost-effective manner. These activities will be consistent with the Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation priorities and protocols in **Appendix I**, Wildland Fire Management.
Objective WF-1.5—Within municipal watersheds and WUIs, manage existing old growth stands to maintain and/or contribute to the restoration of pre-fire suppression characteristics.	**Action WF-1.5.1—**Utilize community wildfire protection plans to identify municipal watersheds and WUIs. **Action WF-1.5.2—**Identify and record old growth stands. Use field inventory to determine if they meet the pre-fire suppression criteria.

Cultural Resources (CR)

Goal CR-1—Preserve and protect significant cultural resources and ensure that they are available for appropriate uses.

Objective CR-1.1—Conduct proactive cultural resource inventories in priority areas.	**Action CR-1.1.1—**Identify priority areas based on cultural resource data. **Action CR-1.1.2—**Consult with Native American tribes to identify traditional cultural properties.
Objective CR-1.2—Identify cultural properties requiring physical or administrative protection measures to protect site integrity and implement necessary measures.	**Action CR-1.2.1—**Monitor and assess a sample of cultural resources and/or traditional cultural properties on an annual basis to determine if cultural resource objectives are being met. **Action CR-1.2.2—**Develop a long-term monitoring schedule within five years of the signing of the ROD for this RMP that identifies a representative sample of cultural sites and/or traditional cultural properties that will be examined on an annual basis. **Action CR-1.2.3—**Implement site protection measures to protect at-risk sites. **Action CR-1.2.4—**Identify opportunities for cultural heritage education to emphasize important cultural resource values and to assist in protecting sites or areas.
Objective CR-1.3—Standardize cultural site record information and evaluation documentation to allocate sites to cultural use categories.	**Action CR-1.3.1—**Establish a schedule to update existing cultural records and allocate sites to cultural use categories within five years of the signing of the ROD for this RMP. Information needed to better allocate resource use categories includes site characteristics, chronological placement, geomorphic relationships, and overall data potential. Methodology to collect such information may include but not be limited to detailed photography, intensive mapping, excavations, geomorphic analysis, and other forms of analyses. **Action CR-1.3.2—**Nominate eligible sites or areas to the National Register of Historic Places
Objective CR-1.4—Develop cultural resource management plans for significant cultural resources or traditional cultural properties.	**Action CR-1.4.1—**Continue to implement the Lower Salmon River Cultural Resource Management Plan (BLM 1983a). **Action CR-1.4.2—**Identify additional sites and/or areas requiring the development of cultural resource management plans. **Action CR-1.4.2—**Prepare cultural resource management plans for the Elk City and Marshall Mountain areas. **Action CR-1.4.3—**Coordinate with fire management activities through the use of resource advisors to avoid possible impact on cultural resources.

Cultural Resources (CR)

Goal CR-2—Reduce imminent threats and resolve potential conflicts from natural or human-caused deterioration, or potential conflict with other resources uses, by ensuring that all authorizations for land use and resource use will comply with National Historic Preservation Act, Section 106.

Objective CR-2.1—Determine potential effects from proposed land use authorizations.	**Action CR-2.1.1—**Identify and evaluate sites and/or traditional cultural properties to determine potential effects. **Action CR-2.1.2—**Develop new and/or implement existing protocol agreements with State Historic Preservation Office and/or Tribal Historic Preservation Office to streamline the consultation process. **Action CR-2.1.3—**Complete government-to-government consultation with Native American tribes. **Action CR-2.1.4—**Minimize effects to site integrity by project redesign, cancellation, or mitigation when significant cultural resources are identified from inventories or consultation. **Action CR-2.1.5—**Monitor a sample of previously completed land use authorizations on an annual basis to determine if site objectives were met.

Paleontological Resources (PR)

Goal PR-1—Preserve and protect significant paleontological resources and ensure that they are available for appropriate uses.

Objective PR-1.1—Identify priority geographic areas for field inventory and protect recorded sites.	**Action PR-1.1.1—**Identify and inventory areas that may contain significant paleontological resources. **Action PR-1.1.2—**Inventory areas that may contain paleontological resources prior to land use authorizations. **Action PR-1.1.3—**Develop appropriate measures to protect identified paleontological resources on a case-by-case basis.

Visual Resources (VR)

Goal VR-1—Manage activities to maintain scenic quality.

Objective VR-1.1—Manage activities to protect scenic quality in accordance with VRM class guidelines.	**Action VR-1.1.1—**Manage the following acreage of BLM land according to VRM class designations (**Map 8**, Visual Resource Management) (WSAs will be managed as VRM Class I): • Class I—11,710 acres; • Class II—39,012acres; • Class III—59,521 acres; and • Class IV—20,236 acres. VRM guidelines are general and are not intended to be site specific. During project planning, more precise mapping and evaluation of VRM class can be done. Mitigation measures will then be identified to reduce visual contrasts, and rehabilitation plans to address landscape modifications will be prepared on a case-by-case basis.

Resource Uses

Forest Products (FP)

Goal FP-1—Provide forest products to help meet local and national demands.

Objective FP-1.1—The Idaho Forest Practices Act will be adopted as guidance for timber harvest activities.	**Action FP-1.1.1—**Direct control measures recommended by the US Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Forest Health Protection and based on current literature will be applied on a case-by-case basis to forest management areas and areas of high visual or recreation value, as funding and staffing are available.
Objective FP-1.2—Maintain a forest management program that complements resource objectives for other programs.	**Action FP-1.2.1—**Develop silvicultural treatments that support DFC for those stands identified on **Map 3**, Desired Future Condition Blocks. **Action FP-1.2.2—**As outlined in the Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy (**Appendix D**, Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy), vegetation management practices such as timber harvest, salvage logging, fuel wood cutting and fuels

Forest Products (FP)

	treatments may be used in RCAs. Vegetation treatments will be allowed only to restore or enhance physical and biological characteristics of the RCA. Implemented treatments will, at a minimum, maintain Riparian Management Objectives. **Action FP-1.2.3—**Snag management will be followed for all timber sales per direction in **Appendix C**, Desired Future Conditions for Forest Vegetation/Wildlife Habitat.
Objective FP-1.3—Prioritize vegetation treatment projects that will maximize forest commodity recovery.	**Action FP-1.3.1—**In forest stands that are susceptible to or have outbreaks of forest insect or disease, or have mortality related to wildland fire, expedite salvage to capture economic return.
Objective FP-1.4—Over a 15-year period, offer 3,129 MBF as a probable sale quantity of saw timber per year from the commercial forest land base of 40,598 acres (based on estimate of 242 acres treated per year).	**Action FP-1.4.1—**The forested land base is apportioned into commercial forest management areas and custodial management areas (**Map 9**, Commercial Forest). Custodial management areas are not included in the calculation of the probable sale quantity; however, forest management operations can be implemented in these areas to accomplish resource objectives. **Action FP-1.4.2—**All harvest systems and treatment methods and techniques may be used unless specifically prohibited or limited by site-specific prescription direction. Site-specific prescriptions will be refined using an interdisciplinary team approach to identify management needs for other resources. **Action FP-1.4.3—**All final harvest and reforestation projects in commercial forest management areas will be designed to achieve full stocking on 90 percent of the area within five years. **Action FP-1.4.4—**All activities normally associated with reforestation may be used, including but not limited to, mechanical and chemical treatments, pest control, and prescribed burning. **Action FP-1.4.5—**In areas being reforested after harvest, livestock grazing is discouraged until seedling reproduction is established as acceptable to Idaho Forest Practices Act standards (seedlings at least three feet tall or five years old). Particular attention should be paid to spring and fall when damage to seedlings is most critical. **Action FP-1.4.6—**Thinning can be used to achieve stocking rate, species composition and vigor goals and objectives identified in site-specific silvicultural prescriptions. **Action FP-1.4.7—**Adopt the Road Construction Guidelines developed for the RMP and included in **Appendix A** (Best Management Practices), along with the road guidelines in the Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy (**Appendix D**, Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy). **Action FP-1.4.8—**Implement the Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy (**Appendix D**, Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy), Timber Management Guidelines.
Objective FP-1.5—Allow for the collection of forest and vegetal products based upon tribal and public demand.	**Action FP-1.5.1—**Collection of minor forest products (e.g. post/poles, fuel wood, Christmas trees) will be allowed where consistent with forest management and other resource goals and objectives.

Livestock Grazing (LG)

Goal LG-1—Provide opportunities for grazing while meeting rangeland health standards.

Objective LG-1.1—Identify lands available for livestock grazing.	**Action LG-1.1.1—**Continue grazing on existing allotments as identified in the Northern Idaho Grazing Management EIS (BLM 1981b), except as mentioned in other actions below and in **Appendix J**, Grazing Animal Unit Months by Allotment. Provide 5,126 AUMs, 142 allotments, and 72,643 acres (**Map 10**, Grazing Allotments). **Note**: this action does not allocate or revoke previous allocations for livestock grazing on Partridge Creek, Marshall Mountain, Hard Creek, or Big Creek allotments. **Action LG-1.1.2—**Shuck Creek 36105 allotment**—**Extend the southern boundary to the fence line (Township 28 North, Range 1 East, Section 10, Idaho County, Boise Principal Meridian). No additional AUMs will be allocated. **Action LG-1.1.3—**Lower Otto Creek Allotment -Create a new allotment line (Township 28 North, Range 1 East, Sections 9 &10, Idaho County, Boise Principal Meridian). The Lower Otto Creek Allotment (00398) will be 88 acres, 15 AUMs, Class of Livestock-cattle **Action LG-1.1.4—**Eliminate the Craig Mountain 36289 allotment. **Action LG-1.1.5—**Eliminate the Wapshilla Ridge 36279 allotment.

Livestock Grazing (LG)

	Action LG-1.1.6—Eliminate the Corral Creek 36160 allotment. **Action LG-1.1.7—**Authorized grazing will avoid adverse impacts on known listed plant populations. Site-specific Section 7 consultation will be needed to identify necessary actions to avoid possible adverse effects. **Action LG-1.1.8—**Eliminate spring grazing on the Lyons Bar 36293 allotment. **Action LG-1.1.9—**When lands are acquired into public ownership, they may be included in the grazing allotment base and grazing may be authorized if it is compatible with other resources and uses. **Action LG-1.1.10—**Adjacent to the Salmon River, minimize multiple-use conflicts between recreational use and livestock grazing through avoidance of summer livestock grazing. Select allotments adjacent to the Salmon River that currently exclude summer use within 0.5-mile of the river corridor through season of use (generally June 15 or June 22 through October 31) or a term and condition in the lease will maintain this nonuse period unless the BLM determines this to be unnecessary.
Objective LG-1.2—Determine level of management for each allotment.	**Action LG-1.2.1—**Within one year of ROD, complete a review for each allotment and assign management level (high or low). **Action LG-1.2.2—**Maintain allocation of 1,004 AUMs for lands allocated for livestock grazing of big game forage, improvement of riparian areas, and implementation of improved grazing management. **Action LG-1.2.3—**Provide information to grazing lessees about ecosystem functions, rangeland health and guidelines for maintenance and/or restoration of rangeland health. Information will include indicators used to assess the eight standards of rangeland health during the Standards and Guides Assessment process.
Objective LG-1.3—On high-level management allotments, authorize livestock grazing while assuring Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management (BLM 1997) (**Appendix K**, Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management) and other resource objectives are being met.	**Action LG-1.3.1—**The BLM will continue to complete Rangeland health Assessments in accordance with the Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management (BLM 1997). **Action LG-1.3.2—**Continue current grazing authorizations if Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health (BLM 1997) (**Appendix K**, Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management) are being met. **Action LG-1.3.3—**If Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health (BLM 1997) (**Appendix K**, Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management) are not being met, modify current grazing authorizations to assure movement toward meeting standards. Actions that could be taken for making progress towards meeting Standards for Rangeland Health may include: change of season of use; change in number of AUMs; implementing grazing system/schedule; constructing or modifying range improvements, and/or land treatments.
Objective LG-1.4—On low-level management allotments, authorize livestock grazing in a custodial manner.	**Action LG-1.4.1—**Conduct rangeland health assessments. **Action LG-1.4.2—**Continue current grazing authorizations if Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health (BLM 1997) (**Appendix K**, Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management) are being met. **Action LG-1.4.3—**If Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health (BLM 1997) (**Appendix K**, Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management) are not being met, and management opportunities exist, modify current grazing authorizations to assure movement toward meeting standards. Actions that could be taken for making progress towards meeting Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health (BLM 1997) (**Appendix K**, Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management) may include: change of season of use; change in number of AUMs; implementing grazing system/schedule; constructing or modifying range improvements, and/or land treatments. **Action LG-1.4.4—**If Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health (BLM 1997) (**Appendix K** Idaho Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management) are not being met as the result of livestock grazing, and management opportunities do not exist, consider one of the following options: 1) continue current grazing in a custodial manner; or 2) eliminating allotment and grazing authorization.

Minerals (MN)

Goal MN- 1.—Make federal mineral resources available for exploration, acquisition, and production consistent with other resource goals. The federal mineral resource consists of 130,480 acres of public lands (federal surface and mineral) and approximately 84,000 acres of reserved minerals (nonfederal surface, federal mineral).

Objective MN-1.1—Fluid Minerals (oil, gas, and geothermal resources)**—** Identify the public lands open to fluid minerals leasing in accordance with existing laws, regulations (43 CFR 3100 and 3200), and formal orders (**Map 11**, Areas Closed to Leasing & Salables, and Mineral Stipulations).	**Action MN-1.1.1—**Designate 118,727 acres of the public lands open to leasing subject to the terms and conditions of the standard lease form. **Action MN-1.1.2—**39,603 acres of the public lands open to leasing will be subject to No Surface Occupancy (NSO) stipulations to protect resources within ACECs, WSA, river corridors suitable for wild designation under the WSR Act, the current Salmon River withdrawal area, special status species (plants and wildlife), raptor nests, cultural resources, the public from hazardous materials, developed recreation sites, and areas designated VRM Class I (**Appendix L**, Mineral Leasing Surface Use Stipulations). **Action MN-1.1.3—**40,227 acres of the public lands open to leasing will be subject to Controlled Surface Use (CSU) stipulations to protect areas designated VRM Class II Special Recreation Management Areas (SRMAs), and river corridors suitable for scenic and recreational designation under the WSR Act (**Appendix L**, Mineral Leasing Surface Use Stipulations). **Action MN-1.1.4—**Fluid minerals activities on open lands will be subject to Timing Limitation stipulations (acreage undetermined) to protect wildlife (**Appendix L**, Mineral Leasing Surface Use Stipulations). Fluid minerals exploration drilling and field development will comply with the seasonal restrictions. Activities associated with production will not. **Allocation MN-1.1.5—**Surface use stipulations may be excepted, modified, or waived only as outlined by specific criteria in **Appendix L**, Mineral Leasing Surface Use Stipulations. **Action MN 1.1.6—** 11,753 acres of the public Wilderness areas, WSAs, and power site reservations are closed to leasing. **Action MN 1.1.7—**If necessary, appropriate site-specific mitigation measures and/or stipulations developed during the BLM's review of an operations plan may be implemented as conditions of approval for activities related to fluid minerals. **Action MN 1.1.8—**Areas open for leasing are also available for consideration of geophysical exploration activities subject to surface use stipulations identified in **Appendix L**, Mineral Leasing Surface Use Stipulations. **Action MN 1.1.9—**Fluid minerals activities adjacent to river segments identified as suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS will be subject to stipulations to protect the outstandingly remarkable values and tentative classification for each segment. Stipulations will include NSOs within 0.25-mile of the river. River segments included in this measure are: • Lake Creek from Headwaters to National Forest boundary; • Hazard Creek from National Forest boundary to confluence with Little Salmon River; • Hard Creek from National Forest boundary to confluence with Hazard Creek; and • Lolo Creek from National Forest boundary in Section 24, T34N, R5E to confluence with Clearwater River.
Objective MN-1.2—Solid Leasable Minerals (energy and non-energy)**—** Identify the public lands open to solid minerals leasing in accordance with existing laws and regulations (43 CFR 3400 and 3500) (**Map 11**, Areas Closed to Leasing & Salables, and Mineral Stipulations).	**Action MN-1.2.1—**Designate 118,727 acres of the public lands open to leasing subject to the terms and conditions of the standard lease form. **Action MN-1.2.2—**39,603 acres of the public lands open to leasing will be subject to NSO stipulations to protect resources within ACECs, WSAs, river corridors suitable for wild designation under the WSR Act, the current Salmon River withdrawal area, special status species (plants and wildlife), raptor nests, cultural resources, the public from hazardous materials, developed recreation sites, and areas designated VRM Class I (**Appendix L**, Mineral Leasing Surface Use Stipulations). **Action MN-1.2.3—**40,227 acres of the public lands open to leasing will be subject to CSU stipulations to protect areas designated VRM Class II, SRMAs, and river corridors suitable for scenic and recreational designation under the WSR Act (**Appendix L**, Mineral Leasing Surface Use Stipulations).

Minerals (MN)

	Action MN-1.2.4—Solid minerals activities on open lands will be subject to Timing Limitation stipulations (acreage undetermined) to protect wildlife (**Appendix L**, Mineral Leasing Surface Use Stipulations). Solid minerals exploration will comply with the seasonal restrictions. Activities associated with production will not. **Action MN-1.2.5—**Surface use stipulations may be excepted, modified, or waived only as outlined by specific criteria in **Appendix L**, Mineral Leasing Surface Use Stipulations. **Action MN-1.2.6—** 11,753 acres of the public Wilderness areas, WSAs, and power site reservations are closed to leasing. **Action MN-1.2.7—**If necessary, appropriate site-specific mitigation measures and/or stipulations developed during the BLM's review of an operations plan may be implemented as conditions of approval for activities related to solid minerals. **Action MN-1.2.8—**Solid leasable mineral activities adjacent to river segments identified as suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS will be subject to stipulations to protect the Outstandingly Remarkable Values and tentative classification for each segment. Stipulations will include NSOs within 0.25-mile of the river segment. River segments included in this measure are: • Lake Creek from Headwaters to National Forest boundary; • Hazard Creek from National Forest boundary to confluence with Little Salmon River; • Hard Creek from National Forest boundary to confluence with Hazard Creek; and • Lolo Creek from National Forest boundary in Section 24, T34N, R5E to confluence with Clearwater River.
Objective MN-1.3—Mineral Materials (salables)**—**Identify the public lands open to minerals materials disposal in accordance with existing laws and regulations (43 CFR 3600) (**Map 11**, Areas Closed to Leasing & Salables, and Mineral Stipulations).	**Action MN-1.3.1—**Designate 118,727 acres of the public lands open to disposal subject to the terms and conditions of the standard permit form. **Action MN-1.3.2—**11,753 acres of the public Wilderness areas, WSAs, and power site reservations are closed to disposal. **Action MN-1.3.3—**Mineral materials activities on open lands may be subject to surface use stipulations presented in **Appendix L**, Mineral Leasing Surface Use Stipulations. **Action MN-1.3.4—**If necessary, appropriate site-specific mitigation measures and/or stipulations developed during the BLM's review of an operations plan may be implemented as conditions of approval for activities related to mineral materials. **Action MN-1.3.5—**Mineral materials (salable) activities adjacent to river segments identified as suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS will be subject to stipulations to protect the Outstandingly Remarkable Values and tentative classification for each segment. Stipulations will include NSOs within 0.25-mile of the river segment. River segments included in this measure are: • Lake Creek from Headwaters to National Forest boundary; • Hazard Creek from National Forest boundary to confluence with Little Salmon River; • Hard Creek from National Forest boundary to confluence with Hazard Creek; • Lolo Creek from National Forest boundary in Section 24, T34N, R5E to confluence with Clearwater River.
Objective MN-1.4—Locatable Minerals**—**Identify the public lands open to locatable mineral entry in accordance with existing laws and regulations (43 CFR 3700 and 3800) (**Map 12**, Areas Closed to Locatables).	**Action MN-1.4.1—**Designate 108,611 acres of public lands open to location. **Action MN-1.4.2—**19,398 acres of the public lands are closed to location. These are Wilderness areas, Lower Salmon River stretches suitable for designation under the WSR Act, material rights-of-way issued under the Federal Highway Act, and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission licenses/permits. **Action MN-1.4.3—**If necessary, appropriate site-specific mitigation measures and/or stipulations developed during the BLM's review of an operations plan may be implemented as conditions of approval. **Action MN-1.4.4—**Activities on mining claims will be monitored per applicable regulations.

Minerals (MN)

Objective MN-1.5—Reserved Minerals (split estate is private surface ownership with federal mineral ownership [currently estimated at 84,000 acres])**—**Specify how the reserved federal mineral estate (leasables, salables, and locatables) will be managed in accordance with existing laws, regulations (43 CFR 3000s) and formal orders.

Action MN-1.5.1—Identify and record where reserved federal minerals exist within the CFO. Creating and maintaining a geographic information systems layer (or future equivalent) will be the preferred method.

Action MN-1.5.2—If reserved federal minerals occur within designated Wilderness areas, WSAs, or river segments suitable for inclusion in the NWSRS, the same closure effects will be applied as stated under the Actions for Objectives 1 through 4 of this section.

Recreation (RC)

Goal RC-1—Manage public lands and waters to provide a broad spectrum of recreation experiences and benefits. Emphasize resource-based river recreation. Ensure that developed facilities and sites are appropriate for the resource setting, well maintained, safe, secure, and accessible. Provide high value recreation opportunities and receive a fair return for commercial and specialized recreation use.

Objective RC-1.1—Manage lands for nonmotorized, mechanized, and motorized recreation activities in a variety of settings.

Action RC-1.1.1—Use Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) designations to maintain physical, social, and administrative settings for recreation opportunities and experiences.

- Primitive (P) = 13,332 acres;
- Semi-primitive Nonmotorized (SPNM) = 18,669 acres;
- Semi-primitive Motorized (SPM) = 23,759 acres;
- Roaded-Natural (RN) = 50,234 acres;
- Rural(R) = 24,376 acres; and
- Urban (U) = 32 acres.

NOTE: ROS designations apply only to BLM surface ownership.

Objective RC-1.2—Provide intensive recreation management in SRMAs as shown in **Map 13**, Special Recreation Management Areas.

Action RC-1.2.1—Designate and manage Salmon River Scenic SRMA (14,004 acres) as a destination recreation-tourism market.

Recreation Niche: Manage this area with an emphasis on overnight, nonmotorized river floating (summer) and motorized/nonmotorized anadromous fishing (spring/fall) experiences in a largely undeveloped, rugged, remote river canyon setting.

Action RC-1.2.1.1—Coordinate issuance of commercial permits with the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board.

Issue no more than the number of commercial water-based outfitter permits issued in 2005 (11 power, 32 float).

Whenever considering special recreation permits for new or modified activities related to hunting or fishing, BLM will consult with IDFG regarding the need, resource capacity and allocation to the industry.

Action RC-1.2.1.2—Allow no more than 10 active permits for commercial activities that are not regulated by the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board (Nonprofits, Boy Scouts, University outdoor programs, etc.).

Issue no permits for vending.

Action RC-1.2.1.3—As new opportunities or activities occur, follow prescribed public process to determine amount and level of commercial use.

Action RC-1.2.1.4—Establish parameters for Organized Group recreation permits in SRMA activity plan.

Action RC-1.2.1.5—Issue no competitive use permits in the Salmon River Scenic SRMA.

Action RC-1.2.1.6—Continue to implement the Salmon River**—**Scenic SRMA Activity Plan. Review and revise plans as prescribed.

Recreation (RC)

Action RC-1.2.2—Designate and manage Salmon River Recreational SRMA (6,700 acres) as a community recreation-tourism market.

Recreation Niche: Manage this area for general water-based river recreation, including swimming, fishing, whitewater float boating, (summer) and motorized/ nonmotorized anadromous fishing (spring/fall) experiences in a scenic, accessible, and developed river canyon.

Action RC-1.2.2.1—Coordinate issuance of commercial permits with the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board.

Issue commercial water-based outfitter permits up to the number specified in the 1999 Salmon River Recreation Activity Plan (BLM 1999).

Whenever considering special recreation permits for new or modified activities related to hunting or fishing, BLM will consult with IDFG regarding the need, resource capacity and allocation to the industry.

Action RC-1.2.2.2—Allow no more than 10 active commercial permits for activities which are not regulated by the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board (Vending, Nonprofits, Boy Scouts, University outdoor programs, etc.).

Action RC-1.2.2.3—Issue vending permits for photography/filming, or concessions associated with a permitted event. Issue no vending permits for activities not directly related to enhancing a recreation activity or event.

Action RC-1.2.2.4—Establish parameters for Organized Group recreation permits in SRMA activity plan.

Action RC-1.2.2.5—Consider competitive use permits on a case-by-case basis. Establish parameters for competitive use in SRMA activity plan.

Action RC-1.2.2.6—Continue to implement the Salmon River**—**Recreation SRMA Activity Plan. Review and revise plan as prescribed.

Action RC-1.2.3—Designate and manage Clearwater River SRMA (3,150 acres) as a community recreation-tourism market.

Recreation Niche: Manage this area for developed water-based recreation, including swimming, fishing, camping, in a highly developed, scenic river canyon.

Action RC-1.2.3.1—Coordinate issuance of commercial permits with the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board. Maintain level of commercial use at level set by the Licensing Board.

Action RC-1.2.3.2—Authorize commercial activities not regulated by the Outfitters and Guides Licensing Board, Organized Group Activities, and Competitive Events on a case-by-case basis. Establish parameters for those activities in the SRMA Activity Plan.

Action RC-1.2.3.3—Continue to implement the Clearwater River Activity Plan (BLM 1984). Review and revise plan as prescribed.

Action RC-1.2.3.4—Continue to implement cooperative management of the Clearwater River with the Clearwater Management Council, the Nez Perce Tribe, and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

Action RC-1.2.4—Designate Lolo Creek as an SRMA (5,126 acres) and develop an activity plan for this area by 2012. Manage Lolo Creek SRMA as an undeveloped recreation-tourism market for residents and visitors.

Recreation Niche: Manage this area to provide backcountry, dispersed, nonmotorized recreation opportunities in an undeveloped setting with an emphasis on whitewater boating and fishing.

Action RC-1.2.4.1—Designate Lolo Creek as zoned for no commercial water-based recreation activities within the SRMA.

Action RC-1.2.4.2—Designate Lolo Creek as zoned for no competitive use within the SRMA.

Action RC-1.2.4.3—Establish parameters for organized group use in the SRMA Activity Plan.

Recreation (RC)

	Action RC-1.2.5—Designate part of the Craig Mountain WMA as an SRMA (25,133 acres) and develop an activity plan by 2012. **Recreation Niche:** Manage the Craig Mountain SRMA as an undeveloped recreation-tourism market to provide opportunities for local residents and visitors to pursue land based activities in a natural setting with an emphasis on big game hunting, hiking, horseback riding, and mountain biking. Maintain existing access routes at a level that promotes remote, backcountry recreation experience. **Action RC-1.2.5.1—**Issue commercial recreation permits for the Craig Mountain SRMA only with the concurrence of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Whenever considering special recreation permits for new or modified activities related to hunting or fishing, BLM will consult with IDFG regarding the need, resource capacity and allocation to the industry. **Action RC-1.2.5.2—**Consider competitive and Organized Group use permits on a case-by case basis until parameters can be established in the prescribed activity plan.
Objective RC-1.3—Manage lands not designated as SRMAs for extensive, dispersed recreation use. **Recreation Niche:** Manage Extensive Recreation Management Areas for an undeveloped recreation-tourism market to provide opportunities for local residents and visitors to pursue land based activities in an unconfined, natural setting, with an emphasis on hunting, backcountry recreation, all-terrain vehicle trail riding, and snow recreation.	**Action RC-1.3.1—**Utilize the Special Recreation Permit process to accommodate commercial or competitive recreation activities. Issue commercial recreation permits to support local business and economic development. Whenever considering special recreation permits for new or modified activities related to hunting or fishing, BLM will consult with IDFG regarding the need, resource capacity and allocation to the industry. **Action RC-1.3.2—**In Extensive Recreation Management Areas, require Organized Group permits only if special actions are required for public health and safety or to protect resources. **Action RC-1.3.3—**Provide developed recreation facilities only when necessary to protect resources or to accommodate site specific or activity specific use through partnerships with other agencies or groups.
Objective RC-1.4—Manage existing and develop new recreation facilities to attain recreation and other resource goals.	**Action RC-1.4.1—**Ensure that all recreation site and access development conforms with and does not change the ROS designation. **Action RC-1.4.2—**Maintain all recreation facilities and recreation use areas for public safety and aesthetics. **Action RC-1.4.3—**Continue to upgrade accessibility at developed sites. Utilize Universal Design Standards to the extent practicable while maintaining the character of the sites.
Objective RC-1.5—Protect existing recreation values and enhance recreation access.	**Action RC-1.5.1—**Pursue acquisition of access areas, recreation lands, and conservation easements within the Salmon River, Craig Mountain, and Lolo Creek SRMAs. **Action RC-1.5.2—**Continue to acquire access areas within the Clearwater River SRMA.
Objective RC-1.6—Work with local communities to promote resource-based recreation and tourism in an environmentally sound and sustainable manner.	**Action RC-1.6.1—**Work with local Resource Advisory Councils and economic development groups to develop business plans for recreation sites and SRMAs. • Identify types of commercial activity that are compatible with the goals and objectives of each SRMA and recreation site. • Identify new recreation site development and new opportunities for recreation-based economic activity.

Renewable Energy (RE)

Goal RE-1.—Provide opportunities for the development of renewable energy resources while minimizing adverse impacts on other resource values.

Objective RE-1.1—Although no areas will be specifically designated for renewable energy development, opportunities for such development will be considered on a case-by-case basis.	**Action RE-1.1.1—**Analyze proposals for renewable energy development and authorize those that are consistent with resource management goals.
Objective RE-1.2—Support development of electrical generating capabilities for biomass.	**Allocation RE-1.2.1—**Provide appropriate authorizations for suitable sites when it is consistent with other resource goals and objectives. **Allocation RE-1.2.2—**Make vegetative treatment byproducts available for use in generating plants where removing the material from the site will not impede site productivity or prevent attainment of project objectives. **Allocation RE-1.2.3—**Actively pursue partnering opportunities with entities developing biomass generating capabilities.
Objective RE-1.3—Adopt programmatic policies and BMPs in the Wind Energy Development Program (BLM 2005c) (**Appendix M**, BLM Wind Energy Development Program Policies and Best Management Practices (BMPs).	**Action RE-1.3.1—**The BLM will not issue rights-of-way authorizations for wind energy development on lands on which wind energy development is incompatible with specific resource values. Lands that will be excluded from wind energy site monitoring and testing and development include designated areas that are part of the National Landscape Conservation System (e.g., Wilderness Areas, WSAs, National Monuments, National Conservation Areas, Wild and Scenic Rivers, and National Historic and Scenic Trails, and ACECs). Additional areas of land may be excluded from wind energy development on the basis of findings of resource impacts that cannot be mitigated and/or conflict with existing and planned multiple-use activities or land use plans. **Action RE-1.3.2—**Restrict wind energy from wildlife habitat where adverse effects could not be mitigated.

Transportation and Travel Management (TM)

Goal TM-1—Manage travel, roads, and trails to provide access and recreational opportunities, while minimizing resource impacts and user conflicts.

Objective TM-1.1—Delineate travel management areas on BLM-administered lands, and designate areas as Closed or Limited for motorized travel to minimize resource impacts and user conflicts, consistent with ROS designations.	**Allocation TM-1.1.1—**Allow all types of nonmotorized travel yearlong on all BLM-administered lands in Field Office (129,729 acres), except designated Wilderness areas (751 acres), where no mechanized use is allowed. Nonmotorized modes include travel by foot, equestrian, and bicycle yearlong. **Allocation TM-1.1.2—**Open Area Designation**—**Manage no (0) acres as Open to cross-country motorized travel yearlong. No motorized cross-country travel will be allowed, except for BLM-authorized activities for administrative purposes. Motorized travel (cross-country or on closed routes) will be allowed for any military, fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle, while being used for emergency purposes. **Action TM-1.1.3—**Limited to Designated Routes Area Designation**—**Manage 114,126 acres as motorized travel Limited to designated routes yearlong. Designated routes are shown on **Maps 4** (Travel Management**—**Area 1)**, 5** (Travel Management**—**Area 2), and **6** (Travel Management**—**Area 3). No motorized cross-country travel will be allowed, except for BLM-authorized activities for administrative purposes. Motorized travel (cross-country or on closed routes) will be allowed for any military, fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle, while being used for emergency purposes. **Action TM-1.1.4—**Closed Area Designation**—**Manage 16,742 acres as Closed to motorized travel yearlong. In Closed areas, use of all types of motorized vehicles (including off-road vehicles) is prohibited in all locations at all times yearlong, except for previously established motorized access on existing roads to private inholdings or mining claims, where those routes are identified in the BLM designated routes system (**Map 4**, Travel Management**—**Area 1, **Map 5**, Travel Management**—**Area 2, and **Map 6**, Travel Management**—**Area 3). No motorized travel will be allowed, except when authorized by the BLM. Motorized travel (cross-country or on closed routes) will be allowed for any military, fire, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle, while being used for emergency purposes, except in designated Wilderness.

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Action TM-1.1.5— Open to Over-snow Motorized Travel Area Designation – Manage 88,089 acres as Open to over-snow motorized travel. This includes all areas where motorized travel is limited to designated routes. The only exception is BLM lands within the Craig Mountain WMA, which are addressed in Action TM-1.1.6

Action TM-1.1.6— Manage the 25,133-acre Craig Mountain WMA as follows for over-snow motorized travel:

- The Upper Mountain Area (125 acres - BLM) is open to over-snow travel from November 26 through March 15. Use during this period is dependent on snow cover (e.g., 18 inches). In all other areas (25,008 acres) motorized over-the-snow travel is limited to designated routes. This designated use is managed in cooperation between The Nature Conservancy, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Department of Lands and the BLM (See **Map 5**).
- Idaho Department of Fish and Game will designate trails that may be groomed in the Upper Mountain Area.
- BLM Eagle Creek Road, including the BLM public easement is open to motorized vehicle use yearlong (includes over-snow travel).

BLM Madden Corrals Road (County Road to parking area) including the BLM public easement is open to motorized vehicle use yearlong (includes over-snow travel).

Objective TM-1.2—Identify routes where motorized vehicle use restrictions are necessary to minimize user conflicts and minimize resource damage.

Action TM-1.2.1—Within Limited to Designated Routes Area Designation**—**On BLM-administered lands in Limited areas, allow motorized travel on 109.61 miles of designated routes yearlong, as shown on **Maps 4** (Travel Management**—**Area 1)**, 5** (Travel Management**—**Area 2), and **6** (Travel Management**—**Area 3).

On BLM-administered lands in Limited areas, implement motorized travel restrictions on 92.09 miles of routes, as shown on **Maps 4** (Travel Management**—**Area 1)**, 5** (Travel Management**—**Area 2), and **6** (Travel Management**—**Area 3):

- Routes closed to all motorized travel yearlong: 108.91 miles;
- Routes open to all-terrain vehicle (less than 50 inches in width) use seasonally: .95 mile;
- Routes closed to all motorized travel seasonally: 0.40 mile; and
- Routes open to all-terrain vehicle (less than 50 inches in width) use only yearlong: 7.78 miles.

Because of recent public scoping, environmental analysis, and a Record of Decision (BLM 2007, 2008c), additional routes have been designated as open yearlong only for all-terrain vehicles that are less than 50 inches wide (2.4 miles), full closure to motorized travel (0.12 mile), and a new trail only for all-terrain vehicles that are less than 50 inches wide (0.3 mile).

Some roads crossing BLM-administered lands are considered to be part of the primary transportation system of the planning area and will not be addressed in the route designation process. These include federal, state, and county paved and graveled maintained roads. These roads are shown on the route designation maps (**Maps 4** [Travel Management**—**Area 1]**, 5** [Travel Management**—**Area 2], and **6** [Travel Management**—**Area 3]) to give an overall view of the transportation network.

In Limited areas, route designations apply only to: 1) routes and portions thereof on BLM-administered lands; and 2) BLM-administered routes and portions thereof that are located on private lands but are public access routes. The designation of specific routes as open, limited, or closed is not applicable on private routes, on routes not administered by the BLM, or on primary transportation system routes (regardless of their location on BLM-administered lands or on private lands). Access for the use and enjoyment of private lands will be addressed on a case-by-case basis where private landowners may be adversely affected by route designation decisions, as needed.

Game retrieval using motorized vehicles will be prohibited off designated routes yearlong.

Limited route designations do not apply to:

- Any federal, state, or local official or member of an organized rescue or fire-fighting force while performing official duties on a fire, emergency, law enforcement actions, or other duty.
- Any BLM employee, agent, contractor, or cooperator while performing an official duty.

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	• Any person who is authorized to operate a motorized vehicle in the restricted area. **Action TM-1.2.2—**No regulations currently exist to either assert or recognize RS 2477 rights-of-way. It is beyond the scope of this document to recognize or reject RS 2477 assertions, and this issue is not addressed further. At such time as a decision is made on RS 2477 assertions, the BLM will adjust its travel routes accordingly, if necessary.
Objective TM-1.3—Make future route modifications (amending, revising, or revoking route designations) as needed based on access needs, recreational opportunities, results of environmental monitoring, and natural and cultural resource constraints.	**Action TM-1.3.1—**Update and maintain the road and trail database annually to correct mapping errors and to assist in route designation modifications. **Action TM-1.3.2—**Route designation modifications will consider the following: 1. Designating new routes for motorized travel; 2. Closing routes seasonally; 3. Closing routes yearlong; 4. Designating mode and types of authorized motorized use; 5. Establishing maximum road and trail density levels for Semi-primitive Nonmotorized and Semi-primitive Motorized ROS classes; 6. Establishing exemptions for administrative and permitted activities; and 7. Establishing areas for trail construction and/or improvement. **Action TM-1.3.3—**Route designation modifications will adhere to the following principles: • Public involvement and coordination with tribes, agencies, and local governments will be encouraged; • Changes to route designations will be subject to public and BLM interdisciplinary review and documentation; and Changes to route designations may be subject to re-initiation of consultation with USFWS and National Marine Fisheries Service. **Action TM-1.3.4—**Criteria that will be considered in future route designation modifications include the criteria defined in 43 CFR 8342.1: • [Designated] trails shall be located in a manner to minimize impacts on physical resources (soils, watershed, vegetation, air, and other resources) and to prevent impairment of wilderness suitability; • [Designated] trails shall be located to minimize harassment of wildlife or significant disruption of wildlife habitats. Special attention will be given to protect endangered or threatened species and their habitats; and • [Designated] trails shall be located to minimize conflicts between off-road vehicle use and other existing or proposed recreation uses. Additional criteria that will be considered in future route designation modifications include: 1. Environmental conditions, such as: a. soil stability; b. crucial wildlife habitat; c. special status species habitat; d. proximity to RCAs, riparian areas and/or 303(d) streams; and e. visual resources. 2. User conflicts, such as: a. motorized versus nonmotorized; and b. motorized/mechanized versus nonmechanized. 3. Administrative purposes, such as: a. wildland fire suppression activities; b. safety; and c. resource management and permitted activities. 4. Public purposes, such as: a. accessing public or private land; b. destinations for specific activities; and

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c. types of desired use (motorized, mechanized, nonmotorized/ nonmechanized).

5. Route, vehicle type and size limitations, such as:
   a. > 50" wheel base (full size vehicles);
   b. < 50" wheel base (all-terrain vehicles); and
   c. Single track vehicles (motorcycles/mountain bikes).

Objective TM-1.4—Implement the RMP travel management decisions, including area-wide designations, specific route designations, and motorized vehicle limitations through public outreach and education, compliance and environmental monitoring, and facility maintenance.

Action TM-1.4.1—Implementation of the travel management decisions relative to public information and facilities will include, but is not limited to:

1. Developing outreach materials depicting the basic recreational access network, including maps for public distribution that show area designations and road, trail, and seasonal restrictions.
2. Posting Legal Closures: As required by regulations, provide the proper notification and post legal closures for areas and roads/trails.
3. Signing: Use signing to identify areas with use limitations and explain reasons for limitations. In general, post main access points to limited use areas with designation signs and information or interpretive signs. When specific roads are closed for protection of wildlife, watershed, or fisheries, or other resources, post them with signs indicating the specific closure rationale.
4. Kiosks: Establish kiosks as needed at primary trailheads, recreation sites, or heavy use areas to inform the public about travel management information, area map(s), resource management information, access opportunities and limitations, endangered and threatened species, and visitor safety.
5. Barriers: Physical barriers such as concrete barricades, steel gates, or placement of boulders may be installed as needed to prevent vehicular access. These may be used in conjunction with signs.
6. Public Information/Press Releases: Inform the public of travel management designations as needed by the use of press releases. If future resource issues or problems occur with travel management decision implementation, use periodic press releases to inform the public of the need for vehicle management restrictions in areas or on roads/trails.
7. Facilities Inventory and Inspections: Maintain a complete inventory log of all facilities (e.g., gates, signs, kiosks, etc.). Include an inspection schedule for such facilities in the inventory list. Document the condition of facilities and record any vandalism, maintenance needs, and additional management needs for the area or road/trail on an inspection form.

Action TM-1.4.2—Implementation of the travel management decisions related to use supervision and compliance monitoring will include, but is not limited to:

1. Use supervision will be accomplished by BLM personnel and cooperators.
2. A schedule of regular patrols will be developed annually and will identify personnel responsible for completing patrols. Use supervision and compliance will be documented on a form. Identification of noncompliance will be reported to law enforcement personnel.
3. In addition to regular patrols, field personnel will be given a copy of travel management plan area and road/trail designations. While they are working in an area, they will also document compliance and condition of facilities (e.g., gates, signs, etc.).
4. Issuance of special recreation and right-of-way permits will include specific use supervision and compliance monitoring.
5. As needed, road counters and/or motion sensitive cameras will be used to document public use in areas.

Action TM-1.4.3—Implementation of the travel management decisions related to environmental and resource monitoring will include, but is not limited to:

1. Annually, resource staff will identify specific areas, roads, or trails that will have environmental or resource monitoring conducted. The purpose of this monitoring is to document resource impacts which may occur from implementation of the travel management decisions or noncompliance

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resulting in resource impacts. This information may be used as support and rationale for future modifications to the travel management decisions or to identify additional measures needed to protect resources (e.g., additional use supervision, signing, gates, barriers, new road/trail/area restrictions, etc.).

2. The annual environmental/resource monitoring plan will identify monitoring schedules, responsible personnel, key roads/trails/areas to be monitored, and monitoring protocols to be used. Resource monitoring in key or problem areas may include the following:
   a. Soil erosion, sediment, and water quality
   b. Vegetation impacts and noxious weed infestations
   c. Recreation use conflicts
   d. Cultural resource impacts
   e. Riparian and wetland impacts
   f. Special status species, wildlife, and fisheries conflicts
   g. Vandalism
   h. Restoration/rehabilitation project effects
   i. Emergency closures or special use permits
3. A standard monitoring form will be developed and used for general environmental and resource effects that are observed in the field by BLM personnel and cooperators. Specific documentation will focus on key resource monitoring needs identified in item number 2 above.

Action TM-1.4.4—Every effort will be made to ensure compliance with the restrictions in the travel management decisions through information, education, and visitor contacts. However, law enforcement (BLM ranger, Forest Service ranger, Idaho Department of Fish and Game conservation officer, and County enforcement officers) patrols will be scheduled as needed to protect the resource values and resolve user conflicts. Specific actions in regards to enforcement will include the following:

1. Develop in cooperation with staff a list of roads/trails/area that will receive priority for periodic patrols by enforcement personnel.
2. As needed, develop cooperative agreements between authorized law enforcement entities.
3. As needed, develop cooperative agreements with user groups.

The CFO will maintain a record of enforcement efforts and findings.

Action TM-1.4.5—Implementation of the travel management decisions related to maintenance of facilities will include, but is not limited to:

1. The CFO will maintain a record of existing facilities by location. This document will identify scheduled inspections and/or maintenance.
2. Installation of signs, gates, and barricades will be the joint responsibility of benefiting resource programs.

Maintenance of facilities will be the responsibility of the BLM operations staff or designated resource programs. Where appropriate, develop cooperative agreements with user groups for maintenance of facilities for specific trails/roads/areas.

Action TM-1.4.6—Implement Road Management Guidelines for road planning, design, and maintenance (**Appendix A**, Best Management Practices and **Appendix D,** Aquatic and Riparian Management Strategy).

Lands and Realty (LR)

Goal LR-1—Meet the needs of government agencies and the public for various realty authorizations, access, and landownership adjustments.

Objective LR-1.1—Use landownership adjustments to improve resource management efficiency and provide public benefits.	**Allocation LR-1.1.1—**Generally retain public ownership of blocks of public land that have public access, high value resources, and are of sufficient size to provide management opportunities and public benefits (**Appendix N**, Land Tenure Adjustments). There are approximately 111,426 acres of public land in identified management blocks (**Map 14**, Management Blocks/Retention Areas). **Action LR-1.1.2—**Consider opportunities for landownership adjustments in management blocks (other than on the Salmon River) on a case-by-case basis. Limited ownership adjustments may occur within those blocks if they provide sufficient public benefits and do not substantially reduce the overall amount of public lands within the blocks. **Action LR-1.1.3—**Retain public ownership of all public lands within management blocks along the Salmon River as required by the WSR Act. **Action LR-1.1.4—**Consider disposal of public lands outside of management blocks on a case-by-case basis. (**Appendix N**, Land Tenure Adjustments). There are approximately 19,054 acres of public land outside of management blocks. **Action LR-1.1.5—**Retain public access across public lands that are transferred from public ownership, as needed. **Action LR-1.1.6—**Utilize land exchange or disposal to reduce the number of scattered parcels of public land that lack access and are difficult to manage. Such lands may be transferred from public ownership through proper authority if they meet one or more of the following criteria: 1. Generally fragmented and/or isolated; 2. Difficult and uneconomical to manage; 3. Relatively inaccessible to the public; 4. Does not contain unique or high value resources; 5. Disposal provides a public benefit. **Action LR-1.1.7—**Utilize land exchange, purchase, and donation to acquire land, or interest in land, with high public resource values and to consolidate public landownership. **Action LR-1.1.8—**Manage acquired lands or interests in lands in a manner consistent with adjacent or nearby public lands, or manage them for the purposes for which they were acquired.
Objective LR-1.2—Consider all requests for Rights-of-Way, Land Use Permits, and Leases.	**Action LR-1.2.1—**Give priority to processing energy-related authorizations. **Action LR-1.2.2—**Exclusion areas where no realty authorizations will be allowed are Wilderness Areas (751 acres). **Action LR-1.2.3—**Areas where realty authorizations should be avoided, or where specific requirements and special mitigation measures must be met, include ACECS, RNAs, wild and scenic rivers (either designated or proposed), SRMAs, administrative sites, and areas with special or sensitive resource values.
Objective LR-1.3—Minimize environmental impacts from the proliferation of separate rights-of-way.	**Action LR-1.3.1—**No Right-of-Way Corridors are designated due to the scattered (noncontiguous) pattern of the public lands within the planning area. **Action LR-1.3.2—**Consolidate linear rights-of-way and communication sites by encouraging applicants to co-locate their rights-of-way with other existing rights-of-way. **Action LR-1.3.3—**Designate right-of-way corridors in the future as necessary and feasible.
Objective LR-1.4—Meet public and administrative access needs across nonfederal lands.	**Action LR-1.4.1—**Where appropriate and feasible, maintain existing, and acquire new, access easements. **Action LR-1.4.2—**Utilize activity plans and route analyses to determine access needs and priorities.

Goal LR-2—Meet the needs of government agencies and the public for resource protection through public land and mineral withdrawals, acquisition of conservation easements, and resolution of unauthorized use.

Objective LR-2.1—Protect high value resources through withdrawal of public	**Action LR-2.1.1—**(Existing Withdrawals) Review withdrawals, as needed, and recommend their renewal, continuation, revocation, or termination.

Lands and Realty (LR)	
lands.	**Action LR-2.1.2—**(Existing Withdrawals) Upon termination of withdrawals, manage opened lands in a consistent manner with adjacent and nearby public lands and in accordance with resource objectives. **Action LR-2.1.3—**(Existing Withdrawals) Process the renewal of the existing withdrawals on the Lower Salmon River. **Action LR-2.1.4—**(New Withdrawal Proposals) Consider all management alternatives to ensure there is sufficient need for withdrawal. **Action LR-2.1.5—**(New Withdrawal Proposals) Process the withdrawal of public lands and minerals located on the Lower Salmon River that are not included in the existing withdrawals.
Objective LR-2.2—Protect resources by acquiring Conservation Easements on nonfederal lands.	**Action LR-2.2.1—**Determine the suitability of Conservation Easements to protect specific resources on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration other options. **Action LR-2.2.2—**Utilize donations, purchases, or exchanges to acquire Conservation Easements. **Action LR-2.2.3—**Seek funding for identified Conservation Easement needs from available sources including federal, state, nonprofit organizations and partnerships.
Objective LR-2.3—Minimize the adverse impacts of unauthorized use of the public lands.	**Action LR-2.3.1—**Give priority to the investigation and termination of newly discovered cases of unauthorized use. **Action LR-2.3.2—**Strive to resolve existing cases of unauthorized use. **Action LR-2.3.3—**Mitigate and rehabilitate damage to resources and public lands from unauthorized activities.

Special Designations

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern and Research Natural Areas (AR)

Goal AR-1—Maintain or enhance relevant resource values of more than local importance, or protect life and promote safety where natural hazards exist.

Objective AR-1.1—Protect and conserve canyon grasslands and other ecological resources by designating Wapshilla Ridge as an ACEC/RNA (401 acres) (**Map 15**, Designated ACECs and ACEC/RNAs).	**Action AR-1.1.1—**Timber harvest will only be authorized to support maintenance of timber stand health and achievement of management objectives and goals for the existing ACEC/RNA. **Action AR-1.1.2—**Eliminate the allotment (excluding livestock grazing) because it has been vacant for a number of years. **Action AR-1.1.3—**At a minimum of every 10 years, conduct a site evaluation or conduct vegetation trend monitoring to determine if site objectives and resource values are being conserved.. **Action AR-1.1.4—**Evaluate applications for new rights-of way on a case-by-case basis. **Action AR-1.1.5—**Vegetation treatments, such as prescribed burning and/or fire managed for resource benefit, may be used for long-term maintenance or improvement of good ecological condition grasslands and natural processes within forest vegetation communities. **Action AR-1.1.6—**Assign high priority for control of undesirable nonnative vegetation utilizing integrated pest management.

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern and Research Natural Areas (AR)

Objective AR-1.2—Protect and conserve the riparian and Palouse prairie remnant ecosystems by designating the Lower and Middle Cottonwoods Islands as an ACEC/RNA (43 acres) (**Map 15**, Designated ACECs and ACEC/RNAs).	**Action AR-1.2.1—**Review and update as necessary the existing Clearwater River Islands Goose Nesting HMP and Cooperative Sikes Act Agreement. Continue monitoring of goose and duck nesting on the island. **Action AR-1.2.2—**Prohibit any soil or vegetation disturbance that does not support improvement of ecological condition in the long term. **Action AR-1.2.3—**At a minimum of every 10 years, conduct a site evaluation or conduct vegetation trend monitoring to determine if site objectives and resource values are being conserved.. **Action AR-1.2.4—**Assign high priority for control of undesirable nonnative vegetation utilizing integrated pest management.
Objective AR-1.3—Protect and conserve canyon grasslands, riparian habitats, forest/shrub habitats, functional ecosystems, and special status fish, wildlife, and plant species by designating the Captain John Creek ACEC/RNA (1,320 acres) (**Map 15**, Designated ACECs and ACEC/RNAs).	**Action AR-1.3.1—**Review and update as necessary the existing Craig Mountain WMA HMP (BLM 1983b) and cooperative Sikes Act Agreement. **Action AR-1.3.2—**Authorize no livestock grazing in the area. **Action AR-1.3.3—**Authorize no timber harvest in the area, unless for disease or insect control and achievement of DFC (**Appendix C**, Desired Future Conditions for Forest Vegetation/Wildlife Habitat) with emphasis on large tree and old forest/old growth components. **Action AR-1.3.4—**Allow limited vegetation treatments and understory burning that support natural processes and achievement of DFC and are compatible with RNA goals and objectives. **Action AR-1.3.5—**At a minimum of every 10 years, conduct a site evaluation or conduct vegetation trend monitoring to determine if site objectives and resource values are being conserved. Complete an updated vegetation type and timber/shrub stand map to characterize habitats (e.g., stand structure, canopy cover, habitat type, plant community, common species). **Action AR-1.3.6—**Assign high priority for control of undesirable nonnative vegetation utilizing integrated pest management.
Objective AR-1.4—Protect and conserve habitat for federally listed MacFarlane's four-o'clock by designating Long Gulch as an ACEC/RNA (47 acres) (**Map 15**, Designated ACECs and ACEC/RNAs).	**Action AR-1.4.1—**Manage the area in accordance with the updated MacFarlane's four-o'clock Recovery Plan (USFWS 2000) and in cooperation with USFWS. **Action AR-1.4.2—**Review and update as necessary the existing MacFarlane's four-o'clock -- Long Gulch HMP (BLM 1981c) to provide for long-term protection and conservation of listed plant population and suitable habitats. **Action AR-1.4.3—**Allow no vegetation or ground disturbing actions that will result in long-term adverse impacts on MacFarlane's four-o'clock and suitable habitats. **Action AR-1.4.4—**Authorize no livestock grazing in the area. Maintain fenced exclosure. **Action AR-1.4.5—**Assign high priority for control of undesirable nonnative vegetation utilizing integrated pest management. Vegetation treatments will support long-term improvement of ecological condition and avoid adverse impacts on listed plants and suitable habitat. **Action AR-1.4.6—**At a minimum, every three years conduct vegetation trend monitoring studies for ESA-listed MacFarlane's four-o'clock. Weed-control activities will have implementation and effectiveness monitoring conducted to determine if objectives are being achieved.
Objective AR-1.5—Protect and conserve the special status plants, ecological resources, and geological values by designating the Lucile Caves ACEC/RNA (136 acres) (**Map 15**, Designated ACECs and ACEC/RNAs).	**Action AR-1.5.1—**Review and update as necessary the existing Lucile Caves HMP (BLM 1985) to provide for long-term protection of listed plant population, BLM sensitive species, and geologic resources found within the ACEC/RNA. **Action AR-1.5.2—**File for nonconsumptive water rights; such flows will be for annual natural flows. Natural flows will be reserved from the spring to the old highway. **Action AR-1.5.3—**Assign high priority for control of undesirable nonnative vegetation utilizing integrated pest management. Vegetation treatments will support long-term improvement of ecological condition and avoids adverse impacts on listed plants and other resource values identified for ACEC/RNA designation. **Action AR-1.5.4—**Authorize no livestock grazing within fenced exclosure (approximately 15 acres).

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern and Research Natural Areas (AR)

	Action AR-1.5.5—As needed, evaluate trail to cave and ecological values associated with cave. If human uses causing degradation to vegetation, soils, and cave resources, take appropriate actions to avoid or minimize impacts.
Objective AR-1.6—Protect and conserve habitat for federally listed MacFarlane's four-o'clock by designating the Skookumchuck as an ACEC/RNA (9 acres) (**Map 15**, Designated ACECs and ACEC/RNAs).	**Action AR-1.6.1—**Manage the area in accordance with the updated MacFarlane's four-o'clock Recovery Plan (USFWS 2000) and in cooperation with USFWS. **Action AR-1.6.2—**Review and update as necessary the existing MacFarlane's four-o'clock -- Skookumchuck HMP (BLM 1983c) to provide for long-term protection and conservation of listed plant population and suitable habitats. **Action AR-1.6.3—**At a minimum, every three years conduct vegetation trend monitoring studies for ESA-listed MacFarlane's four-o'clock. Weed-control activities will have implementation and effectiveness monitoring conducted to determine if objectives are being achieved. **Action AR-1.6.4—**Do not authorize livestock grazing within the ACEC/RNA. **Action AR-1.6.5—**Assign high priority for control of undesirable nonnative vegetation utilizing integrated pest management. Vegetation treatments will support long-term improvement of ecological condition and avoids adverse impacts on listed plants and other resource values identified for ACEC/RNA designation. **Action AR-1.6.6—**Continue coordination with Idaho Transportation Department to limit herbicide use along the highway right-of-way and for control of undesirable vegetation.
Objective AR-1.7—Protect and conserve scenic values, cultural resources, ecological resources, and special status fish, wildlife, and plants by designating Lower Lolo Creek as an ACEC (3,677 acres) (**Map 15**, Designated ACECs and ACEC/RNAs).	**Action AR-1.7.1—**Identify and promote opportunities to acquire additional lands adjacent to Lolo Creek. **Action AR-1.7.2—**Allow no construction of hydroelectric facilities. **Action AR-1.7.3—**Protect existing fisheries, wildlife, and watershed values by maintaining this area in its essentially roadless conditions. Permit no new rights-of-way and allow no new road construction within 300 feet of Lolo Creek or on slopes exceeding 50 percent. Prohibit construction of hydroelectric facilities within this area. **Action AR-1.7.4—**Timber harvest activities on slopes over 35 percent will utilize yarding methods (such as aerial or high lead systems) that minimize ground disturbance. **Action AR-1.7.5—**Roads not needed for long-term management will be decommissioned (partial obliteration, full obliteration). **Action AR-1.7.6—**Assign high priority for control of undesirable nonnative vegetation utilizing integrated pest management. **Action AR-1.7.7—**Support permanent retention of existing easement of lands at the mouth of Lolo Creek. **Action AR-1.7.8—**Allow no new road construction within 300 feet of Lolo Creek or on slopes exceeding 50 percent. **Action AR-1.7.9—**Lands will be classified for custodial timber management. Refer to **Appendix C**, Desired Future Conditions for Forest Vegetation/Wildlife Habitat, Lower Lolo Creek ACEC for desired size classes for forested areas. Vegetation treatments will be done in such a way as to afford maximum protection to the site or to enhance resource values.
Objective AR-1.8—Protect and conserve scenic values, cultural resources, ecological resources and special status fish, wildlife and plants through the designation of Upper Lolo Creek as an ACEC (1,625 acres) (**Map 15**, Designated ACECs and ACEC/RNAs).	**Action AR-1.8.1—**Identify and promote opportunities to acquire lands adjacent to Lolo Creek. **Action AR-1.8.2—**Allow no construction of hydroelectric facilities. **Action AR-1.8.3—**Protect and enhance segments of the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trail and the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail. Cooperate with partners in the management of these trails. **Action AR-1.8.4—**Timber harvest activities on slopes over 35 percent will utilize yarding methods (such as aerial or high lead systems) that minimize ground disturbance). **Action AR-1.8.5—**Roads not needed for long-term management will be decommissioned (partial obliteration, full obliteration. **Action AR-1.8.6—**Assign high priority for control of undesirable nonnative vegetation utilizing integrated pest management.

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern and Research Natural Areas (AR)

	Action AR-1.8.7—Develop and implement a management strategy that will support restoration of riparian area/flood-prone area in Cottonwood Flats. Emphasis on establishment of mature cottonwood stands. **Action AR-1.8.8—**DFC for forest vegetation identified in **Appendix C**, Desired Future Conditions for Forest Vegetation/Wildlife Habitat.
Objective AR-1.9—Protect and conserve scenic values, cultural resources, special status species, important wildlife habitats, and other ecological resources by designating Lower Salmon River ACEC (13,855 acres) (**Map 15**, Designated ACECs and ACEC/RNAs).	**Action AR-1.9.1—**Review, update, and implement existing activity plans as needed. **Action AR-1.9.2—**A high priority should be placed on acquiring non federal lands or interests in lands adjacent to the Salmon River to provide long-term protection of important resource values and enhance public access and use of the area. **Action AR-1.9.3—**Support legislative initiatives to include the Lower Salmon River as a scenic river component of the NWSRS. **Action AR-1.9.4—**Evaluate applications for new rights-of way on a case-by-case basis. **Action AR-1.9.5—**Assign high priority for control of undesirable nonnative vegetation utilizing integrated pest management. Vegetation treatments will support long-term improvement of ecological condition and minimize or avoid adverse impacts on aquatic and wildlife habitats. **Action AR-1.9.6—**At a minimum every three years, conduct vegetation trend monitoring studies for ESA-listed plant populations. Weed-control activities will have implementation and effectiveness monitoring conducted. Minimize or avoid land uses that cause adverse impact on listed plant populations. **Action AR-1.9.7—**A high priority is assigned for continued systematic botanical inventory of suitable habitat for federally listed and Idaho BLM sensitive plants.
Objective AR-1.10—Protect and conserve scenic values, cultural resources, and federally listed and sensitive fish, wildlife, and plants by designating the Upper Salmon River as an ACEC (White Bird Creek to French Creek) (5,141 acres (**Map 15**, Designated ACECs and ACEC/RNAs).	**Action AR-1.10.1—**Support legislative initiatives to include the Lower Salmon River as a recreational component of the NWSRS. **Action AR-1.10.2—**Assign high priority for control of undesirable nonnative vegetation utilizing integrated pest management. Vegetation treatments will support long-term improvement of ecological condition. **Action AR-1.10.3—**At a minimum every three years, conduct vegetation trend monitoring for ESA-listed plant populations. Minimize or avoid land uses that cause adverse impacts on listed plant populations. **Action AR-1.10.4—**Give a high priority for continued systematic botanical inventory of suitable habitat for listed and Idaho BLM sensitive plants. **Action AR-1.10.5—**Review, update, and implement existing activity plans as needed. **Action AR-1.10.6—**Acquisitions of nonfederal land will be considered on a case-by-case basis to provide long-term protection of important resource values and enhance public access and use of the area. Where appropriate, conservation easements should be used to protect important resource values.
Objective AR-1.11—Protect and conserve federally listed and BLM sensitive fish, wildlife and plants, riparian/wetland resources and other ecological resources by designating the East Fork American River as an ACEC (569 acres) (**Map 15**, Designated ACECs and ACEC/RNAs).	**Action AR-1.11.1—**Vegetation treatments will be done in such a way as to afford maximum conservation for the area or to enhance resource values. **Action AR-1.11.2—**Minimize ground disturbance on slopes greater than 40 percent. **Action AR-1.11.3—**Ridge top/upper slope temporary roads may be used for timber harvest. Such roads must be decommissioned (i.e., partial**—**full obliteration) within three years after construction and seeded/planted with native species. **Action AR-1.11.4—**No road construction will be authorized within RCAs.

Areas of Critical Environmental Concern and Research Natural Areas (AR)

Objective AR-1.12—Protect cultural resources, specifically historical mining sites through the designation of the American River Historic Sites District ACEC (6,347 acres) (**Map 15**, Designated ACECs and ACEC/RNAs).	**Action AR-1.12.1—**Require mining Plans of Operations as a means to manage long-term mineral exploration/development in areas of high cultural site density.

National Trails (NT)

Goal NT-1—Manage National Trails to protect the values for which they were designated.

Objective NT-1.1—Protect and enhance National Trail values based on trail characteristics.	**Action NT-1.1.1—**Develop appropriate measures to protect National Trail (19.93 miles) resources on a case-by-case basis. **Action NT-1.1.2—**Inventory and record sections of the Lewis and Clark and the Nez Perce (Nee-Me-Poo) National Historic Trails (19.93 miles). **Action NT-1.1.3—**Develop information and interpretive materials for public distribution.

Wild and Scenic Rivers (WR)

Goal WR-1—Fulfill the BLM's obligations under Section 5(d)(1) of the WSR Act for the life of this RMP.

Objective WR-1.1—Manage the Salmon River from Long Tom Bar to the Snake River (112 miles) to protect its identified outstandingly remarkable values and free-flowing condition until redirected by Congress.	**Action WR-1.1.1—**Continue to implement the Lower Salmon River Scenic and Lower Salmon River Recreational activity plans (BLM 1983d, BLM 1988b) to protect the outstandingly remarkable values. **Action WR-1.1.2—**Continue land acquisition and conservation easement acquisition along the Lower Salmon River. **Action WR-1.1.3—**Support renewal of existing minerals withdrawal along the Lower Salmon River (also see *Minerals*). **Action WR-1.1.4—**The 112-mile segment of the Lower Salmon River, Long Tom Bar to the confluence of the Snake River was recommended to Congress for inclusion in the NWSRS as Recreational (59 miles long Tom Bar to Hammer Creek) and Scenic (53 miles Hammer Creek to the Snake River Confluence) (**Map 16**, Wild & Scenic River Segments and Wilderness & Wilderness Study Areas). BLM management actions will not alter free flowing nature, measurably diminish outstandingly remarkable values, or modify the setting or level of development that will change its identified Scenic or Recreational classification.
Objective WR-1.2—To fulfill the BLM's obligations under Section 5(d)(1) of the WSR Act, the BLM has completed eligibility and suitability determinations of planning area river segments. Coordinate the BLM decision to recommend or not recommend suitable segments for inclusion in the NWSRS in conjunction with the Idaho Water Resource Board as described in the Memorandum of Understanding with the BLM, Forest Service and State of Idaho (State of Idaho 1991).	**Action WR-1.2.1—**For the four segments determined preliminarily suitable on Lolo, Lake, Hard, and Hazard Creeks, for congressional designation into the NWSRS, until a final congressional decision on designation or nondesignation is made, the BLM will, to the extent of the BLM's authority (which is limited to BLM lands within the corridor), maintain the free-flowing character, preserve or enhance the outstandingly remarkable values, and allow no activities within the river corridor that will alter the tentative classification (**Map 16**, Wild & Scenic River Segments and Wilderness & Wilderness Study Areas). **Action WR-1.2.2—**Do not recommend the preliminarily suitable 27.19-mile Lolo Creek segment for congressional designation in the NWSRS. Coordinate management and designation with the Idaho Department of Water Resources and Forest Service when the Comprehensive State Water Plan is developed for this River Basin. Continue to coordinate with the Idaho Water Resources Board and Forest Service in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding with the BLM, Forest Service and State of Idaho (State of Idaho 1991). In the interim, the BLM will coordinate management of the segment with the Idaho Department of Water Resources and protective management will be provided on BLM-administered lands in accordance with the following guidelines: • Approve no actions altering the free-flowing nature of the suitable segment through impoundments, diversions, channeling, or installing riprap. • Approve no actions that will measurable diminish the stream segment's identified outstandingly remarkable value(s). • Approve no actions that will modify the setting or level of development of the suitable river segment to a degree that will change its identified Scenic classification.

Wild and Scenic Rivers (WR)

Action WR-1.2.3—Do not recommend the preliminarily suitable 2.19-mile Lake Creek segment for congressional designation in the NWSRS until the Forest Service (Payette National Forest) completes evaluation of suitability affecting the National Forest Lands along the river downstream of the BLM segment. This effort will occur in conjunction with the Idaho Water Resources Board in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding with the BLM, Forest Service and State of Idaho (State of Idaho 1991). In the interim, the BLM will coordinate management of the segment with the Idaho Department of Water Resources and protective management will be provided on BLM administered lands in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Approve no actions altering the free-flowing nature of the suitable segment through impoundments, diversions, channeling, or installing riprap.
- Approve no actions that will measurable diminish the stream segment's identified outstandingly remarkable value(s).
- Approve no actions that will modify the setting or level of development of the suitable river segment to a degree that will change its identified Recreational classification.

Reevaluate the decision of whether or not to recommend the Lake Creek segment following completion of the Forest Service suitability evaluation and the Idaho Department of Water Resources Comprehensive Water Plan including Lake Creek.

Action WR-1.2.4—Do not recommend the preliminarily suitable 1.55-mile Hazard Creek segment for congressional designation in the NWSRS. Idaho Department of Water Resources completed the Comprehensive Water Plan**—**Part B on the Little Salmon River Basin in October 2001 (Idaho Department of Water Resources 2001). The comprehensive state water plan designated Hazard Creek as a Recreational River. The BLM will coordinate management on this river segment with Idaho Department of Water Resources and Forest Service in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding with Forest Service and State of Idaho (1991), and Comprehensive Water Plan (Idaho Department of Water Resources 2001).

The BLM will coordinate management of the segment with the Idaho Department of Water Resources and protective management will be provided on the BLM administered lands in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Approve no actions altering the free-flowing nature of the suitable segment through impoundments, diversions, channeling, or installing riprap.
- Approve no actions that will measurable diminish the stream segment's identified outstandingly remarkable value(s).
- Approve no actions that will modify the setting or level of development of the suitable river segment to a degree that will change its identified Recreational classification.

Action WR-1.2.5—Do not recommend the preliminarily suitable 1.64-mile Hard Creek segment for congressional designation in the NWSRS. Idaho Department of Water Resources completed the Comprehensive Water Plan**—**Part B on the Little Salmon River Basin in October 2001 (Idaho Department of Water Resources 2001). The comprehensive state water plan designated Hard Creek as a Recreational River. The BLM will coordinate management on this river segment with Idaho Department of Water Resources and Forest Service in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding with Forest Service and State of Idaho (1991), and Comprehensive Water Plan (Idaho Department of Water Resources 2001).

The BLM will coordinate management of the segment with the Idaho Department of Water Resources and protective management will be provided on BLM-administered lands in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Approve no actions altering the free-flowing nature of the suitable segment through impoundments, diversions, channeling, or installing riprap.
- Approve no actions that will measurable diminish the stream segment's identified outstandingly remarkable value(s).
- Approve no actions that will modify the setting or level of development of the suitable river segment to a degree that will change its identified Recreational classification.

Wild and Scenic Rivers (WR)

Objective WR-1.3—Coordinate with Payette National Forest and Idaho Department of Water Resources for suitability determinations of streams common to the BLM and Forest Service in accordance with the Memorandum of Understand with Forest Service and State of Idaho (1991).	**Action WR-1.3.1—**Within one year of signing the ROD, coordinate with Payette National Forest and Idaho Department of Water Resources regarding suitability determinations of Hazard Creek and Hard Creek.

Wilderness and Wilderness Study Areas (WW)

Goal WW-1—Manage wilderness areas and WSAs to maintain wilderness characteristics.

Objective WW-1.1—Manage wilderness areas to maintain wilderness characteristics.	**Action WW-1.1.1—**Manage 751 acres of the Frank Church/River of No Return Wilderness per the Wilderness Act (**Map 16**, Wild & Scenic River Segments and Wilderness & Wilderness Study Areas).
Objective WW-1.2—Manage WSAs to maintain wilderness characteristics.	**Action WW-1.2.1—**Manage 5,524 acres of the Marshall Mountain WSA and the 5,332 acres of Snowhole Rapids WSA under the BLM's Interim Management Policy for Lands Under Wilderness Review (BLM 1995) (**Map 16**, Wild & Scenic River Segments and Wilderness & Wilderness Study Areas). **Action WW-1.2.2—**Should WSAs be released from wilderness consideration by Congress, manage BLM lands within the Snowhole Rapids WSA in conformance with the Lower Salmon River Scenic SRMA, under VRM Class I and semiprimitive nonmotorized ROS, as closed to mineral location, and as closed to mineral leasing under the Lower Salmon River Withdrawal and VRM 1. Manage BLM lands within the Marshall Mountain WSA to conform with VRM Class II and semiprimitive motorized ROS, as open to mineral location, as open to mineral leasing with NSO restrictions (on all acres), and as open to mineral leasing with CSU restrictions (only on 74 acres).

Watchable Wildlife Viewing Sites (WV)

Goal WV-1—Maintain or enhance wildlife habitats and opportunities for wildlife viewing areas.

Objective WV-1.1—Manage wildlife viewing areas in a manner that will maintain or improve habitat conditions while providing the public with increased recreational opportunities for viewing wildlife.	**Action WV-1.1.1—**Implement actions on BLM lands to maintain or improve wildlife habitat resources and provide wildlife viewing opportunities for the existing areas: Lower Salmon River Canyon ; Middle Salmon River Canyon; Snake River in Hells Canyon ; and Craig Mountain WMA. Support opportunities to coordinate with other federal, state, and private parties in the above areas. **Action WV-1.1.2—**Support management efforts that designate new high value wildlife viewing areas for the public. **Action WV-1.1.3—**Support efforts that provide information and educational material that enhance wildlife viewing opportunities and enjoyment. **Action WV-1.1.4—**Promote opportunities to cooperatively manage high value areas for viewing wildlife with partners, such as the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (Red River WMA) and the Nez Perce National Forest in the upper South Fork of the Clearwater River.

Social and Economic Conditions

Native American Tribal Uses–Social and Economic (NA)

Goal NA -1—Manage natural and cultural resources consistent with treaty and trust responsibilities to Native American tribes.

Objective NA-1.1—Maintain and, where possible, improve natural and cultural resource conditions to enhance opportunities to exercise Native American traditional uses.	**Action NA-1.1.1—**Consult with Native American tribes to identify culturally significant plants, animals, fish, and important habitats. **Action NA-1.1.2—**Consult with Native American tribes and allow collection of vegetal resources consistent with other resource goals/objectives. **Action NA-1.1.3—**Incorporate important habitat information into monitoring protocols to assess habitat conditions.

Public Safety–Abandoned Mines and Hazardous Materials (PS)

Goal PS -1—Protect the public and the environment from exposure to hazards associated with hazardous materials and abandoned mine lands.

Objective PS-1.1—Reduce risks from potential hazard sites.	**Action PS-1.1.1—**Identify abandoned mine lands, hazardous materials, solid waste, and other hazard sites. **Action PS-1.1.2—**Assess level of risk at hazard sites and prioritize high-risk sites. **Action PS-1.1.3—**Rank physical hazard sites for corrective actions. **Action PS-1.1.4—**Regularly assess recreation facilities and use areas for safety hazards and, when deemed necessary, develop and take actions to correct these hazards. **Action PS-1.1.5—**Maintain an inventory of abandoned mine lands and hazardous material sites with site files and databases. **Action PS-1.1.6—**Correct physical safety hazards and cleanup hazardous materials sites.
Objective PS-1.2—Whenever practicable or possible, mitigate newly discovered or reported physical and chemical hazards in a timely manner to ensure visitor or public safety.	**Action PS-1.2.1—**Newly discovered or reported hazards are to be investigated and corrected or mitigated within 120 days using standard procedures. **Action PS-1.2.2—**All incidents of hazardous materials on public land are handled as outlined in the District's contingency plan.
Objective PS-1.3—Pursue the reduction of hazards, particularly at abandoned mines and facilities on public lands, to ensure they are safe for employees and the public.	**Action PS-1.3.1—**Correct physical safety hazards, and cleanup hazardous materials sites on public lands. **Action PS-1.3.2—**Conduct cleanup and reclamation of sites in accordance with the National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act. **Action PS-1.3.3—**Ensure that BLM employees who work with and around the contaminated and hazard areas are properly trained and equipped.
Objective PS-1.4—Ensure that the remedy at closed/remediated sites remains protective of human health, welfare, and/or environment where hazardous substances remain.	**Action PS-1.4.1—**Note the location of closed landfills in the public land records. **Action PS-1.4.2—**Maintain and preserve all available files and information about closed landfills and closed/remediated sites. **Action PS-1.4.3—**Monitor sites where hazardous substances remain following written monitoring plans to ensure corrective actions are protective. **Action PS-1.4.4—**At a minimum of every five years, review the performance of corrective actions to ensure the corrective actions remain effective. **Action PS-1.4.5—**All actions authorizing the use of or potential disturbance of closed and remediated sites where potentially hazardous substances remain at the site will comply with Federal and State regulations, and where appropriate, special stipulations will be developed as part of the permit, lease, plan, or other action to assure human and natural resource safety. **Action PS-1.4.6—**Closed and remediated sites with hazardous substances remaining at the site will be restricted: • Restricted with NSOs (**Appendix L**, Mineral Leasing Surface Use Stipulations); • Closed to motorized vehicles where appropriate at significant sites; and • Ensure actions are appropriately handled and bonded. Present significant sites are Riggins Landfill, Blackhawk Bar Landfill, Elk City Landfill, Elk City Heap, and Buffalo Gulch Heap.

Public Safety–Abandoned Mines and Hazardous Materials (PS)

Objective PS-1.5—Safeguard human health, prevent environmental damage, and limit BLM liability from hazards.	**Action PS-1.5.1—**All actions authorizing the use of or potential use of hazardous materials on public lands will comply with federal and state regulations, and where appropriate, special stipulations will be developed as part of the permit, lease, plan, or other action to assure human and natural resource safety. **Action PS-1.5.2—**Authorized actions related to land or minerals with identified hazards or hazardous materials are to be reviewed periodically for compliance with federal and state regulations and with special stipulations developed as part of the permit, lease, plan, or other action. **Action PS-1.5.3—**Exchange or disposal of lands with hazardous materials can be done only with Potentially Responsible Parties. **Action PS-1.5.4—**Do not permit unauthorized treatment, storage, or disposal of hazardous materials on public lands and take corrective actions on all unauthorized sites found. **Action PS-1.5.5—**Sites with significant known hazardous conditions will be restricted: • Restricted with NSOs (**Appendix L**, Mineral Leasing Surface Use Stipulations); • Closed to motorized vehicles where appropriate; and • Ensure actions are appropriately handled and bonded. Present significant known sites are Riggins Landfill, Blackhawk Bar Landfill, Elk City Landfill, Elk City Heap, and Buffalo Gulch Heap.

Social and Economic Conditions (SE)

Goal SE -1 Provide varied social and economic opportunities through multiple use management.

Objective SE-1.1—Develop sustainable land uses and management strategies that contribute to the social and economic well being of both local communities and the nation.	**Action SE-1.1.1—**Provide a predictable supply of goods and services within sustainable limits of the ecosystem that help meet public demand. **Action SE-1.1.2—**Provide a variety of recreational and leisure opportunities for the public's enjoyment.
Objective SE-1.2—Work cooperatively with business leaders, community groups and the Nez Perce Tribe to make economic opportunities available on public lands.	**Action SE-1.2.1—**Make contracts for services and sale of products available as need and conditions permit. **Action SE-1.2.2—**Create public and private partnerships to achieve shared economic objectives of providing employment and income to local communities while benefiting ecosystem health.

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Dean Huibregtse	Livestock Grazing
Craig Johnson	ACEC/RNA, Travel Management, Special Status Fish, Wildlife, and Plants, Fish and Wildlife, Vegetation-Riparian and Wetlands, Vegetation-Forests, Water Resources, Watchable Wildlife Viewing Sites
Mark Lowry	Special Status Plants, Vegetation—Forests, Vegetation—Riparian and Wetlands
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Craig Miller*	Wildlife, Special Status Wildlife, Special Status Plants
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GLOSSARY

ACQUIRED LANDS. Acquired lands, as distinguished from public lands, are those lands in federal ownership which have been obtained by the Government by purchase, condemnation, or gift, or by exchange for such purchased, condemned or donated lands, or for timber on such lands.

ACTIVITY PLAN. A document that describes management objectives, actions, and projects to implement decisions of the RMP or other planning documents. Usually prepared for one or more resources in a specific area.

ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT. A type of natural resource management in which decisions are made as part of an ongoing science-based process. Adaptive management involves testing, monitoring, and evaluating applied strategies, and incorporating new knowledge into management approaches that are based on scientific findings and the needs of society. Results are used to modify management policy, strategies, and practices.

AIRSHED. A geographical area in which atmospheric characteristics are similar, such as mixing height and transport winds (Montana/Idaho Airshed Group 2005).

ALLOTMENT. An area of land where one or more operators graze their livestock. It generally consists of public lands but may include parcels of private or state-owned lands. The number of livestock and period of use are stipulated for each allotment.

ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLE. A motorized vehicle that is less than 50 inches in width and is capable of operating on roads, trails, or designed areas that are not maintained.

ANIMAL UNIT MONTH (AUM). The amount of forage necessary to sustain one cow or its equivalent for a period of one month.

AQUATIC. Living or growing in or on the water.

AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC). An area established through the planning process as provided in FLPMA where special management attention is required (when such areas are developed or used or where no development is required) to protect and prevent irreparable damage to important historic, cultural, or scenic values; or to fish and wildlife resources or other natural systems or processes; or to protect life and afford safety from natural hazards.

BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE (BMP). A practice or usually a combination of practices that are determined by a State or a designated planning agency to be the most effective and practicable means (including technological, economic, and institutional considerations) of controlling point and nonpoint source pollutants at levels compatible with environmental quality goals.

BIG GAME. Larger species of wildlife that are hunted, such as elk, deer, bighorn sheep, and pronghorn antelope.

BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY. The variety of life and its processes, and the interrelationships within and among various levels of ecological organization. Conservation, protection, and restoration of biological species and genetic diversity are needed to sustain the health of existing biological systems. Federal resource management agencies must examine the implications of management actions and development decisions on regional and local biodiversity.

CANDIDATE SPECIES. Any species not yet officially listed but which are undergoing a status review or are proposed for listing according to Federal Register notices published by the Secretary of the Interior of the Secretary of Commerce.

CHEMICAL VEGETATION TREATMENT: Application of herbicides to control invasive species/noxious weeds and/or unwanted vegetation. To meet resource objectives the preponderance of chemical treatments will be used in areas where cheatgrass or noxious weeds have invaded sagebrush steppe. In these areas, fine fuel loads are extremely high due to cheatgrass dominance of the understory. The effectiveness of chemical treatments increases if they are applied following prescribed or wildland fire.

CONCESSION LEASES. Authorize the operation of recreation-oriented services and facilities by the private sector, on BLM-administered lands, in support of BLM recreation programs. The concessionaire is authorized through a concession lease administered on a regular basis. The lease requires the concessionaire to pay fees to the BLM in exchange for the opportunity to carry out business activity. BLM Handbook H-2930-1, Recreation Permit Administration, provides consistent and explicit direction to supplement the Recreation Permit Administration Manual 2930 and regulations set forth in 43 CFR 2930.

CONSERVATION WATERSHED. Conservation watersheds have watershed processes and functions that occur in a relatively undisturbed and natural landscape setting. Generally, the majority of ownership in the watershed or subwatershed is composed of BLM, Forest Service, or Idaho Department of Fish and Game lands, or is based on the fisheries value and miles of stream flowing across BLM lands.

CRUCIAL WINTER RANGE. A BLM definition that applies to elk and mule deer comprised of areas defined by Idaho Department of Fish and Game as "winter concentration areas" and "severe winter range:"

- **Winter Concentration Area:** That part of winter range where densities are at least 200 percent greater than the surrounding winter range density during the same period used to define winter range in the average five winters out of ten.
- **Severe Winter Range:** That part of the overall range where 90 percent of the individuals are located when the annual snowpack is at its maximum and/or temperatures are at a minimum in the two worst winters out of ten.

CULTURAL RESOURCES. Locations of human activity, occupation, or use. Cultural resources include archaeological, historic, or architectural sites, structures, or places with important public and scientific uses, and locations of traditional cultural or religious importance to specified social and/or cultural groups.

CULTURAL RESOURCE INVENTORY. An inventory to assess the potential presence of cultural resources. There are three classes of surveys:

- **Class I.** An existing data survey. This is an inventory of a study area to (1) provide a narrative overview of cultural resources by using existing information, and (2) compile existing cultural resources site record data on which to base the development of the BLM's site record system.
- **Class II.** A sampling field inventory designed to locate, from surface and exposed profile indications, all cultural resource sites within a portion of an area so that an estimate can be made of the cultural resources for the entire area.
- **Class III.** An intensive field inventory designed to locate, from surface and exposed profile indications, all cultural resource sites in an area. Upon its completion, no further cultural resources inventory work is normally needed.

DESIGNATED ROUTES. Specific routes (including roads and trails) identified by the BLM in Limited areas where some type of motorized vehicle use is appropriate and allowed either seasonally or yearlong.

DESIRED FUTURE CONDITION (DFC). For rangeland vegetation, the condition of rangeland resources on a landscape scale that meets management objectives. It is based on ecological, social, and economic considerations during the land planning process. It is usually expressed as ecological status or management status of vegetation (species composition, habitat diversity, and age and size class of species) and desired soil qualities (soil cover, erosion, and compaction). In a general context, desired future condition is a portrayal of the land or resource conditions that are expected to result if goals and objectives are fully achieved.

DIVERSITY. The relative abundance of wildlife species, plant species, communities, habitats, or habitat features per unit of area.

EASEMENT. Right afforded 'a person or agency to make limited use of another's real property for access or other purposes.

ELIGIBLE RIVER SEGMENT. A section of a river that qualifies for inclusion into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System through determination that it is free-flowing and with its adjacent land area possessing at least one river-related value considered to be outstandingly remarkable.

EMERGENCY STABILIZATION. Planned actions to stabilize and prevent unacceptable degradation to natural and cultural resources, to minimize threats to life or property resulting from the effects of a fire, or to repair/replace/construct physical improvements necessary to prevent degradation of land or resources. Emergency stabilization actions must be taken within one year following containment of a wildfire.

ENDANGERED SPECIES. Any species that is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS). A formal public document prepared to analyze the impacts on the environment of a proposed project or action and released for comment and review. An EIS

must meet the requirements of NEPA, Council on Environmental Quality guidelines, and directives of the agency responsible for the proposed project or action.

EXISTING ROUTES. The roads, trails, or ways that are used by motorized vehicles (jeeps, all-terrain vehicles, motorized dirt bikes, etc.), mechanized uses (mountain bikes, wheelbarrows, game carts), pedestrians (hikers), and/or equestrians (horseback riders) and are, to the best of the BLM's knowledge, in existence at the time of RMP/EIS publication.

FEDERAL LAND POLICY AND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1976 (FLPMA). Public Law 94-579 signed by the President on October 21, 1976. Establishes public land policy for management of lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management. FLPMA specifies several key directions for the Bureau, notably (1) management be on the basis of multiple-use and sustained yield, (2) land use plans be prepared to guide management actions, (3) public lands be managed for the protection, development, and enhancement of resources, (4) public lands be retained in federal ownership, and (5) public participation be utilized in reaching management decisions.

FIRE MANAGED FOR RESOURCE BENEFIT. A vegetation treatment that involves taking advantage of a naturally ignited wildland fire in an area where fire would benefit resources. Fire managed for resource benefit will be conducted in specific areas needing treatment after a site-specific plan and NEPA analysis were completed and only if predetermined prescriptive parameters (such as weather and fire behavior) could be met. Until this planning and NEPA analysis were accomplished, wildland fires will be suppressed using an appropriate management response.

FIRE REGIME CONDITION CLASS (FRCC). A classification of a vegetation communities' variance or departure from historic fire conditions. Fire Condition Classes can be: (1) Fire Condition Class 1, representing low departure from historic fire regime; (2) Fire Condition Class 2, representing moderate departure from historic fire regime; or (3) Fire Condition Class 3, representing high departure from historic fire regime.

FORAGE. All browse and herbaceous foods that are available to grazing animals.

FOREST HEALTH. The condition in which forest ecosystems sustain sufficient complexity, diversity, resiliency, and productivity to provide for specified human needs and values.

FUNCTIONAL AT RISK. Riparian-wetland areas that are in functional condition, but an existing soil, water, or vegetation attribute makes them susceptible to degradation.

GRAZING SYSTEM. Scheduled grazing use and non-use of an allotment to reach identified goals or objectives by improving the quality and quantity of vegetation.

HABITAT. A specific set of physical conditions that surround a single species, a group of species, or a large community. In wildlife management, the major components of habitat are considered to be food, water, cover, and living space.

HABITAT MANAGEMENT PLAN (HMP). A written and approved activity plan for a geographical area which identifies habitat management activities to be implemented in achieving specific objectives of planning decisions.

HAZARDOUS MATERIAL. A substance, pollutant, or contaminant that, due to its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, poses a potential hazard to human health and safety or to the environment if released into the workplace or the environment.

HISTORIC RANGE OF VARIABILITY. The range of conditions that are likely to have occurred prior to settlement of the project area by Euro-Americans (approximately the mid-1800s), which would have varied within certain limits over time.

IMPACT. The effect, influence, alteration, or imprint caused by an action.

IMPAIRMENT. The degree to which a distance of clear visibility is degraded by man-made pollutants.

INVERTEBRATE. An animal lacking a backbone or spinal column.

LAND TREATMENT. All methods of artificial range improvement arid soil stabilization such as reseeding, brush control (chemical and mechanical), pitting, furrowing, water spreading, etc.

LEASABLE MINERALS. Those minerals or materials designated as leasable under the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920. They include coal, phosphate, asphalt, sulphur, potassium and sodium minerals, and oil and gas. Geothermal resources are also leasable under the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970.

LOCATABLE MINERALS. Minerals or materials subject to claim and development under the Mining Law of 1872, as amended. Generally includes metallic minerals, such as gold and silver, and other materials not subject to lease or sale (bentonite, limestone, talc, xeolite, etc.). Whether or not a particular mineral deposit is locatable depends on such factors as quality, quantity, mineability, demand, and marketability.

LONG-TERM EFFECT. The effect could occur for an extended period after implementation of the RMP. The effect could last several years or more.

MECHANICAL VEGETATION TREATMENT. Includes mowing, chaining, chopping, drill seeding, and cutting vegetation to meet resource objective. Mechanical treatments generally occur in areas where fuel loads or invasive species need to be reduced prior to prescribed fire application; when fire risk to resources is too great to use naturally started wildland fires or prescribed fires; or where opportunities exist for biomass utilization or timber harvest.

MECHANIZED USES. Equipment that is mechanized, including but not limited to mountain bikes, wheelbarrows, and game carts.

MINERAL ENTRY. Claiming public lands (administered by the BLM) under the Mining Law of 1872 for the purpose of exploiting minerals. May also refer to mineral exploration and development under the mineral leasing laws and the Material Sale Act of 1947.

MINERAL MATERIALS. Common varieties of sand, building stone, gravel, clay, moss rock, etc., obtainable under the Minerals Act of 1947, as amended.

MINING LAW OF 1872. Provides for claiming and gaining title to locatable minerals on public lands. Also referred to as the "General Mining Laws" or "Mining Laws."

MITIGATION. Alleviation or lessening of possible adverse effects on a resource by applying appropriate protective measures or adequate scientific study. Mitigation may be achieved by avoidance, minimization, rectification, reduction, and compensation.

MOTORIZED VEHICLES OR USES. Vehicles that are motorized, including but not limited to jeeps, all-terrain vehicles (all-terrain vehicles, such as four-wheelers and three-wheelers), and trail motorcycles or dirt bikes.

MULTIPLE-USE. Management of the various surface and subsurface resources so that they are jointly utilized in the manner that will best meet the present and future needs of the public, without permanent impairment of the productivity of the land or the quality of the environment.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT OF 1969 (NEPA). Public Law 91-190. Establishes environmental policy for the nation. Among other items, NEPA requires federal agencies to consider environmental values in decision-making processes.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES. A listing of architectural, historical, archaeological, and cultural sites of local, state, or national significance established by the Historic Preservation Act of, 1966 and maintained by the National Park Service.

NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SYSTEM (NWSRS). Rivers with outstanding scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values designated by Congress under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of October 2, 1968 for preservation of their free-flowing condition.

NONFUNCTIONAL. Riparian-wetland areas that are not providing adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris to dissipate stream energy associated with high flows, and thus are not reducing erosion, improving water quality, etc.

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE/OFF-ROAD VEHICLE. A general term referring to any motorized vehicle capable of or designed for operating on unmaintained natural terrain, roads, and/or trails (i.e., capable of operating off maintained roads and trails). These include but are not limited to motorcycles, all-terrain vehicles, dune buggies, and four-wheel-drive vehicles.

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE AREA DESIGNATIONS. BLM-administered lands in the CFO are designated as Open, Limited, or Closed for off-highway vehicle (OHV) use.

- **Open.** Designated areas where all types of motorized vehicles (jeeps, all-terrain vehicles, motorized dirt bikes, etc.) are permitted at all times, anywhere in the area, on roads or cross country, subject to the operating regulations and vehicle standards set forth in 43 CFR subparts 8341 and 8342.
- **Limited.** Designated areas where motorized vehicles are restricted to designated routes. Off-road, cross-country travel is prohibited in Limited areas, unless an area is specifically identified as an area where cross-country over-snow travel is allowed. Some existing routes may be closed in Limited areas.
- **Closed.** Designated areas where off-road motorized vehicle travel is prohibited yearlong. Emergency use of vehicles is allowed yearlong.

PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES. The physical remains or other physical evidence of plants and animals preserved in soils and sedimentary rock formations. Paleontological resources are important for correlating

and dating rock strata and for understanding past environments, environmental change, and the evolution of life.

PLANNING AREA. The geographical area for which land use and resource management plans are developed and maintained. The CFO boundary defines the planning area assessed in this RMP. The planning area encompasses 8,847,411 acres in Latah, Clearwater, Nez Perce, Lewis, Idaho, and Adams Counties of northern Idaho. The BLM administers about 1.47 percent, or 130,480 acres, of the planning area.

PLANNING ISSUES. Concerns, conflicts, and problems with the existing management of public lands. Frequently, issues are based on how land uses affect resources. Some issues are concerned with how land uses can affect other land uses, or how the protection of resources affects land uses.

PRESCRIBED FIRE TREATMENTS. A pre-planned, management-ignited fire designed to meet specific resource objectives, such as reducing fuel loads, preparing a site for chemical treatment or seeding, or promoting vegetation regeneration. Prescribed fires are useful for reducing fuel loads and providing or promoting vegetation regeneration. Prescribed fires can be performed anywhere that specific fire prescriptions can be met and fire risks to resources are mitigated after site-specific planning and NEPA analysis.

PROPER FUNCTIONING CONDITION (PFC). Riparian-wetlands function properly when adequate vegetation, landform, or large woody debris is present to dissipate stream energy associated with high water flows. The functioning condition of these areas is influenced by geomorphic features, soil, water and vegetation.

PROBABLE SALE QUANTITY. The probable sale quantity is the amount of timber, measured in thousand board feet, that could be produced on BLM lands where commercial forest uses are considered appropriate. Calculations are based on species, growth, mortality, land base, and sustainability. The probable sale quantity does not include volume removed for other purposes from other areas (such as recreation sites where hazard trees are removed). The probable sale quantity also is not a commitment to offer for sale a specific level of timber volume.

PUBLIC LAND. Any land and interest in land (outside of Alaska) owned by the US and administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the BLM.

RAPTOR. Bird of prey with sharp talons and strongly curved beaks, e.g. hawks, owls, vultures, eagles.

RECLAMATION. Returning disturbed lands to a form and productivity that will be ecologically balanced and in conformity with a predetermined land management plan.

RECREATION OPPORTUNITY SPECTRUM (ROS). A land delineation system commonly used by federal land management agencies to address the need for a range of recreational opportunities within the planning area.

RECREATION USE PERMITS. Authorizations for use of developed facilities that meet the fee criteria established by the Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1964, as amended or subsequent authority (such as the pilot fee demonstration program). Recreation Use Permits are issued to ensure that US residents receive a fair and equitable return for the use of those facilities to help recover the cost of construction, operation, maintenance, and management of the permits.

RESEARCH NATURAL AREA (RNA). A land management status which reserves the area for uses that are compatible with the resource of interest and research for which the area was designated.

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN (RMP). A land use plan that establishes multiple-use guidelines, and management objectives for a given planning area.

RESTORATION. The continuation of rehabilitation beyond the initial three years or the repair or replacement of major facilities damaged by the fire. Restoration activities must be funded through sources other than the emergency stabilization and restoration subactivities.

RESTORATION WATERSHED. Restoration watersheds are identified because biological and physical processes and functions do not reflect natural conditions because of past and long-term land disturbances. Generally, the majority of ownership in the watershed or subwatershed is composed of BLM, Forest Service, or Idaho Department of Fish and Game lands, or is based on the fisheries value and miles of stream flowing across BLM lands.

RESTORE. To bring back to a former or original or specific desired condition or appearance.

RETARD. Measurably slow attainment of any identified objective level that is worse than the objective standard. Degradation of the physical/biological process or conditions that determine objective standards would be considered to retard attainment of specific objective standard.

RIPARIAN. Situated on or pertaining to the bank of a river, stream, or other body of water. Normally describes plants of all types that grow rooted in the water table or sub-irrigation zone of streams, ponds, and springs.

RIPARIAN/AQUATIC SYSTEM. Interacting system between aquatic and terrestrial situations. Identified by a stream channel and distinctive vegetation that requires or tolerates free or unbound water.

RIPARIAN ZONE. An area one-quarter mile wide encompassing riparian and adjacent vegetation.

ROAD. A linear route declared a road by the owner, managed for use by low-clearance vehicles having four or more wheels, and maintained for regular and continuous use.

ROADLESS. Refers to the absence of roads that have been constructed and maintained by mechanical means to ensure regular and continuous use.

ROUTES. A combination of roads, trails, or ways that are used by motorized vehicles (jeeps, all-terrain vehicles, motorized dirt bikes, etc.), mechanized uses (mountain bikes, wheelbarrows, game carts), pedestrians (hikers), and/or equestrians (horseback riders).

SCOPING PROCESS. An early and open public participation process for determining the scope of issues to be addressed and for identifying the significant issues related to a proposed action.

SEEDING. Seeding is a vegetation treatment that includes the application of grass, forb, or shrub seed, either aerially or from the ground. In areas of gentle terrain, ground applications of seed are often accomplished with a rangeland drill. Seeding allows the establishment of native species or placeholder species and restoration of disturbed areas to a perennial-dominated cover type, thereby decreasing the risk of subsequent invasion by exotic plant species. Seeding will be used primarily as a follow-up treatment in areas where disturbance or the previously described treatments have removed exotic plant species and their residue.

SHORT-TERM EFFECT. The effect occurs only during or immediately after implementation of the RMP.

SPECIAL RECREATION MANAGEMENT AREA (SRMA). BLM administrative units established to direct recreation program priorities, including the allocation of funding and personnel, to those public lands where a commitment has been made to provide specific recreation activity and experience opportunities on a sustained yield basis. These areas usually require a high level of recreation investment and/or management.

SPECIAL RECREATION PERMITS. Authorizations that allow for recreational uses of public lands and related waters. Issued as a means to control visitor use, protect recreational and natural resources, and provide for the health and safety of visitors. Commercial Special Recreation Permits also are issued as a mechanism to provide a fair return for the commercial use of public lands.

SPECIAL STATUS SPECIES. BLM sensitive species are designated by the State Director under 16 US Code 1536(a)(2). Sensitive species are managed so they will not need to be listed as proposed, threatened, or endangered species. They are given the same level of protection as candidate species (BLM Manual 6840) (BLM 2001).

SPLIT ESTATE. Lands on which the mineral estate remains with the federal government (BLM).

SUITABLE RIVER. A river segment found, through administrative study by an appropriate agency, to meet the criteria for designation as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system, specified in Section 4(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

TERRESTRIAL. Living or growing in or on the land.

THREATENED SPECIES. Any species or significant population of that species likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range. Usually includes only those species that have been recognized and listed as threatened by federal and state governments, but may include species categorized as rare, very rare, or depleted

TIMBER. Standing trees, downed trees, or logs which are capable of being measured in board feet.

TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD. A calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards, and an allocation of that amount to the pollutant's sources.

TRADITIONAL CULTURAL PROPERTIES. A cultural property that is eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places because of its association with a living community's cultural practices or beliefs that: (a) are rooted in that community's history; and (b) are important in maintaining the community's continuing cultural identity.

TRADITIONAL USE. Longstanding, socially conveyed, customary patterns of thought, cultural expression, and behavior, such as religious beliefs and practices, social customs, and land or resource uses. Traditions are shared generally within a social and/or cultural group and span generations. Usually traditional uses are reserved rights resulting from treaty and/or agreements with Native American groups.

TRAIL. A linear route managed for human-power (e.g., hiking or bicycling), stock (e.g., equestrian), or off-highway vehicle forms of transportation or for historical or heritage values. Trails are not generally managed for use by four-wheel drive or high-clearance vehicles.

UNDERSTORY. That portion of a plant community growing underneath the taller plants on the site.

UNIQUE PLANT ASSOCIATIONS. Plant communities which (1) occur only in Idaho, (2) are common elsewhere but are represented by only a few occurrences in Idaho, (3) could easily be eliminated from Idaho, or (4) are considered to be in their natural state.

VALID EXISTING RIGHTS. Legal interests that attach to a land or mineral estate that cannot be divested from the estate until that interest expires or is relinquished.

VEGETATION MANIPULATION. Planned alteration of vegetation communities through use of mechanical, chemical, seeding and or prescribed fire or fire managed for resource benefit to achieve desired resource objectives.

VEGETATION TREATMENT METHODS. There are five types of vegetation treatments that may be used: fire managed for resource benefit, prescribed fire treatments, chemical, mechanical, and seeding.

VEGETATION TYPE. A plant community with immediately distinguishable characteristics based upon and named after the apparent dominant plant species.

VERTEBRATE. An animal having a backbone or spinal column.

VISUAL RESOURCES. The visible physical features on a landscape, (topography, water, vegetation, animals, structures, and other features) that comprise die scenery of the area.

VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (VRM). The inventory and planning actions taken to identify visual resource values and to establish objectives for managing those values, and the management actions taken to achieve the visual resource management objectives.

VISUAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CLASSES. VRM classes identify the degree of acceptable visual change within a characteristic landscape. A classification is assigned to public lands based on the guidelines established for scenic quality, visual sensitivity, and visibility.

- **VRM Class I.** This classification preserves the existing characteristic landscape and allows for natural ecological changes only. Includes congressionally authorized areas (wilderness) and areas approved through the RMP where landscape modification activities should be restricted.
- **VRM Class II.** This classification retains the existing characteristic landscape. The level of change in any of the basic landscape elements due to management activities should be low and not evident.
- **VRM Class III.** This classification partially retains the existing characteristic landscape. The level of change in any of the basic landscape elements due to management activities may be moderate and - evident.
- **VRM Class IV.** This classification provides for major modifications of the characteristic landscape. The level of change in the basic landscape elements due to management activities can be high. Such activities may dominate the landscape and be the major focus of viewer attention.
- **VRM Class V.** This classification applies to areas where the characteristic landscape has been so disturbed that rehabilitation is needed. Generally considered an interim short-term classification until rehabilitation or enhancement is completed.

WATERSHED. Topographical region or area delineated by water draining to a particular watercourse or body of water.

WATERSHED CONDITION INDICATORS. An integrated suite of aquatic, riparian, and hydrologic condition measures that are intended to be used at the watershed scale.

WILDERNESS. An area formally designated by Congress as a part of the National Wilderness Preservation System.

WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS. Identified by Congress in the Wilderness Act of 1964, namely, size, naturalness, outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation, and supplemental values such as geological, archaeological, historical, ecological, scenic, or other features.

WILDLAND FIRE. Any wildland fire that requires a suppression response. A prescribed burn may be declared a wildfire if part of it escapes from the control line or if weather conditions deteriorate and become unacceptable, as described in the burning plan.

WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE (WUI). The line, area or zone where structures and other human development meet or intermingle with undeveloped wildland or vegetative fuels.

WINTER RANGE. An Idaho Department of Fish and Game definition that applies to elk and mule deer. That part of the overall range where 90 percent of the individuals are located during the average five winters out of ten from the first heavy snowfall to spring green-up, or during a site-specific period of winter.

WITHDRAWAL. An action that restricts the use of public land and segregates the land from the operation of some or all of the public land and mineral laws. Withdrawals are also used to transfer jurisdiction of management of public lands to other federal agencies.

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